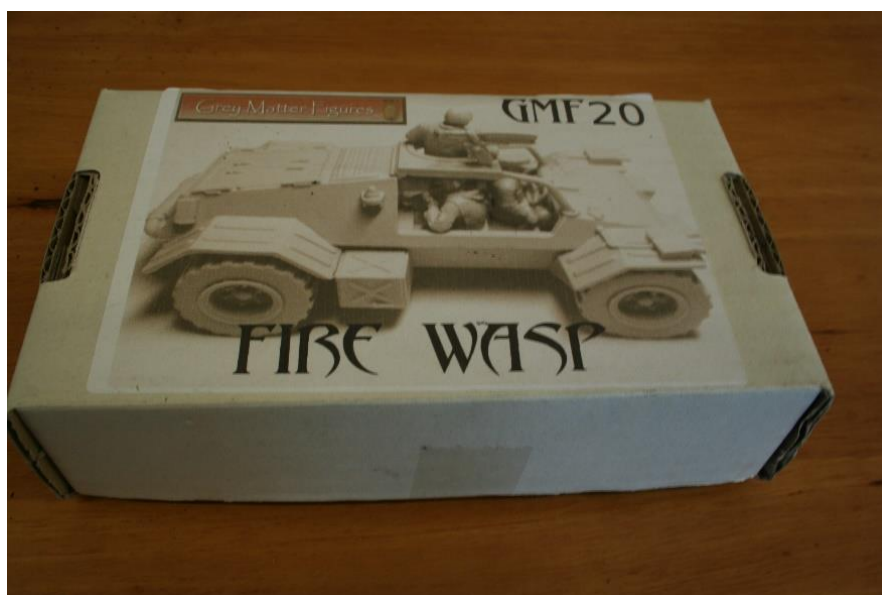


Raiders

(Grey Matter Figures Fire Wasp)



The kit used in the vignette was released by Grey Matter Figures in 2011. A resin kit in 28mm scale, it is suitable for use alongside Warhammer 40K pieces. Consisting of 23 parts the kit includes a crew of three. The design has been well thought out giving an uncomplicated build with the exception that the crew and the vehicle interior need to be painted and fitted prior to the roof going on. All parts were well cast and fitted together well. Packed in a strong cardboard box the parts had no flash or casting blocks to remove so assembly could start straight away.



Having started the build several years ago and failing to follow instructions, the roof was fitted before the crew were in place making painting with an airbrush difficult. An attempt at hand painting, gave a poor result and the model was put aside to be worked on at a later date.



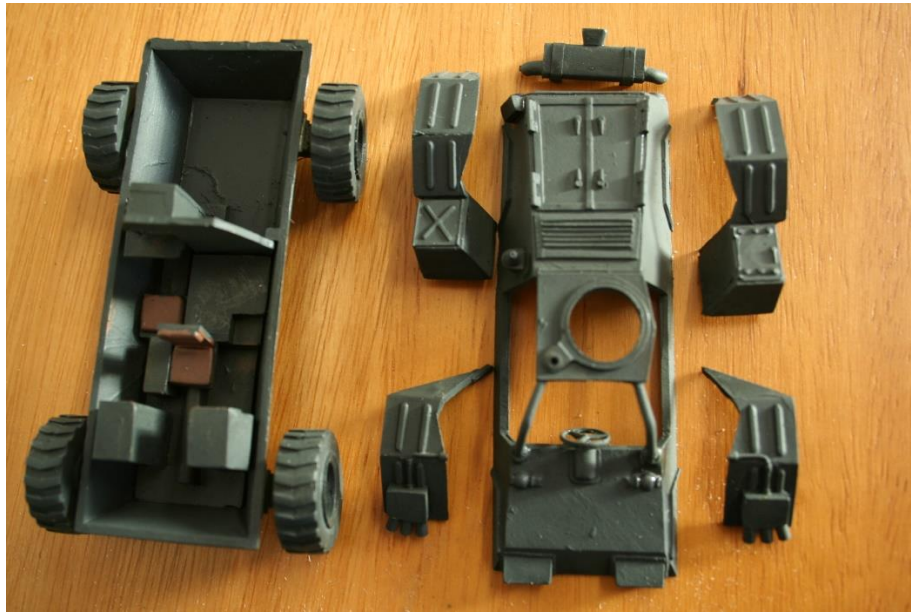
Having come back to the kit, the build was restarted. Given the poor finish of the original paintwork, it was necessary to strip off the paint on completion of the build.

To avoid the problem with fitting the kit's crew, an alternative set of figures from Forge World was selected. Choosing a section of Elysian drop troops, their pose ideally suited the image of raiders infiltrating an enemy strong point having just dismounted from their vehicle.



Assembly

Assembly of the vehicle started with fitting the firewall (with the radio built in) between the engine and crew compartments to the chassis which is in the form of a basic tub. The crew compartment consisting of a single piece floor panel with seating and storage bins was placed in the tub. This was followed by attaching the four suspension arms and wheels to the chassis exterior essentially completing the lower hull.



The upper hull was fitted with the roof panel for the weapons mount plus the steering wheel. The four large mudguards with stowage bins and smoke mortars were fitted with the addition of the exhaust system at the rear. The kit weapon was replaced with an item from the drop troops additional equipment.



Painting

The vehicle was finished in Tamiya acrylics in a muted pattern. NATO black was used as the base colour with NATO green and brown streaks added. Adding a small quantity of desert yellow to the green, the highlight areas of the model were dry brushed. A thin wash of black mixed with green was applied to all surfaces to blend in the colours.



Markings on the vehicle were kept to a simple 4 denoting its number.

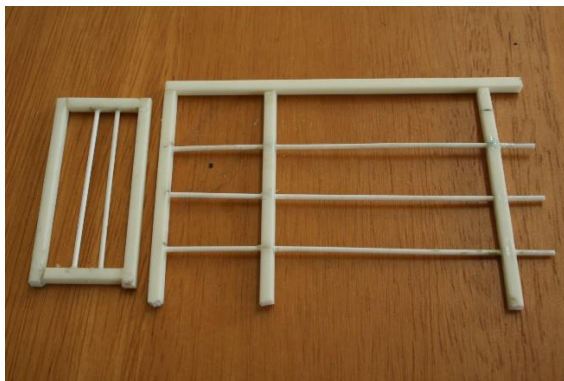


Setting

A sheet of 180 grade sandpaper was used to represent a concrete/pressed gravel surface having the texture desired. Cut to size, it was glued to the base with PVA glue and weathered with a mixture of light and dark washes airbrushed on in cloud patterns.

To give the impression of an enemy strongpoint, stored materials were represented by a stack of boxes taken from the spares box. In addition, a security fence was added to the base. Built from plastic rod and stock, wire mesh from a cooker splash guard was cut to fit and glued in place to represent the wire fence after the frame was painted.

As the frame had only a small surface area of contact that would allow it to be glued to the base, pins were added to the "legs" and drilled and glued into the base.



After painting these were added to the base along with the figures completing the model.







