

SCHWABE

March 25, 1946.

Mr. Bill R. Suttle, Commander  
Tulsa Post 577  
Veterans Foreign Wars  
214 E. 13th Place  
Tulsa 3, Oklahoma.

Dear Commander Tuttle:

I am just in receipt of your letter of March 21st relative to H. R. 2346, again reminding me that your Post is opposed to granting to members of the Merchant Marines similar benefits to those granted under the G. I. Bill of Rights to veterans of the Army, Navy and other Armed Forces of this country.

You are right in stating that renewed efforts have been made and renewed pressure is being attempted upon Members of Congress to pass this or some similar measure. But I am still of the opinion that the Merchant Marines are not entitled to the same consideration that the Members of the Armed Forces are. I know in many instances boys went into the Merchant Marines voluntarily and in order to avoid service in the Armed Forces. They must have had a good reason for doing so, and especially those who went into the Merchant Marines later or did so with the full knowledge that the G. I. Bill of Rights did not apply to them.

I have many friends among the Merchant Marines and their families and for the present I would appreciate it if you did not give publicity to this letter and my attitude for it would do no good. It would only serve to cause the Merchant Marines people to flood me with a tremendous quantity of mail and besiege me to support this bill. Frankly I do not believe this bill is in any danger of immediate passage, and perhaps will not even be considered seriously at an early date. The House Committee on Merchant Marines and Fisheries to which the bill was referred, has held hearings and the bill was referred to a sub-committee for further study. I understand Representative Peterson of Florida, the author of the bill, is Chairman of this sub-committee. No hearings or other action is scheduled. If I obtain any further information as to the progress of this measure I shall try to think to give you the benefit of such information.

You may rest assured that I am always glad to get your reactions on such measures.

Sincerely yours,

George B. Schwabe, M. C.



GEORGE J. OVERMYER  
SR. VICE COMMANDER

BILL R. SUTTLE  
COMMANDER

BASIL H. CLARK  
JR. VICE COMMANDER

# VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS

GLENN V. DOUGLAS  
QUARTERMASTER

GERALD F. O'BRIEN  
SERVICE OFFICER

*Tulsa Post*



*Number 577*

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TULSA 3, OKLAHOMA

## MEMBERS

Are citizens honorably discharged from the United States Army, Navy and Marine Corps, who served on foreign soil or in hostile waters during time of war and men now in the armed forces serving outside the continental limits of the United States of America.

## OBLIGATED

To bear true allegiance to the government of the United States of America.

## DEDICATED

To upholding the efforts of those who strive for honesty, freedom of thought and equal opportunity for all.

## COMMITTED

To the task of furnishing help to any who need the many benefits and blessings of our government.

## SPONSORS

Of many activities for both men and women civilians and those in the armed forces, such as the U. S. Service Men's Lodge, Memorial to Tulsa County's Honored Dead, World War II, rifle training schools, the auxiliary police force, junior baseball, draft evasion investigations, traffic cemetery and liaison work between the military and civilian population of our country.

21 March 1946

Honorable George S. Schwabe  
House of Representatives  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

The Officers and Members of Tulsa Post 577, Veterans of Foreign Wars find that there is a renewed effort to place pressure upon Congress to enact H. R. 2346.

On or about May 9, 1945, we forwarded to you a copy of the resolution passed by this Post which we believe expressed the sentiment of the overseas veterans of this and former wars.

On Thursday, March 14, 1946 the question came upon the floor and by unanimous vote of the members present, I, as Commander of the Post, was directed to again call your attention to our sincere opposition to the granting to members of the Merchant Marines, benefits to be paid for by the taxpayers proposed in the pending legislation or any other acts which grant to them government benefits comparable to those granted to the men and women who served in the Armed Forces.

Thanking you for any courtesy and any efforts that you may be able to put forth in opposition to H. R. 2346,  
I am

Yours very truly,

Bill R. Suttle, Commander  
Tulsa Post 577  
Veterans of Foreign Wars

BRS/lmr