APPRECIATES SWIMMING REVIVAL

Editor The Star-Bulletin: May I as one of the competitors in the "men's open 2,000 yards" open water distance swim Thanksgiving Day sincerely thank the Outrigger Canoe Club for reviving these open water swimming races?

Inspired by such champions as Duke Kahanamoku and Bill Smith, all swimmers who thought they could prove that swimming is not only good for them individually, but an asset to the country in fashioning healthy and strong bodies that may, someday, be America's best bet against foreign aggression, turned out happily and took to the water at their respective 600, 1,500 and 2,000 yards starting flags.

If I counted right, we were 13 swimmers who dived in at the 2,000 yards mark way out in the ocean. In ages we ranged from 14-year-old Olympic timber George Onekea to myself, 57-year-old "tortoise" Gottfried Seitz. Unlike the tortoise in the tortoise-hare race, I didn't come in first, but I did come in.

This participant had a lot of good clean fun and thanks you all for a very happy Thanksgiving.

GOTTFRIED SEITZ