

deeply troubled young man, Spahr, who has been in the Marine Corps 22 years. Although he gave a lengthy statement to the Federal Bureau of Investigation about Oswald, he declined to give specifics to a reporter.

"I don't want to condemn the dead," said the warrant officer. But his reticence was also dictated in large part by the F.B.I. and, he said, by his concern for his own future.

Oswald's troubles, it seems, were of a mental and personality nature that did not cause major conflicts either on the base or in town. There is no record of him in the provost marshal's office here or at the Tustin Police Department or Orange County Sheriff's Office in Santa Ana.

Oswald's troubles, it seems, were of a mental and personality nature that did not cause major conflicts either on the base or in town. There is no record of him in the provost marshal's office here or at the Tustin Police Department or Orange County Sheriff's Office in Santa Ana.

Oswald was placed on inactive status by the Marine Corps on Sept. 11, 1959. The next month, he went to the Soviet Union. A year later, the Marine Corps changed his release to undesirable discharge.

Oswald finished his three-year Marine Corps career as a radar operator here for nine months in 1959, attached to Marine Air Control Squadron 9.

A 'Personal Problem'

The misfit who had been demoted from Private First Class to private while in Japan found help from his noncommissioned officer. Mr. Spahr said that Oswald "was my personal problem" during that time.

"Not even his own mother knew him like I did," said Mr.

Although he gave a lengthy statement to the Federal Bureau of Investigation about Oswald, he declined to give specifics to a reporter.

"I don't want to condemn the dead," said the warrant officer.

But his reticence was also dictated in large part by the F.B.I. and, he said, by his concern for his own future.

Oswald's troubles, it seems, were of a mental and personality nature that did not cause major conflicts either on the base or in town. There is no record of him in the provost marshal's office here or at the Tustin Police Department or Orange County Sheriff's Office in Santa Ana.

Had Little Impact

Oswald, then a budding Marxist and an atheist, took most of his complaints to Mr. Spahr. But, it seems, if Oswald was agitating politically at the time, he made little or no impact on other members of the squadron.

One of them, Master Sgt. Vernon H. Shick, had no recollection of Oswald until having seen photographs after the assassination.

"He was just another operator," said Sergeant Shick. "Quiet and withdrawn as far as I knew."

A Troubled Marine

By **BILL BECKER**

Special to The New York Times

TUSTIN, Calif., Dec. 10—In his final months as a Marine, Lee Oswald, apparently was a