

February 23, 1967

Dr. E. S. Rabeau
Assistant Surgeon General
Director, Division of Indian Health
Public Health Service
7915 Eastern Avenue
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910

Dear Dr. Rabeau:

Since writing you on February 22, we have received the enclosed letter bearing the signatures of various prominent and highly respected Indian leaders of Oklahoma with regard to the executive officer position in the Oklahoma City Area Office.

We respectfully and urgently request that it be given your most careful consideration.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M. C.
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/Wnn
Enclosure

Similar Letter to each signer

February 23, 1967

The Honorable Overton James, President
The Inter-Tribal Council of the
Five Civilized Tribes
6033 Glencove Place
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma 73103

Dear Governor Overton:

Thank you very much for your letter of February 18 in which you were joined by other prominent and respected Indian leaders of Oklahoma in urging that Mr. John Spaan be given consideration for the Executive Officer position in the Oklahoma City Area Office of the Public Health Service's Indian Health Division.

We have also continued to strongly recommend Mr. Spaan for this position not only to Dr. Rabeau but also to Secretary Gardner, the Surgeon General, The Civil Service Commission and the White House. We are sending Dr. Rabeau a copy of your letter as a further indication of the widespread support Mr. Spaan has for this position. We have insisted that the Inter-Tribal Council Resolution adopted at the January meeting in Hartshorne be followed in this important matter and "that the Executive Officer be preferably an Oklahoman, who is qualified for the position, who is sympathetic with the Oklahoma Indian and who has an understanding of the Indian problems."

We will continue to do our best to carry out the wishes of our fine Indian friends in Oklahoma.

Sincerely,

CARL ALBERT, M. C.
Third District, Oklahoma

CA/hnw

February 18, 1967

Repr. Carl Albert
Congress of the United States
Office of the Majority Leader
Washington, D. C. 20510

Subject: Executive Officer Position - Oklahoma City Area Office

Dear Mr. Albert:

Ten Senators and eighteen Congressmen, in response to their constituents' requests, have urged the Public Health Service to consider John Spaan for the Oklahoma City Area Executive Officer.

In the face of this expression of democracy in action, this agency continues to dictate that a man be placed in this position who cannot name a single Indian Leader of this Areas as his friend or supporter.

The U. S. Civil Service Commission has confirmed John Spaan's qualifications. We wish to confirm his dedication, love, and admiration of the Indian People. This is mandatory for the success of any Indian program.

We know what motivates John Spaan. In order to remove any questions from others' minds, we have asked if he would accept the position at his present grade and pay. John Spaan eagerly accepted!

So now, we ask you: Who gets the job? Dr. Rabeau's man? The man a handful of bureaucrats want? Or a man the people, through their elected representatives, continue to insist is better for the job?

Again, the Indian people look to our Congressmen as the only hope to achieve the future America desires. Get tough with them! Tell them what you want for the Indian segment of your constituency. Show them that we have a champion who can get things done for us. We still have faith in the influence you can wield, and we are going to count on you until it is proven that we cannot.

Sincerely,

Henry M. Bellin
James M. Horse
Gus Palmer
Clinton K. Kille
Harry J. Jernigan
Bob P. Piggardleby
Laurence H. Hart
Ben C. Froot
Vincent H. Bonitz
Herald Reed
Charles Jay
Guy Inoué

Good
✓ Overton James - President, Inter-Tribal Council of the Five Civilized Tribes
6033 Glencove Pl., Okla. City, Okla.

Ben
Ben Choate - Chairman, 23rd Annual Conv., Nat'l Congress of Amer. Indians
310 State Capitol Bldg., Okla. City, Okla.

m.
Harry Tonemah - Kiowa 2615 "D" Avenue Lawton, Oklahoma
Land Management Committee

m
Gus Palmer - Kiowa Route # 3 Carnegie, Oklahoma
Land Management Committee

m
Gerald Reid - Kiowa General Delivery Anadarko, Okla.
Land Management Committee

Vincent Bointy - Kiowa 6225 S.W. 57 Oklahoma City, Okla.
Chairman: Kiowas in Okla. City, El Reno, Norman, Edmond
Kiowa Representative - Okla. City Regional Meeting

change *Chief*
Harry J. W. Belvin - Principal Chief, Choctaw Nation, 302 W. Willow, Durant, Okla.

Guy Quoetone - Kiowa Route # 3 Carnegie, Okla.
Kiowa Representative - Okla. City Regional Meeting
Kiowa Representative - Kansas City Labor Meeting

Rev. Robert Pinezaddleby - Kiowa Box 646 Anadarko, Okla.
District Superintendent - Southwest Conference of
Methodist Churches.

Rev. James M. Horse - Kiowa Box 801 Anadarko, Okla.
Pastor - Ware's Chapel - Anadarko

Claude Jay - Apache Box 33 Ft. Cobb, Oklahoma
Apache Representative - Okla. City, Regional Meeting

Houston Klinekole - Apache Route # 2 Apache, Okla.
Apache Representative - Okla. City Regional Meeting
Kansas City Labor Meeting

Lawrence H. Hart - Cheyenne - Chairman, Cheyenne- Arapaho Business
Committee