

LINES AND VOICE....STAGG.

ISSUE 1447

MUSIC BACKGROUND...SEE CUE SHEET

9th Jan. 1945.

C. N. D. - RUSSIA. I. ROUTE IN
FULL SWING.

Now revealed by censorship is the fact that since September, 1942, regular supplies of American-built war planes have been flown to Russia by the North West Staging Route. Surveyed in 1935, construction well under way on the outbreak of war, the chain of airfields from Edmonton to Alaska now handle capacity traffic. By this route, over north Canada and Siberia to the Russia front, went the planes that turned the tables at Stalingrad, air fleets that contributed to later Red Army offensives. Work on the airfield buildings went on long after the route was opened.

Completion work at Watson Lake was undertaken by the Americans in July, 1943. By that time the States had so much to send Russia, it was highly important to get the airway in full swing.

Ladd Field, at Fairbanks, Alaska is the terminus of the route on the North West Continent. It's a flight of less than 600 miles to the airport in Siberia. Up to six months ago more than 5,000 U.S. planes had hopped off from here, en route to the Red Army.

(2 Amer. talking to Russ.) Here the West meets the East. Russian and American crews meet in the comradeship of airmen at war. By a magnificent skyway -built in a quarter the time thought possible in 1949 -go the planes to the Red Army. When peace comes the North West Staging route will be among the great airways of the world. Meantime it helps to finish the war.