

# Ukrainian drone destroys Russian supersonic bomber

**A flagship Russian long-range bomber has been destroyed in a Ukrainian drone strike, according to reports.**

Images posted on social media and analysed by BBC Verify show a Tupolev Tu-22 on fire at Soltsy-2 airbase, south of St Petersburg.

Moscow said that a drone was hit by small-arms fire but managed to “damage” a plane. Ukraine has not commented.

The Tu-22 can travel at twice the speed of sound and has been used extensively by Russia to attack cities in Ukraine.

The Russian Ministry of Defence said in a statement that an attack by a “copter-type UAV” took place at around 10:00 Moscow time (08:00 BST) on Saturday.

It stated the location as “a military airfield in the Novgorod region”, where Soltsy-2 is situated.

“The UAV was detected by the airfield’s observation outpost and was hit with small-arms fire,” the ministry said.

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**Source:** <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-66573842>

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