= Ilyushin Il @-@ 30 =

The Ilyushin Il @-@ 30 was a Soviet turbojet @-@ powered tactical bomber designed as a higher @-@ performance , swept wing version of the Ilyushin Il @-@ 28 in the late 1940s . Its thin wing and engine nacelles necessitated the use of tandem landing gear , the first Soviet aircraft to do so . It was apparently canceled before the prototype made its first flight , although sources disagree on this .

= = Development = =

The Il @-@ 30 was a follow @-@ on to the Il @-@ 28 , although design began on 21 June 1948 , before the Il @-@ 28 had flown . It was designed to meet a requirement for a jet bomber that could carry 2 @,@ 000 kg (4 @,@ 400 lb) to a range of 3 @,@ 500 km (2 @,@ 200 mi) with a maximum speed no less than 1 @,@ 000 km / h (620 mph) . The design took that of the Il @-@ 28 as a starting point , but had thin , mid @-@ mounted swept wings with a 35 ° sweep angle chosen to allow the aircraft to reach its required speed . It was intended to be powered by two new Lyulka TR @-@ 3 axial @-@ flow turbojet engines with 45 @.@ 1 kN (10 @,@ 140 lbf) thrust each in wing @-@ mounted nacelles . Both the fuselage and the nacelles were area ruled .

The thin wing and the 2 ° anhedral necessary to cure the excessive lateral stability limited the amount of fuel that could be carried and tip tanks were required to meet the range requirement . The slim engine nacelles did not allow the main landing gear to be stowed there as was done in the Il @-@ 28 . The solution was to house them within the fuselage ? the first bicycle landing gear on a Soviet aircraft ? with small , twin @-@ wheeled , outriggers mounted underneath the nacelles to stabilize the aircraft on the ground . The aircraft had a crew of four , the pilot , a bombardier , and two gunners . The pilot , bombardier and the dorsal gunner shared one pressurized compartment that was subdivided into the cockpit and the bombardier 's position in the extensively glazed nose . The dorsal gunner was placed back @-@ to @-@ back with the pilot underneath the canopy and the tail gunner had his own separate pressurized compartment at the rear of the aircraft . Defensive armament was six 23 mm (0 @.@ 91 in) Nudelman @-@ Rikhter NR @-@ 23 cannon , two fixed forward and one pair each in the Il @-@ V @-@ 12 dorsal turret immediately behind the cockpit and the Il @-@ K6 tail turret . Maximum bomb load was 4 @,@ 000 kg (8 @,@ 800 lb)

The initial results were favorable , and a full @-@ scale mockup was formally reviewed in March 1949 . The prototype was completed by August 1949 , but an incident involving the rival swept @-@ wing Tupolev Tu @-@ 82 that broke an engine mount during a low @-@ altitude flight led to delays as additional tests were demanded to determine the strength of the wings before the first flight was made . By the following year , the Il @-@ 30 program had lost momentum as the Ilyushin OKB was ordered to concentrate its resources on facilitating the service introduction of the Il @-@ 28 . It was formally terminated by government order on 20 August 1950 , and the prototype was eventually scrapped at the beginning of the 1960s . Aviation historian Bill Gunston quotes a maiden flight date of 9 September 1949 , but Vaclav Nemecek says 1951 .

Although the Il @-@ 30 never actually flew , it was the subject of much (misinformed) speculation in the West . Some of the common misconceptions were that it had a ventral gun mount and that it was the first Soviet bomber to attain the speed of 1 @,@ 000 km / h (620 mph) .

= = Specifications (estimated) = =

Data from OKB Ilyushin : A History of the Design Bureau and its Aircraft
General characteristics
Crew : 4
Length : 18 m (59 ft 1 in)
Wingspan : 16 @.@ 5 m (54 ft 2 in)
Wing area : 100 m2 (1 @,@ 100 sq ft)
Empty weight : 22 @,@ 967 kg (50 @,@ 634 lb)

Gross weight : 17 @,@ 033 kg (37 @,@ 552 lb)
Powerplant : 2 × Lyulka TR @-@ 3 turbojet , 45 @.@ 1 kN (10 @,@ 100 lbf) thrust each
Performance
Maximum speed : 1 @,@ 000 km / h (621 mph ; 540 kn)
Cruising speed : 850 km / h (528 mph ; 459 kn)
Range : 3 @,@ 500 km (2 @,@ 175 mi ; 1 @,@ 890 nmi)
Service ceiling : 13 @,@ 000 m (42 @,@ 651 ft)
Armament
Guns : 6 × 23 mm (0 @.@ 91 in) Nudelman @-@ Rikhter NR @-@ 23 autocannon
Bombs : 4 @,@ 000 kilograms (8 @,@ 800 lb)