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A Marine Vet Decides He'll Be a Russian

Moscow, Oct. 31 (UPI).—Lee Harvey Oswald, 20, a recently discharged U. S. marine from Fort Worth, Tex., disclosed today that he had taken steps to renounce his American citizenship and become a Soviet citizen.

He said the reasons for his move were "purely political."

"I will never return to the United States for any reason," Oswald said in a room at Moscow's Hotel Metropol.

He declined to give any details on his background or the exact reasons for his decision. But a U. S. Embassy official said Oswald had told him he arrived here Oct. 15 right after his discharge from the Marine Corps and had no regular job in the United States.

Oswald was the third American to seek Russian citizenship in recent months.

The first, sheetmetal worker Nicholas Petrulli, of Valley Stream, N. Y., changed his mind and returned home.

Other Man Stayed

The other is Robert Edward Webster, a plastic technician of Cleveland, who came here with the U. S. fair this summer. Webster was granted Soviet citizenship and now is reported working in Leningrad.

Oswald, a slender, good-looking youth, in an ivy-league shirt with round collar, sports jacket and slacks, said he hoped to get a Soviet reply to his request in a few days.

He said he spoke Russian and that he had studied political economy in the United States. He laughed and said: "Absolutely not."

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