



**TOPIC: HELO HUT – USED IN POLAR FIELD WORK – NAMED ‘HELO’ SINCE IT CAN BE SUSPENDED FROM A HELICOPTER.**

**PROJECT PERSONNEL:** Cold Region Research & Engineering Laboratory



**GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON THE SUBJECT:**

Like any tent, this one can be used for shelter or storage or as an outdoor laboratory. What makes the helo hut special is its light weight (relatively speaking) and its runners that make it highly mobile. With the runners it can be dragged behind a snow machine from place to place. With its light weight it can even be slung from a helicopter (photo)

The wind and ocean currents, and other stresses in the ice, can cause both first year and multi-year floes to break apart, forming areas of open water through the middle of the ice floe. These areas of open water are called leads (photo). The tent was first used on an experiment called LEADDEX, a study of springtime ‘leads’. We were like a bunch of hermit crabs - one helo hut, two scientists, a stove, bunk beds, and all our science gear.

