

J2 TECHNICAL ARTICLE

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From Octagon Heaven

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J2 DOORS IN ALUMINUM

I am not sure if I follow his directions but anyway -----

Strip old skin carefully from wood frame, removing nails first. Unfold outer skin edges flat, also unfold inner metal strips of all shapes, for these bits are to be used as templates.

Mark all wood, especially the corner wedge bits showing side to face out. For accurate replacement I used good sticky labels for this job. Re-furbish or plug the screw holes but replace with new any rotten or woodworned bits. If you cannot get ash use beech, it's not a bad substitute.

Now having re-assembled the wood frame, skin the outer edge in thin marine plywood and mould to shape with shaping tool.

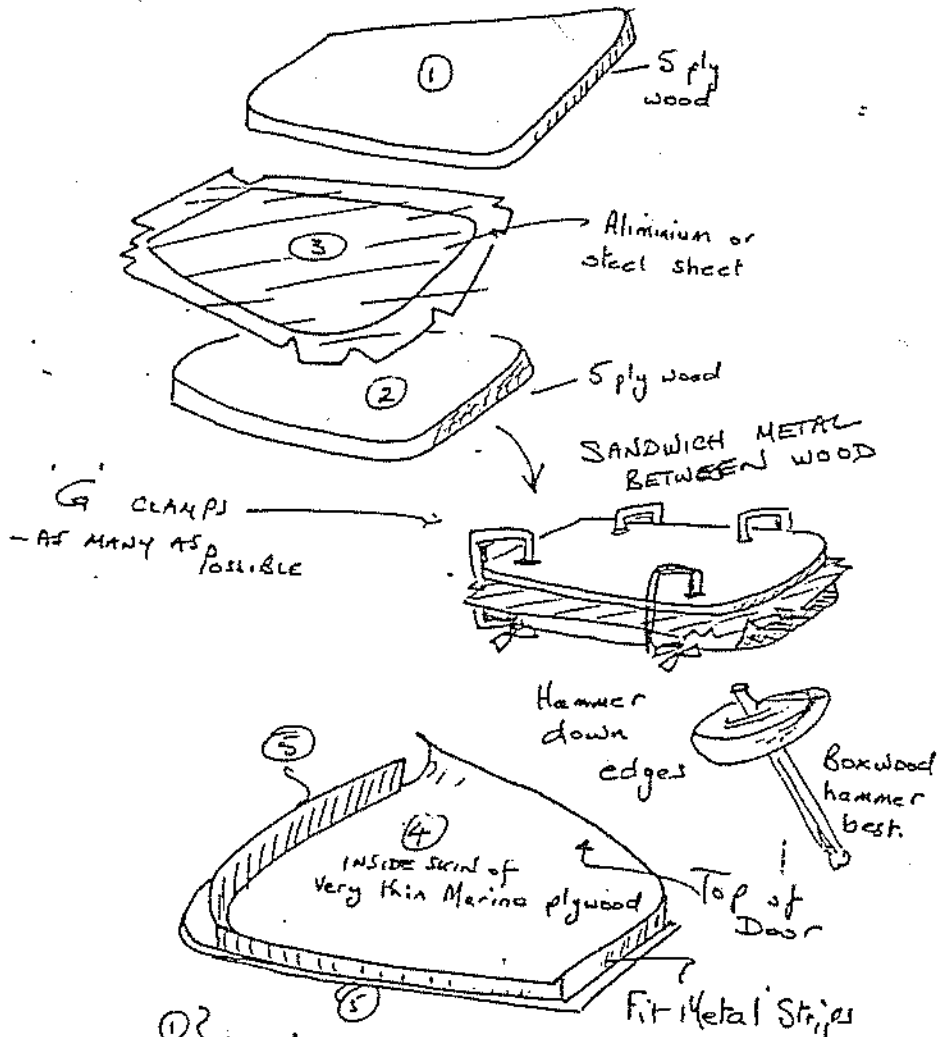
Find a firm that can scil you some 18 guage malleable aluminium. I obtained some from a cold store wagon builder. It must not be the hard type as this is not easy to bend or shape. Having obtained the two sheets of aluminium use your old metal door bits as templates to make new.

Now you need to cut two pieces of five ply with a jig saw to the profile of the door edge using old skin (See drawing on adjacent page) Clamp with G clamps the skin between the two bits of five ply, having scored the fold over edge deeply with a sharp utensil to help the fold, using boxwood hammer. The two pieces of ply wood hold the skin firm, so now you can carefully hammer the fold up towards an right angle position while trying to cut some gussets in the edge to stop the metal crinkling over on itself and spoiling the fold.

This folding of the door edge is vital as it gives the outer shape and secures the inner metal bits. If you have now got this far the rest should be obvious, the doors I made for my J2 have been much admired so I know others can do it, even if like me they perish the thought.

I.H.

(Drawings on back side)



- ① } 2 x pieces THICK ply.
 - ② } 2 x pieces THICK ply.
 - ③ OUTER SKIN ALI. or METAL
 - ④ INSIDE SKIN of Very thin Marine ply.
- J2 DOORS
LAW HOPER.