

Exchange Mail

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TO Smith, James A. (WHSR)

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CARBON_COPY

TEXT_BODY

TRANSLATED_ATTACHMENT Putin.Berger.doc
BERGER - PUTIN TELEPHONE CALL 12 AUG 1999

Berger: Hello.

Putin: Good afternoon, Sandy.

Berger: Good afternoon, Mr. Prime Minister.

Putin: Unfortunately, I'm not yet Prime Minister. I have to pass a vote in the

lower house of parliament on Monday. And everything depends on the decision...

Everything is favorable... Sandy, I'm calling to express my gratitude we've had

during the process of useful work. In my view, ... businesslike... My cooperation with you helped me a lot in my work... And I am pleased to say I

felt support from you. I would like to express support to you and your colleagues for your support to my naming as prime Minister of Russia. I would

like to let you know and the State Department that there will be no sharp changes

to the cabinet. This pertains to foreign policy and domestic economic policy.

We will adhere to the agreements with the World Bank and IMF... Russian and U.S.

full trade and technology relationship. These are general remarks I just

voiced.

It stands to reason that the issues of nonproliferation... As to our plans and our meeting, judging by all things, my first trip will be to Auckland, New Zealand on 12 and 13 December of this year. We will talk if you will be a member of the delegation...

Berger: It's good to hear from you. I want to express my congratulations to you. I know the Duma will take up your nomination on Monday. We will be watching closely and hope it goes quickly. I'm very grateful for the opportunity to work with you. I think we've done good work together on Kosovo and nonproliferation and... I'm happy to hear the government will continue on the same course. At Colon, our two presidents set a strong agenda for our two countries in economics, proliferation, and arms control. And I believe we can make progress in all three. On the nonproliferation issue... I hope those will be constructive conversations. Finally, regarding New Zealand, we look forward to seeing you there. I'm happy you're coming... arrange the President to meet with you... I don't know what the schedule is yet. I hope to see you there. You have heavy, new responsibilities but I have great confidence you will do an excellent job in your new position. That's all I have to say.

Putin: Many thanks to you. All the best regards. I believe the relations we will be developing we can... All the best to you.

Berger: Good luck to you. Goodbye.

Putin: Goodbye.