

That'll be three rubles, comrade

Rubles are being accepted in Nome as a gesture of friendship and goodwill, according to the Nome Chamber of Commerce.

Checker Cab of Nome is accepting rubles on a one-to-one basis with dollars. Taxi fares in Nome are \$3 anywhere within the city.

Wiley Scott and Norm Stiles, owners of hotels, are willing to consider the ruble for overnight rooms.

Wayne Brown, the owner of a 24-hour grocery store, is interested in expanding a restaurant-bar business to Provideniya in the Soviet Far East, with several business partners in Nome.

While it is true that the ruble is non-convertible and Soviet citizens are not allowed to exchange rubles out of the Soviet Union, it is apparent that rapid changes in Eastern Europe may trigger rapid economic changes in the Soviet Union, according to Nome officials.