

Unofficial translation

President of the Russian Federation

Moscow, Kremlin
April 4, 2002
Pr-570

Dear Governor Knowles,

I am grateful for the letter and the medal which I received from the Alaska-Siberia Research Center to commemorate the Lend-Lease program.

I highly value your personal contribution to the development of the Russian-American relations and, especially, contacts between Alaska and the Russian Far East. I share your point of view that today, when the world community has faced new serious threats to security and stability, Russia and the US must act jointly using positive experience from the history. The Lend-Lease program, which has noticeably contributed to our common victory during World War II, is a good example of such interaction. We intend to enhance and strengthen the Russian-American dialogue and cooperate actively on bilateral level as well as in world affairs.

I wish you all the best.

Sincerely,

Vladimir V.Putin

THE HONORABLE TONY KNOWLES
GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA
Juneau, Alaska