

Six-Month Prison Term For Segretti

Washington

Donald H. Segretti was sentenced yesterday to six months in prison for his efforts to disrupt the 1972 Democratic presidential primary in Florida.

In another courtroom a few paces down the corridor in the federal courthouse here, the Watergate prosecutor's office disclosed that John W. Dean III, the former White House counsel, had admitted to having destroyed two notebooks and an address book that belonged to E. Howard Hunt Jr.

Richard Ben-Veniste, an assistant special prosecutor, told the court of Dean's admission as U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica began to hear arguments from lawyers for Hunt and five other

Back Page Col. 7

From Page 1

original Watergate defendants who are seeking to have their guilty pleas or verdicts overturned.

NOTEBOOKS

The disclosure that Dean had destroyed the notebooks and address book that were removed from Hunt's safe cleared up a mystery that had persisted during the Watergate investigation.

Ben-Veniste told Sirica that Dean had informed the prosecutors Friday that he had shredded the two thin, cardboard-covered notebooks and had thrown the pop-up address book into a trash can so it would be destroyed.

The government has contended for nearly a year that all evidence in Hunt's safe was turned over to the FBI. Some of it was given to then-acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray III who said he burned it.

LETTERS

Segretti had pleaded guilty last month to three violations of federal election laws. He could have received a maximum sentence of three years in prison and a \$3000 fine.

Two of the charges against Segretti involved distributing a phony letter written on stationery stolen from Senator Edmund S. Muskie that accused two of Muskie's primary opponents, Senators Hubert H. Humphrey and Henry M. Jackson, of sexual misconduct.

The third count involved a card distributed at a rally for Governor George C. Wallace of Alabama that read "If you like Hitler, you'll love Wallace. Vote for Muskie."

"FAIR"

Segretti, a 32-year-old lawyer, was sentenced by Judge Gerhard A. Gesell of the U.S. district court. Afterwards, Segretti told reporters he believed the sentence was "fair."

"I'm certainly not looking forward to it," Segretti said. "But now I can start getting my life back together again. The last year has been an absolute nightmare for me."

Gesell also placed Segretti on probation for three years. He gave Segretti a week to get his affairs in order and said that he should then be assigned to a minimum security prison.

New York Times