WXPost Nev 6 Segretti Sentenced To 6 Months

By Timothy S. Robinson Washington Post Staff Writer,

District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell sentenced political saboteur Donald H. Segretti to six months in prison yesterday. He rejected an arrangement concurred in by the government under which Segretti would have remained free pending fur-ther prosecutions growing out of the Watergate scandal.

Instead, Gesell ordered that Segretti put his affairs in order within a week and begin serving his sentence after that period.

Segretti, who has said that he was hired by high White House aides and financed by Nixon campaign funds, had pleaded guilty to misdemea-nor charges of acts of politi-cal sabotage against Democratic presidential candi-

Segretti, who is cooperating with prosecutors in fur-ther investigation of his and other related activities, will report to a minimum-security federal prison. He probably will serve his sentence in Lompoc, Calif., his lawyer said.

Appearing to choke back tears as he stood before U.S. District Judge Gerhard A. Gesell, Segretti said he "really regretted" becoming involved in the dirty tricks of the campaign and described his recent life as a nightmare."

Segretti is the third person in Watergate or related matters to receive a final sentence. George A. Hear-ing, involved with Segretti in the Florida primary activities to which he pleaded guilty, was sentenced to a ear in jail, and G. Gordon Liddy — reported planner of the Democratic head-quarters break-in—is serving a sentence of up to 20 years.

Other persons connected with the scandal either have with the scandal enther maye been provisionally sen-tenced, or are free until cases in which they are po-tential witnesses are brought to trial.
Attorney Victor Sherman,

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who represents Segretti, had asked that his client be allowed to remain free under those same arrangements. Prosecutor Richard Davis had agreed with that plan as well, pointing to an earlier agreement that the government would accept that arrangement.

However, Judge said that plan was not binding on him and denied the motion for a delay in sen-

tencing.

He called the delay "inappropriate," describing Segretti—a lawyer—as "a member of the bar who was paid to commit illegal acts."

Sherman, in pleading for mercy for his client, pointed to Segretti's "previous support of this country," including his Army record. He served two years in Vietness anam.

He mentioned the White House's offer of a job to Segretti when he came out of the service, and Segretti's reaction that "it seemed like a fantastic idea."

"Little by little, he slid into this activity for which he was indicted," Sherman said.

Sherman said Segretti had \$5 to his name, and \$10,000 in debts, and that the greatest punishment is Segretti's having to continue to live with his crime.

Sherman suggested that Segretti be allowed to "do some kind of civilian or public service to counterbalance what he did."

Segretti himself, asked by the judge if he had any comment, said he felt his acts in this case "were out of character with myself .. I would like to become a useful citizen."

Gesell sentenced Segretti to a maximum of three years one year on each count-



DONALD H. SEGRET ... expresses 'regrets

and ordered him to serand ordered him to ser total of six months of time in jail. After get out of jail, he will be on bation for three years.

Segretti pleaded guilt one count of conspiracy, two counts of illegally tributing political literat One piece of literature a letter on Sen. Edm Muskie's political station accusing two of his onents of sexual miscond and the other concerned tribution of cards at a rida rally for Alabama (George Wallace that said you like Hitler, you'll Wallace Vote Wallace Muskie."

In an interview with porters outside the co house, Segretti was aske he would enter polagain when he got out

jail.

"No, I think I'm per nently retired ... I fin distasteful," Segretti s He added that be a in patics, one needs the "hide rhinocerous and the stan of a buffalo . . . I had ther."