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Lesnaya promyshlennost
October 7, 1989
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Massive Railway Tie-Ups Result in Underdeliveries of Forest Products and other Goods to Armenia

At the USSR Ministry of Railways the Minister N.S. Konarev held a press conference on the subject of the alarming situation currently existing on the Soviet railway network. Over a nine-month period in 1989, shipments of more than 21 million tonnes of freight, including more than 1.6 million tonnes of forest products, have been disrupted. Why is this?

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The Minister emphasised that the interruptions became worse in the third quarter. This is precisely when strikes and international disputes, and hence, interruptions in freight deliveries, normally reach a peak. Suffice it to say that in the timber sectors the entire lag in the plan for shipments occurred during the last three months, when 100,000 railway cars were "languishing" on the mainlines daily.

Transport by its very nature is an uninterrupted process. Allow one of the links to "get rusty" and this is reflected throughout the entire chain. Convincing evidence of this is once again afforded by the interaction between the