



Colorado Military Historians

Newsletter

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Lockheed plant in
peacetime (left) and
camouflaged during World
War II (below).



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The Pacific

Message from CMH President

Binhan Lin



April brings us spring showers and a new interest in WW2 Pacific. HBO's show *The Pacific* has started showing and members are expressing interest in gaming the period. Several WW2 rule sets are being bandied about so expect to see Pacific islands on our gaming tables in the near future.

There is a new interest in 25mm zombies, games can be found on various Friday Night Fights.

I am trying to start a document/rules/how to article section on the website. If you have such items in PDF format that you are willing to have posted on the website, please let me know. I will be posting a set of previously published how-to articles in the new section.

West Wars 2010 is May 14-16. I am co-coordinating the games for the convention. If you are interested in running a game, please contact me – lazdb@yahoo.com.

The May meeting is also our annual elections for club officers. If you are interested in running, please contact an officer to put your name in the hat. A reminder that only paid members be an officer or vote in the election, so get your dues in to Dave Manley or another board member.

WWII Camouflage and Vietnam

Message from CMH Secretary

Eric Elder

Larry passed along the information on the Lockheed plant camouflage pictures for this newsletter. The effort required to disguise these large facilities is impressive. Below are two links with more pictures of the plant and a Boeing facility:

<http://www.wings900.com/vb/general-squawk-talk/46508-hiding-lockheed-plant-during-world-war-ii.html>

<http://www.taphilo.com/history/WWII/USAAF/Boeing/index.shtml>

I would also like to thank Binhan and John Brown for their article submissions. Binhan has provided another aircraft profile and a How-To article on how to make a 28mm scale Quonset Hut. The resulting hut looks pretty good. John Brown supplied an article on the US Advisors during the Vietnam War. Since I know very little about the Vietnam War, this article was an insightful read. I am currently reading up on the Vietnam War since I will be acquiring a collection of n-scale Vietnam figures. My goal currently is to have a battle ready to go for Tacticon this year. What I find interesting is the variety of combined arms involved in some of the battles. The historical battle I am looking at includes riverine forces, air support, recoilless rifles, marines, tanks, and amtracs.



Photo by: Hugh Connelly (www.amtrac.org)

The Vietnam Advisory Effort

Originally published in March 2006 issue of Army Magazine

Article by CMH Member

John Brown

The United States Army is now heavily involved in an advisory effort to assist Iraq. It may be useful to reflect on the last such effort on so ambitious a scale. From 1955 through 1973 American Soldiers advised and supported the armed forces of South Vietnam, and for much of that period fought alongside them. At peak strength (in 1969), 16,000 American military advisers served in Vietnam, of whom 13,500 were Army. This was out of 365,000 Soldiers and 543,000 service members all told in Vietnam, and out of a worldwide Army active component strength of 1,500,000. The Vietnamese forces Americans advised in 1969 numbered 1,148,000, of whom 416,000 were regular army, 475,000 territorials, and 179,000 irregulars or police. The Vietnamese Army featured four corps, eleven divisions, and eight separate brigades. The ratio of American advisors to Vietnamese security forces was about one to seventy.

The composition of advisory teams varied over time and by unit type, but the standard for an infantry battalion emerged as five: a captain, a lieutenant, two non-commissioned weapons advisors, and an RTO. A South Vietnamese Army already existed when Americans first arrived, a legacy of the French, and as the war progressed newly arriving advisers were increasingly likely to report in to seasoned Vietnamese counterparts. Advisers nevertheless remained valuable as resources with respect to doctrine and training, and invaluable as conduits to American logistical and fire support.

Initially virtually all American advisers went to regular units of the Vietnamese armed forces. As the nature of the war became more apparent, more and more ended up with civil or paramilitary forces. Provincial advisory teams came to number between twenty and thirty Soldiers, and district advisory teams about five. Service schools customarily acquired a handful of advisers as well. Nation building, population and resources control, and pacification became at least as important as combat operations. By 1967, about half of all American advisers were in civil or paramilitary roles, and their activities had been brought together under the umbrella of Civil Operations and Revolutionary Development Support (CORDS). All knew the guerrilla war would have to be won locally, and village militias were often best positioned to do so. Even the infantry divisions of the regular army acquired a local character, recruiting, operating in and living with their families in territory they intended to defend.

Sustaining an adequate supply of appropriately experienced advisers proved problematic. Turnover was high. Most served 12 months in theater, and only six months with combat units in the field. Service culture valued combat tours in American units more highly than advisory duty, and career officers were concerned about experiencing the right job mix when promotions moved so quickly. Chief of Staff Harold K. Johnson attempted to establish a Military Assistance Officer Program as a specialized career field, but this ultimately succumbed when only 433 officers expressed interest in 6,000 billets. Special Forces were insufficient in numbers as well, and most were diverted to peripheral tribal areas where they combined direct action and other missions with advisory roles. The overwhelming majority of advisers were line officers and NCOs from the traditional branches. The Army incentivized advisory duty with perks and admonitions to promotion boards, and shepherded career patterns in such a manner as to mix service in American units and advisory duty.

To its credit the Army took the long view, and transformed the advisory effort from ad hoc to systematic. The Army Staff negotiated a ceiling on advisers in theater that was sustainable over time. It established a family of courses appropriate to different advisory missions. The standard came to be the six week Military Assistance Training Advisor (MATA) course taught at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. This curriculum included counterinsurgency theory, tactics and techniques, civic action, psychological operations and country orientation. It also included over a 100 hours of language training. Selected personnel went on to a further eight to twelve weeks of training at the Defense Language Institute (DLI). Proficiency in Vietnamese remained a weak point, however, and virtually all advisers relied heavily upon native Vietnamese interpreters.

The American advisory effort did succeed in fielding capable Vietnamese battalions. Time and again South Vietnamese units showed well, even in trying combat circumstances. Local pacification also progressed reasonably well, and by 1970 most of the population was secure and the indigenous guerrillas by and large defeated. Above the battalion level advisers had less success. Although there were exceptional Vietnamese generals, political cronyism and corruption impeded efforts to develop a truly professional senior leadership cadre totally committed to winning the war, and capable of doing so. Vietnamese units continued to depend upon Americans for logistics and fire support, and generally performed best within an American framework. Perhaps most troubling, in-place and refresher unit training was virtually nonexistent. In theory Vietnamese units would retrain when not on active operations, and periodically rotate through training centers to refurbish maneuver skills. In practice commanders almost always found a reason not to do so, and thus lost the opportunity to sustain skills not being used in the field at the time. This greatly reduced their ability to adapt quickly to changes in the nature of the war. When Vietnamization first became policy, it envisioned a prolonged tapering off of the advisory effort and of American logistical and air support. In fact acknowledged advisers plummeted to zero in 1973, and American logistical and air support came to be similarly withheld.

What lessons are there in the Vietnam advisory effort? History never repeats itself exactly and no two wars are the same, but we might be wise to: prepare for the long haul; design an advisory structure we can sustain; systematize the selection, training, and career mix of advisers; emphasize service with militias and civil agencies as much as service with regulars; develop capable senior leaders as well as capable battalions; and assure units rotate through retraining as well as utilization. We also should steel ourselves for the frustrations inevitably involved.

Recommended Reading

Clarke, Jeffrey C. *Advice and Support: The Final Years, 1965-1973* (Washington, D.C.; Center of Military History, 1988).

Collins, James L. Jr. *The Development and Training of the South Vietnamese Army, 1950-1972* (Washington, D.C.; Center of Military History, 1975).

Sorley, Lewis, *A Better War* (New York; Harcourt Brace, 1999)

March Monthly Meeting

Unit of the Month

Sponsored by Attactix



Each month CMH members bring their latest painted figures and models to the meeting to display their latest efforts and compete for Unit of the Month. The owner of the winning unit receives a gift certificate from Attactix in Aurora, Colorado. We thank Attactix for its continued support.

CMH Member	Scale	Era	Unit
Matt Vigil	15mm	SYW	Russians
Terry Shockey	15mm	Ancients	DBA Gallic
Jeff Caruso	28mm	Future	Biker
Scott McKenzie	25mm	WWII	West Wind German SS
GREG SKELLY	25mm	Future	Zombies

Table: Unit of the Month (**WINNER**)



Books for Articles

Message by CMH Secretary

Eric Elder

There are still lots of books for submitted newsletter articles. For every 300 words in an article submitted for the CMH newsletter, the contributor receives their choice of a book from the list below.

Publisher	Category	Num	Title
		0	Basic guide to Armies & Uniforms SYW, Hanoverian
		0	French Cav & Dragoons Uniforms & Flags SYW
		0	Army Lists book 3 Armies after 1000AD, 1982
		0	Uniforms of the SYW a painters guide Vol.2
		0	The Battle Flags of the Conf. Army of Tennessee
Concord			Modern British Armoured Forces
Concord			US Armored Funnies US Specialized Armored Vehicles
Concord			The Battle of the Bulge
Darlington Productions		7	Armored Fighting Vehicles of El Salvador
Greenhill Books			Uniforms and Insignia of the Navies of WWII
Grenadier			American Armored Cars
Hard Cover Book		0	The American Heritage History of World War I
Hard Cover Book		0	Soldiers Soldiers by Richard Bowood
Osprey	Campaign	4	Tet Offensive 1968
Osprey	Campaign	8	Gallipoli 1915
Osprey	Campaign	14	Zulu War 1879
Osprey	Campaign	21	Gravelotte-St-Privat 1870
Osprey	Campaign	41	Rorke's Drift 1879
Osprey	Campaign	57	San Juan Hill 1898
Osprey	Campaign	60	The Ebro 1938
Osprey	Campaign	79	Louisbourg 1758
Osprey	Campaign	84	Adrianople AD 378
Osprey	Elite	3	The Vikings
Osprey	Elite	5	Soviet Bloc Elite Forces
Osprey	Elite	6	French Foreign Legion Paratroops
Osprey	Elite	10	Warsaw Pact Ground Forces
Osprey	Elite	12	Inside the Soviet Army Today
Osprey	Elite	41	Elite Forces of India and Pakistan
Osprey	Elite	43	Vietnam Marines 1965-73
Osprey	Elite	53	International Brigades in Spain 1936-39
Osprey	Elite	55	Marine Recon 1940-90
Osprey	Elite	76	The German Freikorps 1918-23
Osprey	Fortress	56	Rome's Saxon Shore
Osprey	MenAtArms		The Gurka Rifles
Osprey	MenAtArms	38	Colenso 1899
Osprey	MenAtArms	48	Wolfe's Army
Osprey	MenAtArms	56	The Mexican-American War 1846-1848
Osprey	MenAtArms	57	The Zulu War
Osprey	MenAtArms	57	The Zulu War
Osprey	MenAtArms	74	The Spanish Civil War 1936-39

Osprey	MenAtArms	94	The Swiss at War 1300-1500
Osprey	MenAtArms	97	Marlborough's Army 1702-11
Osprey	MenAtArms	99	Medieval Heraldry
Osprey	MenAtArms	101	The Conquistadores
Osprey	MenAtArms	102	The Wild Geese
Osprey	MenAtArms	107	British Infantry Equip 1808-1908
Osprey	MenAtArms	118	The Jacobite Rebellions 1689-1745 (poor condition)
Osprey	MenAtArms	121	Armies of the Carthaginian Wars 265-145 BC
Osprey	MenAtArms	145	The Wars of the Roses
Osprey	MenAtArms	148	The Army of Alexander the Great
Osprey	MenAtArms	151	The Scottish and Welsh Wars 1250-1400
Osprey	MenAtArms	173	The Alamo and the War of Texan Independence 1835..
Osprey	MenAtArms	174	The Korean War
Osprey	MenAtArms	184	Polish Armies 1569-1696 (1)
Osprey	MenAtArms	203	Louis XIV's Army
Osprey	MenAtArms	205	US Army Combat Equip 1910-1988
Osprey	MenAtArms	217	The War in Laos 1960-75
Osprey	MenAtArms	230	The U.S. Army 1890-1920
Osprey	MenAtArms	230	The US Army 1890-1920
Osprey	MenAtArms	233	French Army 1870-71 Fr.-Pr. War 1 Imperial Troops
Osprey	MenAtArms	236	Frederick the Great's Army 1 Cavalry
Osprey	MenAtArms	237	French Army 1870-71 Fr-Pr War 2 Republican Troops
Osprey	MenAtArms	239	Aztec, Mixtec, and Zapotec Armies
Osprey	MenAtArms	250	Argentine Forces in the Falklands
Osprey	MenAtArms	267	The British Army 1660-1704
Osprey	MenAtArms	272	The Mexican Adventure 1861-67
Osprey	MenAtArms	276	The Austrian Army 1740-80: 2 Infantry
Osprey	MenAtArms	277	The Russo-Turkish War 1877
Osprey	MenAtArms	280	The Austrian Army 1740-80: 3 Specialist Troops
Osprey	MenAtArms	282	Axis Forces in Yugoslavia 1941-5
Osprey	MenAtArms	288	American Indians of the Southeast
Osprey	MenAtArms	305	The Russian Civil War (2) White Armies
Osprey	MenAtArms	309	The Italian Invasion of Abyssinia 1935-36
Osprey	MenAtArms	325	French Foreign Legion 1914-1945
Osprey	MenAtArms	341	British Air Forces 1914-18 (1)
Osprey	MenAtArms	379	Armies in East Africa 1914-18
Osprey	MenAtArms	408	Warriors at the Little Bighore 1876
Osprey	Order of Battle	3	Quebec 1759
Osprey	Vanguard	22	The Centurian Tank in Battle
Osprey	Vanguard	36	The Long Range Desert Group
Osprey	Vanguard	74	British Motor Torpedo Boat 1939-45
Osprey	Vanguard	83	Armored Units of the Russian Civil War White ...
Osprey	Vanguard	86	M109 155mm Self Propelled Howitzer 1960-2005
Osprey	Warrior	14	Zulu 1816-1906
Osprey	Warrior	40	The Conquistador 1492-1550
Osprey	Warrior	65	US Army Ranger 1983-2002
Osprey	Warrior	80	Irish Volunteer Soldier 1913-23
Pictorial Histories			Destroyer Escorts of WWII

Rules		0	Johnny Reb rules, version 1, 1983
Rules		0	Byzantium Beyond the Golden Gate rules, 527-1204AD
Rules		0	Official TSATF errata & Boxer Rebellion, signed LB
Rules		0	Brother Against Brother, version 1
Rules		0	Warefare in the Age of Reason, 2nd Ed 18th C rules
Rules		0	They Died for Glory Franco-Prussian War rules
Rules		0	TSATF supplement 1 (poor condition)
Rules		0	TSATF rules, version 1
Rules		0	Mitre Moustache & Musket, 18th C. rules, 1977
Rules		0	El Cid by James Morris, 900-1250 rules
Rules		0	Tricorne, 18th Century rules, 1985
Rules		0	War Games Rules 3000BC to 1485AD 1986
Rules		0	Medieval Warfare by Terry Gore rules
Rules		0	Tactica rules
Schiffer			Horten Flying Wing in WWII
Squadron/Signal			Panzer Colors I
Squadron/Signal			Panzer Colors II
Squadron/Signal			Panzer Colors III
Squadron/Signal			Regia Aero vol. 1
Squadron/Signal			Regia Aero vol. 2
Squadron/Signal			US Armor Camouflage and Markings WWII
Squadron/Signal		9	Escort Carriers in action
Squadron/Signal		34	M3 Half-Track
Squadron/Signal		35	Dukw in action
Squadron/Signal		37	US Armored Cars in action
Squadron/Signal		38	US Self-Propelled Guns in action
Squadron/Signal	poor condition		Tiger I in action
Verlinden		4	Israeli M4 Sherman and Derivatives



March Monthly Meeting

Game of the Month

Sponsored by Valhalla's Gaming Center



Each month CMH members host games at the monthly meeting. This award is for the effort put out by the host. The winning host receives a gift certificate from Valhalla's Gaming Center in Wheat Ridge, Colorado. We thank Valhalla's Gaming Center for its support.

CMH Member	Scale	Rules	Description
Matt Vigil	25mm	Arena Games	Gladiatorial Combat
Terry Shockey	15mm	Washington's Army	Battle of Eutaw Springs, 1781
Doug Wildfong	25mm	Column Line Square	Russians vs. French
JOHN BROWN	15mm	Ancients	DBM

Table 1 Game of the Month (**WINNER**)

Building a 28mm Quonset Hut

How-To Article by CMH President

Binhan Lin

During WWI there was a demand for portable, sturdy structures for storage, barracks, medical and other facilities that could not be sheltered by tents. British Major Peter Norman Nissen began to experiment with various designs that utilized pre-made wooden frames and simple corrugated metal sheets to form a shelter. Inspired by the cylindrical drill-shed roof at Queen's University in Kingston Ontario, the basic shape of the Nissen hut was born. After much experimentation and critical assessment, Nissen patented his design in 1916 and the hut was put into production for the war. More than 100,000 were produced for Allied use.

The basic design of the Nissen hut is a set of semi-circular ribs, spaced 6 feet apart. The ribs form an arc with an eight-foot radius. Over the ribs and stringers are placed curved corrugated metal sheets, 2 feet 2 inches wide and ten feet tall. The sheets are overlapped sideways 2 corrugations, or about 2 inches and overlapped vertically about 6 inches, with the top piece covering the top of each of the sidepieces.

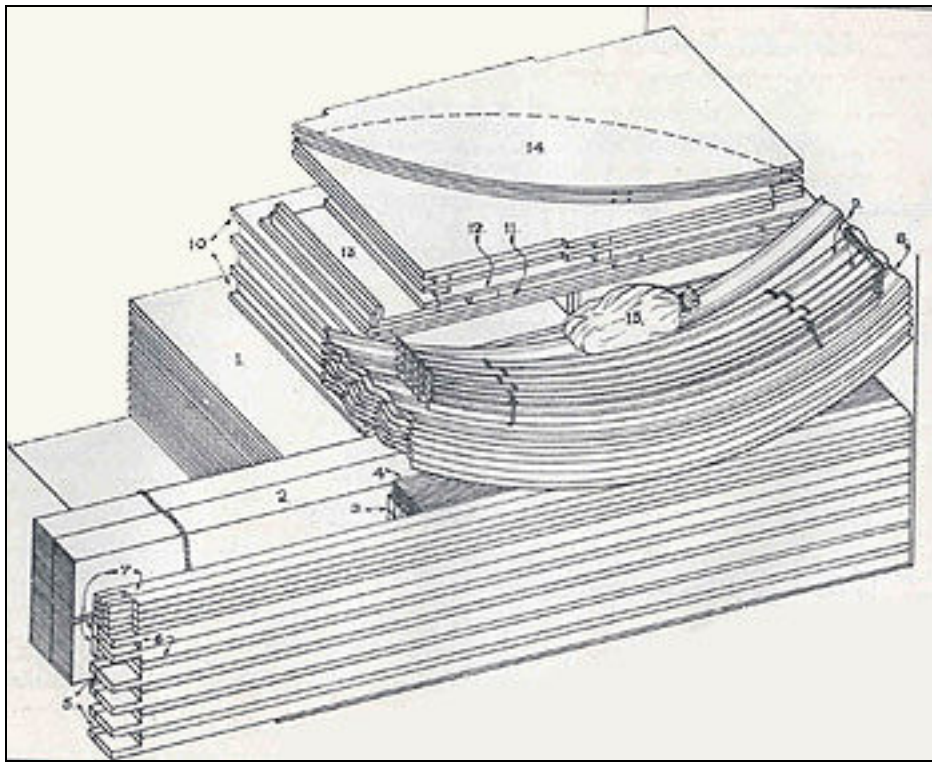
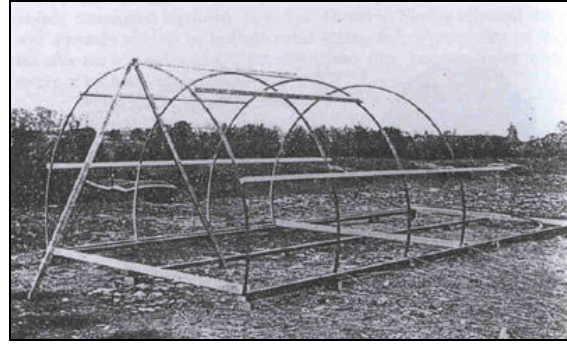
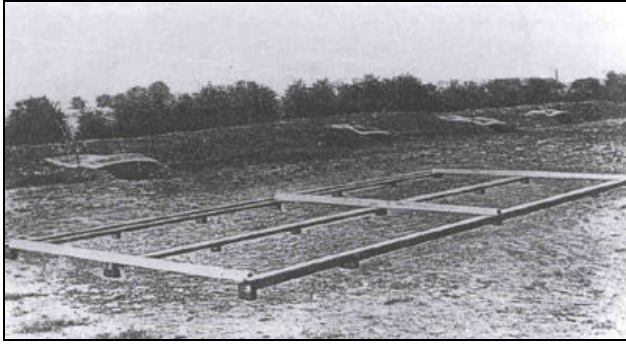
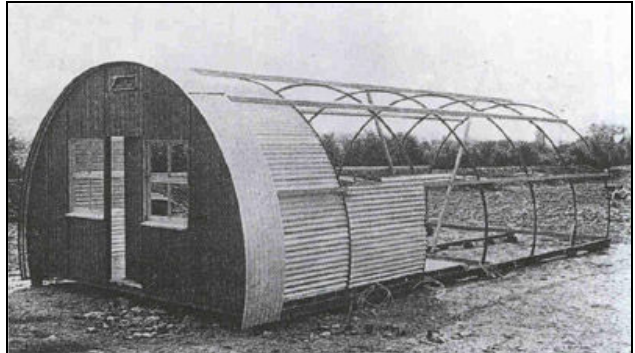


Diagram showing the compact packing of all the materials for a Nissen Hut.
(Image from Nissens.co.uk)



Wooden bearers are laid on the ground and the steel ribs are set up.
(Images from Nissens.co.uk)



Wooden flooring is installed, the inner corrugated lining (horizontal) added, then the end piece and outer corrugated skin (vertical) applied. (Images from Nissens.co.uk)

The Nissen hut was compact to transport and relatively simple to set up. Due to the modular nature of the building, construction of the parts was easily setup to be mass-produced.

By World War II, a US licensed a version of the Nissen hut, initially built at Quonset Point by the Davisville Naval Construction Battalion Center in Rhode Island was being produced. Called the "Quonset Hut" the initial designs were nearly identical to the British Nissen Hut. The initial design was walled the T-Rib Quonset hut and differed from the British version in that the interior walls were made from Masonite instead of corrugated metal. The remaining dimensions of 16' width and 20' or 36' length were retained. By 1941, approximately 8,200 had been produced.



Original T-rib Quonset and Redesigned Quonset Huts.
(National Archives -RG 80-G-7443 and RG 342-FH-3b47102)

One major defect of the design was that the curved walls reduced the usable floor space as the area near the walls had a low headspace. To increase the usable area, the design was modified, by adding 4-foot vertical walls. In addition, the design of the frames was altered so that fewer pieces were needed for each support. The supports had only 2 sections instead of 3 and were changed in cross section shape from the previous “T” to an “I”. The changes resulted in a reduction in weight of 35% and a cost reduction of 65% to produce. Approximately 25,000 were made.

In 1943, due to production demands, manufacturing was moved from Quonset Point to the Stran-Steel Division of the Great Lakes Steel Corporation. To simplify manufacturing, major changes were made in the design. The design reverted back to the semi-cylindrical shape of the original design and the footprint of the building was expanded to 20’ wide and 48’ long. Despite the increased size, changes in the design such as use of ½” plywood instead of 1” wood boards for the floor and thinner metal for the siding produced a product that was even lighter and more compact for shipping. Other changes that decreased the shipping size was limiting the curved siding to only the roof sheets, with the side panels now being installed horizontally, which meant that they could be manufactured and installed flat. Over 120,000 Stran-Steel Quonset huts were produced in WWII.



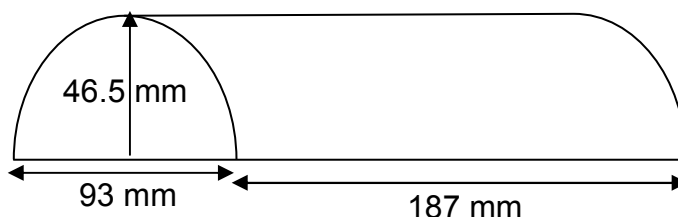
Stran-Steel Quonset Huts. (National Archives, RG 80-G-347017)

Model Design

This article will focus on building the Stran-Steel version of the Quonset Hut, although using these techniques, the earlier models of the Quonset or even the Nissen Hut could be made.

The Stran-Steel design is 20' wide, 40' long and 10' high. The cross section is a semi-circular arc with a radius of 10' feet. Since we are making a 28mm model, and assuming a 28mm scale equals 6 feet, the 20' x 40' base will scale down to 93mm x 187 mm (3.67" x 7.35"). Using basic geometry for arc length of half a circle ($\pi * \text{radius}$ or $3.14 * 10$ feet) the arc length is 31.4 feet. In scale, this equals 146 mm (5.77").

The foundation will then be a rectangle 93mm x 187mm in size, the curved top piece will be 146mm x 187mm and the two end pieces will be semi-circles with a radius of 46.5mm (see below).



You do not need to follow the specifications of an actual Quonset hut, you can use any handy circular object to draw the ends of the hut – a coffee mug, tin can, package lid etc. and adjust the length and width to match. Alternatively use any handy half cylinder such as a cardboard tube cut in half to form the top of your hut.

Materials and Model Construction

The primary materials for this project will be paper or cardboard of various types and glue to attach them. The foundation is made from thin cardboard or poster board, while the corrugated skinning is made from thin corrugated cardboard, commonly found as coffee cup holders from your local coffee shop. White or PVA glue is suitable as an adhesive, but I prefer using wood glue. My preference derives from two properties – wood glue provides a stronger bond, and second, wood glue is generally thicker and contains less water than most PVA or white glues which leads to less warping and wrinkling of paper products.

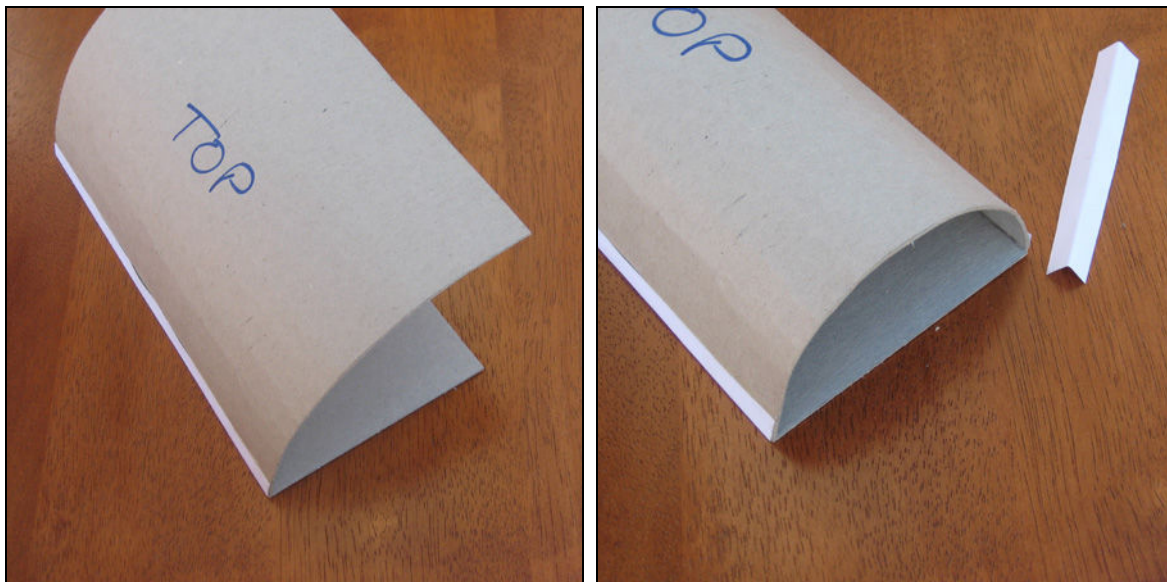
The foundation pieces are cut from thin cardboard; the end pieces are cut by using a compass to draw a full circle and then cutting the circle in half.



Foundation pieces cut from thin cardboard and the top piece after curving.

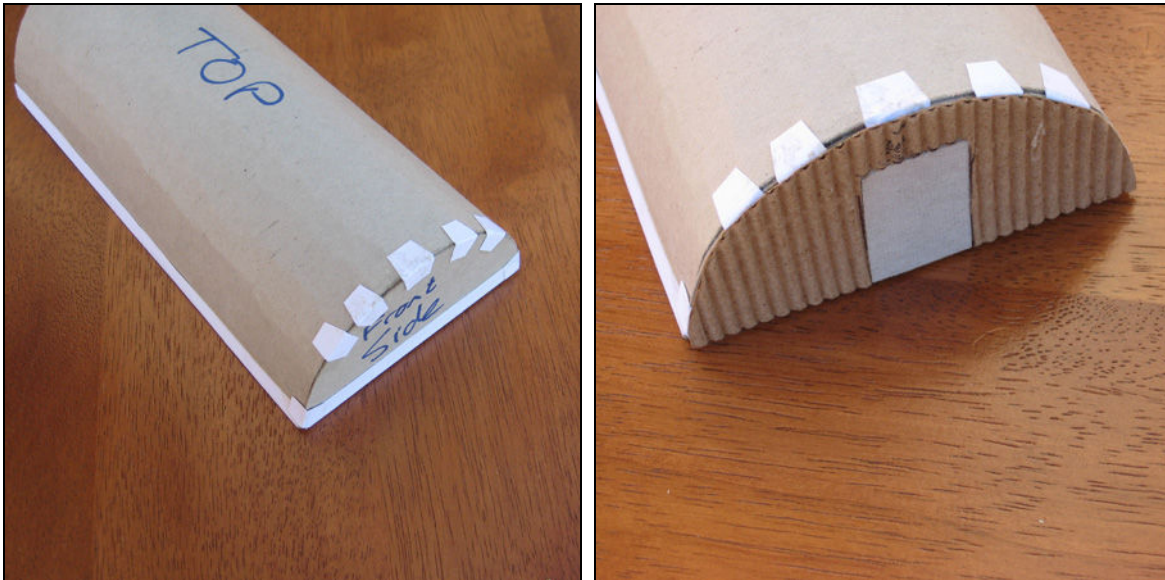
The top piece is curved by breaking down the cardboard by running it across a rounded edge of a table or countertop. Avoid using too sharp a corner as this might crease the cardboard. The top piece does not have to have the full semi-circle shape at this point, but take extra care to soften the areas that will become the bottom edges as these will need to flex more to take the proper shape when attached.

The top curved piece is then glued to the bottom piece using a strip of paper or light cardstock pre-creased into an angle (a sharp crease can be created by using a thin metal ruler to bend against). Attach one side of the top to the bottom and allow it to dry. For the second side, attach the paper strip to the bottom piece first and allow it to dry, and then attach the top piece. If you do not allow the strip to dry on the bottom piece, it may slip out due to the outward pressure of attaching the top piece.



Attaching the curved top piece to the bottom piece.

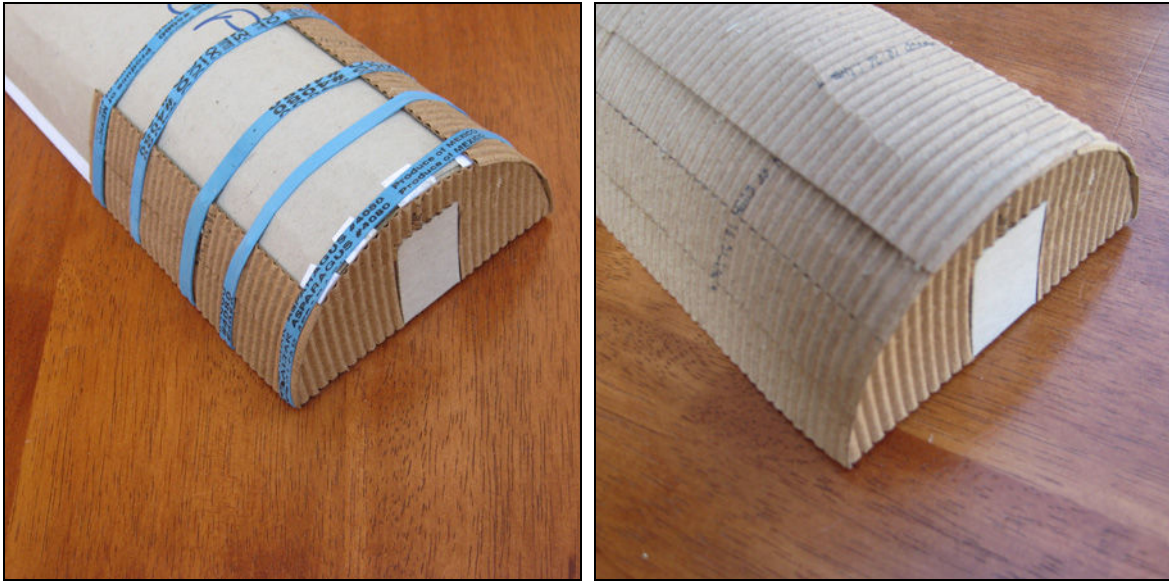
After the top and bottom pieces are securely glued together, fit the end pieces on. This may take extra shaping of the ends of building to get the top to match the ends. Once the proper shape is achieved, attach the ends using strips of angled paper, short pieces around the curved portion.



Attaching the ends of the foundation, corrugation and door.

After the foundation has dried, the outer skinning is applied. The corrugations should be vertical for all the pieces. The skinning can be added either in horizontal strips in the Stran-steel design or the tall vertical strips of the previous designs. Details such as doors or windows can be added before the skinning and the skinning applied around them.

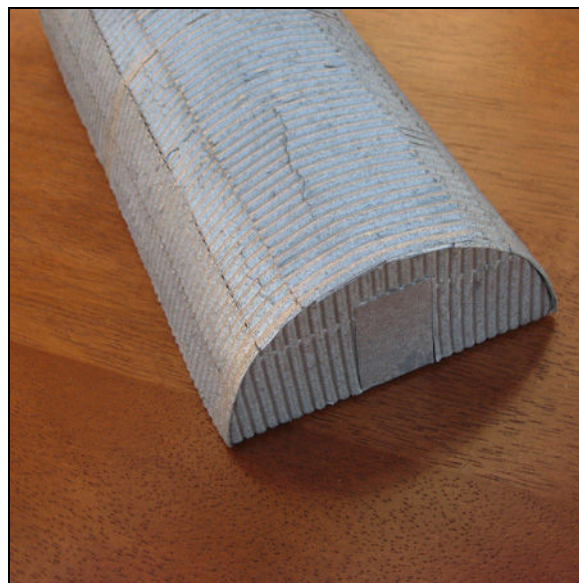
The skinning should be applied to the ends first, and then over the top. The top layer should slightly overlap the lower sections. I spaced the roof to overlap the ends by about one corrugation. Broad rubber bands can be used to hold the layers down while they dry. Do not use rubber bands that are too tight as they may crush the corrugations.



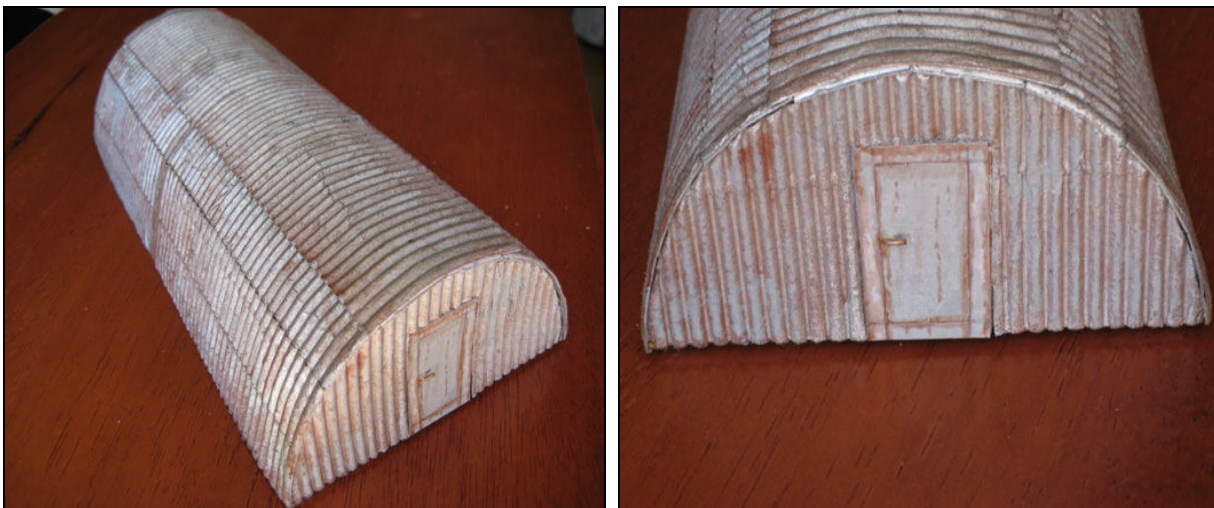
Application of the corrugations over the side and completed application of corrugations.

After all the skinning is applied, the Quonset hut is painted with a base color. Since most huts were made from galvanized steel, I used an aluminum color spray paint to provide the base color. The hut was then weathered using a rust/brown wash of Future/acrylic paint to dirty/rust it up slightly and then dry brushed with a dull aluminum color.

The door was detailed with additional strips of cardboard and painted to appear to be a metal paneled door. A handle was made from a short piece of steel wire bent into shape and glued into the door. The door and handle were weathered in a similar manner to the rest of the hut.



Quonset hut base painted with aluminum color.

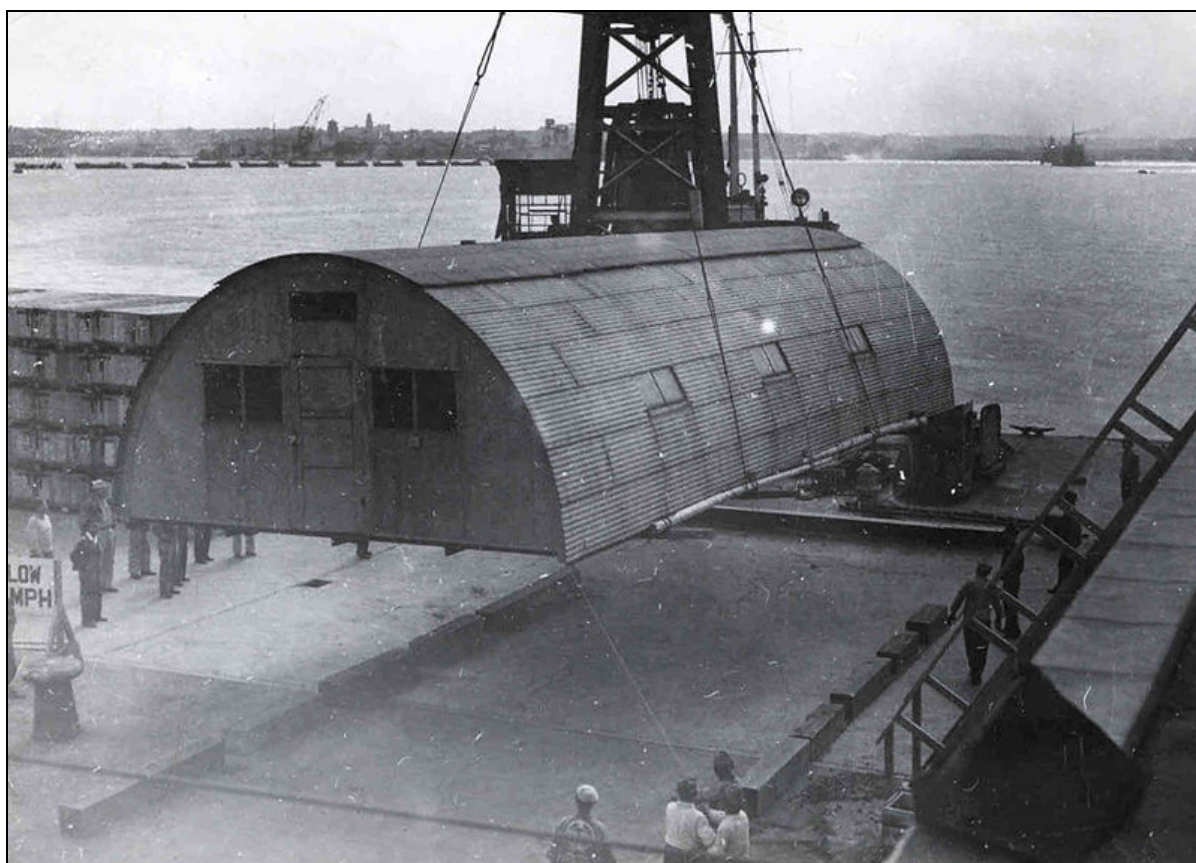


Completed Quonset model after weathering and door detail.

References

www.quonsethuts.org

www.nissens.co.uk



CMH April Scheduled Events



This table shows what scheduled CMH events are coming up. Next months Friday Night Fights (FNF) and the monthly meeting (MM) are listed. It is recommended to schedule your game for future meetings and will appear on this page.

Date	Meeting	Location	Start Time	End Time
April 2	FNF	Baker	7:00 pm	midnight
April 9	FNF	Valhallas	7:00 pm	midnight
April 11	MM	Baker	12:00 pm	5:00 pm
April 16	FNF	Baker	7:00 pm	midnight
April 23	FNF	Valhallas	7:00 pm	midnight
April 30	FNF	Valhallas	7:00 pm	midnight

Me-410 Hornet “Hornisse”

Aircraft Profile by CMH President

Binhan Lin

Manufacturer: Messerschmitt

Crew: 2

Length: 41 ft. 3 in.

Wingspan: 53 ft. 7 in.

Empty Weight: 14,597 lbs.

Power plant: 2 x DB 603A V12

Max. Speed: 388 mph

Range: 1,400 miles

Armament: 2 x MG 151/20 20mm cannon

2 x MG 17 7.92mm MG

2 x MG 131 13.1mm MG



Chaubet Creations - Pewter Kit

The Me-210 was designed in 1937 as a follow on to the Me-110. Major design changes included a shorter blunt nose, heavier armament, an internal bomb bay and a bubble-type canopy. The second prototype included remote controlled barbettes with MG 131's for rear defense. One thousand were ordered even as flight tests were being run. This order turned out to be premature as the Me-210 showed a high degree of instability making it highly unsuitable as a fighter. Conversion of the design to a large single tail and additional flaps and slats improved the stability problems slightly, but production was discontinued in 1941 with only a few hundred aircraft of several types built.

There was still a demand for a heavy fighter/fast light bomber and so Messerschmitt returned to the design. The Me-410 was derived from the Me-210 airframe with the addition of automatic leading edge slats and an increase in fuselage length to try to increase the stability of the design.

The Me-410 went into production, with early models cannibalizing Me-210 airframes and parts. The A-1 model was a light bomber version with the standard armament and capability to carry 2,200 lbs of bombs in the internal nose bomb bay. The A-1 version was a Zerstörer model with armament increased by removing the light nose MG and adding two 30mm MK 103 cannon installed in the nose bomb bay. Other versions included reconnaissance, night fighter, and specialized bomber destroyer types.

The first production Me-410's reached the Luftwaffe in January 1943 and by May, a sufficient number were issued to the Erprobungskommando (EKdo) 25, an experimental group used to test heavy cannon and rockets on aircraft, for regular use. The Me-410 scored some early successes against American heavy bombers until mid-1944, when long-range Allied fighter cover was available to cover the bombers all the way to their targets and back. By September 1944, production of the Me-410 ceased with 702 units of various types having been produced.

Colorado Military Historians, Inc.

Colorado Military Historians (CMH) is a non-profit organization whose purpose is to promote historical wargaming and the study of military history. Founded in 1965, CMH meets monthly on the second Sunday of the month, except in May when the meeting is deferred to the third Sunday. The meeting starts at noon at the Baker Recreation Center, 6751 Irving Street (just a few blocks west of Federal Blvd), Denver, Colorado. The club also hosts gaming every Friday night, called "Friday Night Fights" (FNF) at 7:00 p.m. The first and third Friday of the month, these meetings will be held at the Baker Community Center. The second and fourth Friday of the month, the meetings will be at Valhalla's Gaming Center, 6161 W. 44th Ave., Wheatridge, Colorado.



CMH maintains ties with numerous local, regional and national groups to help promote the hobby. CMH is governed by member-elected officers serving on the Board of Directors (executive board). Terms of office are one year, with elections held at the May meeting. New members are accepted after attending three CMH functions and a vote of the membership. Dues are \$50.00 per year, payable in January. Members wishing to receive a snail-mailed newsletter subscription must pay an additional fee of \$15.00 per year. Authors retain ownership of articles and graphics published. CMH reserves the right to edit or reject submissions to the newsletter.

One year Adult Membership: \$50.00

Half year Adult Membership: \$25.00

(for NEW members who join after June 30)

Family Membership: \$50.00 (one Adult and any number of offspring)

Student Membership: \$20.00 (16 to 22 years old)

Children: free (younger than 16 accompanied by member)

CMH Newsletter

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