Paper Emergency Shelters for UNHCR

In 1995, Shigeru Ban became involved in the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) efforts to provide temporary housing for more than two million Rwandans who were escaping to Tanzania and Zaire from ongoing genocide. In order to satisfy numerous shelter criteria, a paper-tube shelter was proposed that utilized the standard 4m x 6m plastic sheet issued to each refugee.