

TRANSPORT AIR

New Air Route to Northern Oil Cities

The residents of Raduzhnyi, a young oil city, have given up a long bumpy drive in buses and 'vakhtovki'* in exchange for comfortable air travel. A new airport has opened here and regular flights of AN-24 and YAK-40 airplanes have begun. Even larger aircraft will eventually be authorized. On the heels of this opening in Raduzhnyi, other airports are preparing to start operations in Nagan, Kogalyma and Yamburg.

* Although no standard English equivalent is available for the Russian noun vakhtovka, past experience with a similar noun, vakhta (meaning "a remote-shift field camp"), suggests a land vehicle used in transporting workers to and from such camps.

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Page 1 (Full text)

The streets still have no names in the settlement near Oymya station, known to the railway construction workers only by name. One street may be named after the "patrons" - the workers of the specialized mobile mechanized construction unit, Moldavtrestroi. V. Gorbunov, head of the Baikal-Amur