

In concluding the meeting, M.S. Gorbachev said that at the present time it would be appropriate and economically advantageous to avoid dissipating financial and labor resources on simultaneous construction of five complexes. A general acceleration of work on the first phase - complexes in Tobolsk, Surgut and Novyi Urengoi - would be preferable. When these start to produce hard currency, then a portion of this money could be directed toward development of other complexes and cities in Western Siberia. But the main thing is to explain to our workers that all of this is being done in the interests of the workers of Western Siberia and of the entire country, and in the interests of regional cost-accountability. And we should not only explain but also actively accelerate solutions for all the social problems of Tyumen Oblast. When people sense a real concern for them, they will work even better.

Immediately following the Politburo meeting, your correspondent spoke with V.A. Durasov, who had made an information presentation to the Politburo. He said:

"What struck me was the businesslike, constructive and attentive atmosphere of the meeting. At the same time, a spirit of debate reigned in the hall. Also, the level of debate and mutual respect was exceptionally high. At all turns in the debate, the interests of human beings formed the background of attention at all times. This produced a very strong impression on me since I was addressing the Politburo meeting for the first time.

Pravda

10 November 1989

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