

Letters from Here and There

Tahl Graduates at Folsom

June 26, 1974

Howard Rock, Editor
Tundra Times
P.O. Box 1287
Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Dear Howard:

Enclosed is a copy of my letter to Governor Egan concerning the media reports about moving the State Capitol from Juneau.

Before the State even entertains spending the estimated \$500 million it would take to move the capital, the State should meet its legal and moral obligation to the Native People. The State does, after all, owe My People at least the \$500 million it would take to move the capital.

Going through my photo albums the other day, I found this graduation photo of myself that was taken here at Folsom over a year ago when I received my high school diploma. (I actually graduated in January of 1973 after completing the required unit courses.

After rumors that there would be no Summer Session here for the college students, I'm happy to report that there will be two subjects offered to us: Physical Anthropology II and Sociology 1b.

You may be interested to learn that upon completion of these two subjects I will have 36 units towards my Associate of Arts Degree.

If I remain here through the Spring '75 Semester I will receive my degree at the high school graduation ceremonies in June 1975.

As I may have mentioned to you earlier, my studies are geared towards youth and young adult counseling.

With my past experiences, and what I've learned from them, and my academic education I know that I will be an effective counselor.

And I hope to put this knowledge and ability to work for my people, and to anyone else that I can be of service to.

Howard, I know what you and many of your staff look like, yet your only vision of me has been through my letters to you.

Now, at least you will know what I look like, too.

Take care, all of you, and may the Great Spirit guide you.

William A. A. Tahl
(An Eskimo)
P.O. Box B40988
Represa, Calif. 95671

June 26, 1974

Hon. William Egan
Governor of the State of Alaska
State Capitol Bldg.
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Governor Egan:

I have been following the media reports of why or why not the State Capitol should be moved.

Estimates of the change of location of the State Capitol is in the \$500 million bracket. That's quite a sum of money.

The State Capitol has been in Juneau for quite a number of years, a few more years there will not cause the state government to collapse.

I'm quite concerned about this issue. You see, I am an Eskimo, I have quite an interest in my state. Under Public Law 92-203 there is an outstanding "bill" that the state has to meet. This "bill" is payable to the Alaska



William A. A. Tahl
Native People. The amount of this "bill" is exactly \$500 million, plus interest I would imagine.

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Tahl...

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Before the state sanctions the moving of the State Capitol, and at an estimated cost of \$500 million, why not just meet their moral and legal obligation to the Native People.

From what the media relates, the cost of the move would be met by "excess" funds in the state treasury.

I say, "To hell with moving the State Capitol. Use that money to pay the legal and moral obligation due to the Natives!" The Native People can well use that money owed them by the state — you must be aware of that as you are, after all, the governor of the state and should know the conditions of the Native People.

Very truly yours,
William A.A. Tahl
(An Eskimo)