

A: "Under the new system the Central Aviation Base for Forest Protection and Forestry Services has been converted into a production-association for aerial protection of the forests. What has this yielded? Under the new conditions of management every enterprise will want to know on whose behalf it is working. Such an opportunity has now become available to the aviators. They will be able to spend accrued earnings on their own needs: acquiring equipment and spare parts and improving the ground service. It follows from this that major improvements are being made in the quality of performance of the patrol service and the effectiveness of the forest fire prevention program. Moreover, beginning with this year the fliers have been granted a greater degree of independence. Now that they are in charge of their own affairs they are no longer required to indicate where they are flying to, when and for what purpose. All that is necessary is to specify the forest block to be serviced by the aviation unit in question. It will be for the aviators themselves to decide how best to carry out a patrol or perform any forestry related task.

"The experiment has proved successful. This year the air service has functioned much more efficiently than formerly. There is closer contact with the Aeroflot administration and less "paper creation". For the present at least, allocations to us of aircraft, spare parts or fuel are no longer in question. Another thing is the quality of the aircraft themselves. They are presently fitted out mainly for patrol fights, landing firemen and delivering cargoes, rather than for direct participation in the extinguishing of fires. Judge for yourselves: a pilot has spotted something burning in the forest. Having five tonnes of water