

upon his return to the United States.

He said he would need about \$800 for tickets from Moscow to Texas, by way of New York.

"I want you to try to get the money through some organization, and not try to collect it yourself, alone," he wrote.

"Do not, of course, take any loan, only a gift. And Don't send your own money." The word own was underlined once.

Inquiries Perfunctory

His inquiries about his mother appear to have been perfunctory. "How did that business about the injury ever come out?" he asked in June, 1961.

The injury, which had kept Mrs. Oswald bedridden two

years earlier, had caused him to obtain an early discharge from the Marines, ostensibly so that he could support her.

In a letter dated June 28, 1961, however, he told her that it would not be necessary for her to repay money of his which she had spent.

Mrs. Oswald said the sum, about \$80, was his final month's pay from the Marine Corps. She had received the check in Texas and spent it after his defection.

Oswald also sent an affectionate letter, which he said his wife had dictated, thanking Mrs. Oswald for gifts and pictures and expressing a wish to meet her soon.

His letters were on lined, copybook paper and written in blue ink with a fountain pen. They were mailed in sturdy tan or blue envelopes and sent by air from Minsk, where Oswald and his wife were living.

Because Mrs. Oswald was working as a resident practical nurse, the letters were often forwarded between small Texas towns.

After his Marine discharge, Oswald returned home to his mother, who was recovering from her accident. But he spent only three days in Fort Worth before leaving for New Orleans.

On Sept. 19, 1959, he wrote from New Orleans that he had booked passage on a ship to Europe. He did not mention the Soviet Union, but he reminded

his mother that his values were different from those of his older brother, Robert, or from her own.

"I did not tell you about my plans because you could hardly be expected to understand," he said.

The first letter Mrs. Oswald received from the Soviet Union after she had traced her son began with an apology.

"I received your letter about a month ago, but I lost the address, and was not able to write until I received a letter from Robert yesterday in which he put down where you are living now," Oswald wrote in June, 1961. He then told her of his marriage to a Russian girl the previous month.

After a cordial correspondence for six months, Mrs. Oswald wrote to her son that she would like to visit him.

"I was just making small talk," Mrs. Oswald said today. "I didn't have the money to go."

He answered on Nov. 1, 1961:

"I notice where you say you would like to come to the Soviet Union. I don't recommend it in my case!"

Mrs. Oswald said she had followed her son's instructions but had not succeeded in raising money for his return passage through private contributions. Oswald then borrowed \$435.71 from the United States Embassy, repaying the loan between October, 1962 and last January.