

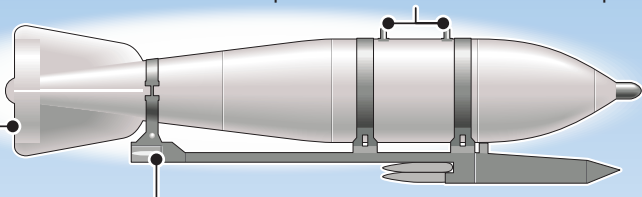
Russia's winged glide bombs

Moscow's extensive use of low-tech glide bombs in the ongoing Ukraine conflict has become a major concern for Ukrainian forces

GLIDE BOMB COMPONENTS

Weapon attaches to underside of warplane

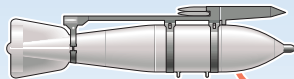
High-explosive
freefall
bomb



UMPK* kit

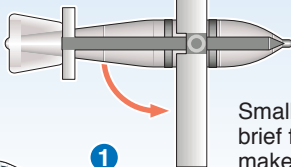
Navigation system and wings convert bomb into guided weapon. Russia has vast numbers of freefall bombs such as 500kg **FAB-500**

Guidance: Weapon may home in on coordinates from GLONASS – Russia's less-precise version of U.S. GPS system



Once in flight, bomb flips over so wing is on top

Wings fold out, extending range of weapon



Plan view

Kit cost: Around \$24,000 according to Russian sources – fraction of price of cruise missile

*Unified module for gliding and guidance

Small size and brief flight time make bomb hard to intercept

MISSION PROFILE

1 Launch: Russian jet releases glide bomb beyond effective range of Ukrainian air defences

2 Range: Up to 70km if bomb is released at higher altitudes

3 Target: Weapon has limited accuracy but size of munition – up to 1,500kg – poses serious threat



Weapon can be released at altitudes between 500m and 12km



Diagram not to scale