I remember that just at the start of the massive airlift one plane arrived carrying badly needed lumber. How come that the owners of the plane have been unable for years to solve this problem and with a clear conscience permit gigantic aircraft to fly with no cargo on board?

Very disturbing also is the fact that the planes would invariably arrive with unprepared mooring nets for securing the load. Moreover, quite often they were damaged or had no hooks.

... On September 12th, an Il-76 with 30 tons of grapes left the capital of Tadzhikistan for Petropavlovsk-Kamchatskii. This flight was supposed to crown the planned deliveries of vegetables and fruit from the 1989 crop. However, there still remains a lot of vitamin-rich produce in the fields and orchards (especially tomatoes, cucumbers and grapes). The farmers are asking for extended deliveries of the sunny gifts of Tadzhikistan to the cities of the Far North and Far East. Requests for six Il-76s have already been received. We feel that the deliveries of fruit and vegetables should be extended. By the same token, the administration will honour the plan for the delivery of vitamin-rich produce and the precious summer will be lengthened a little for the northerners.

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