IJA Fuel Tank 200 l. (bamboo)

During WWII, and due to their pragmatic attitude regarding strategic materials, Japan used bamboo, an element abundant in their latitudes. Especially the IJA fighters used fuel deposits which were manufactured with this material. The smooth and level surface of these deposits, without any kind of line or relief, puts our airbrushing skills to test.

By Pieza a Pieza Modelling Workshop

1. Normally the fuel deposits were painted with any one of the standard IJA camouflage colors. In this case, color IJA Olive Green, Model Air 71.268, was used.

2. The base color is lightened with Model Air 71.135 IJA Chrome Yellow in order to provide volume and chromatic variety.

3. A second application of vertical lines with the base color and Skin Tone, Model Air 71.076.

4. Next comes the application of shadows, and levelling the intensity of the color, this time with Sepia Shade, Game Color 73.200.

5. The internal structure of the deposit is simulated by using Vallejo Masking Tape and a mixture of the diluted base color and Model Air Skin Tone, (71.286 + 71.076).

6. Diminutive scratches are applied with the base color and Yellow (Model Air 71.286 + 71.135), as well as the stencils and kanjis (consult the tutorial "Stencils").

7. On the lower half of the fuel tank, Model Color Beige, 70.917, is applied for the scratches and abrasions which would have been caused by being in contact with the ground during storage and manipulation.

8. For the filling cap and wing support, the only metallic parts of this model, the references 71.062 and 70.866 are used, and they are profiled with the Game Color Black Wash 73.201.

9. Finally, the last touch is given with products from the Weathering Effect range, Oil Stains 73.813 for small leaks of fuel and Rain Marks 73.819 for the accumulated dirt of exposure.