

Jail Term Begins for Segretti

LOMPOC, Calif., Nov. 12— Accompanied by his father and looking pale and nervous, Donald H. Segretti surrendered at Lompoc Prison camp to begin a six-month sentence for political sabotage.

Segretti, at the wheel of a white Mercedes-Benz coupe, drove past reporters at the prison entrance, but later in front of the camp office he told them he had "mixed reactions" to his sentence. Asked if he were feeling bitter, the slight lawyer said only, "I'm not saying I do and I'm not saying I don't. I'll have a better idea in four or five weeks."

The boyish 32-year-old lawyer from suburban Culver City was sentenced to a six-month term for three misdemeanor violations, including conspiracy and distribution of political literature lacking proper identification, during the 1972 presidential primary in Florida.

Among the charges Segretti pleaded guilty to were sending out a letter on Muskie stationery, falsely accusing Senators Henry Jackson of Washington and Hubert H. Humphrey of Minnesota of sexual misconduct and excessive drinking. Muskie, Jackson and Humphrey were contenders for the Democratic presidential nomination at the time.

"I came back from two, three glasses of wine at the local pub and wrote it off the top of my head," Segretti said in a weekend interview with the Los Angeles Times. "It wasn't done for anybody to believe in the damn thing. It was intended to be outrageous. I didn't expect anyone to believe it."

If he had known then where the act would lead, Segretti said. "They couldn't have paid me enough for this job. I should have asked for \$1 million and then walked out."

Segretti said that in the 13 months since his activities became public, his life

has been an "absolute nightmare."

He said, however, that he is more concerned about the future than the jail term. He could get out in four months with good behavior, but he has received a letter from the California Bar Association saying it is considering disbarment.

"Four months in Lompoc is nothing to me compared to being disbarred," Segretti said. "What would I do?"