A compact shelter is provided in a basement corner by the use of common lumber and concrete blocks with mortar joints for permanent construction.
EXISTING FLOOR

SECTION A

EXISTING BSMT. FLOOR

SECTION B

FOR MAXIMUM PROTECTION
GROUND SHOULD NOT BE LOWER THAN THE
TOP CONCRETE MASONRY UNIT IN THE SHELTER

SECTION C

PLAN OF PLYWOOD CEILING

PLAN
GENERAL INFORMATION

This compact basement shelter will provide low-cost protection from the effects of radioactive fallout. Its purpose is to provide adequate protection for the minimum cost in an existing basement. In addition to the low cost, materials should be readily available, and the labor time will be short.

TECHNICAL SUMMARY

This shelter has about 50 square feet of area, 300 cubic feet of space and will provide shelter for five persons.

The materials required to build this shelter are obtainable at local concrete block plants and/or lumber yards.

Natural ventilation is provided by the entranceway and the air vents in the shelter wall.

Estimated construction time for the basic shelter is less than 44 man-hours.

MATERIALS LIST

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Actual Number Required</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Masonry:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4” x 8” x 16” solid concrete masonry units or</td>
<td>296 blocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2-1/4 x 4” x 8” solid bricks</td>
<td>1776 bricks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4” x 8” x 16” hollow concrete masonry units</td>
<td>7 blocks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lumber: (“Construction” or “No. 1” grade or better)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>posts 2 x 4 x 5’-4”</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>joists 2 x 4 x 5’-4”</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>beams 2 x 4 x 10’-5-1/2”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>frame 2 x 8 x 5’-4-3/8”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>header 2 x 8 x 2’-3”</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plywood 1’-4” x 6’-9-1/4” x 3/4” (utility B-C grade)</td>
<td>4 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plywood 1’4” x 4’-3-3/4” x 3/4” (utility B-C grade)</td>
<td>4 pieces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hardware:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8d nails</td>
<td>2 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10d nails</td>
<td>2 pounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8” bolt size multiple-expanding machine bolt anchors</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/8” x 3-1/2” square-head unfinished anchor bolts</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mortar (prepared dry-mix bags)</td>
<td>9 bags</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Special tools:
3/4” star drill for 3/4” x 2-7/8” anchor bolts

CONSTRUCTION SEQUENCE

1. Lay out guidelines with chalk on basement floor for shelter walls.
2. Lay first course of 4” x 8” x 16” solid blocks in a full bed of mortar to make the walls 8” thick. Vary the thickness of mortar bed if basement floor is not level.
3. Set door frame in place and continue to lay wall blocks. Be sure to leave the 4” spaces for air vents as shown on the drawing.
4. Continue this procedure until the walls have been laid up to a height of 5’-8” (17 courses). This height can be increased, if the basement headroom permits and provided the shelter roof remains below the outside ground level.
5. Fasten posts and door frame to the basement wall using two expansion anchors and bolts for each. Be certain the posts rest on the floor.
6. Nail two 2 x 4 boards together to make the wall beam. Nail the beam on top of the posts and secure with expansion anchors and bolts to the wall.
7. Place wood joists in position and secure with nails.
8. Place the 4” x 8” x 16” hollow blocks between joists as shown on the drawing. The holes in the blocks will afford ventilation.
9. Put several 3/4” pieces of plywood on the joists as shown and nail them to the joists with 8d nails.
10. Lay two layers of solid 4” x 8” x blocks flat on top of the plywood; stagger the joints. Mortar is not required in the ceiling.
11. Continue procedures 9 and 10 until the roof is completed.
12. Additional blocks stored in the shelter are for stacking in the entryway after occupancy.