

Polikarpov R-5

The R-5 was a biplane reconaissance and light bomber that was production in vast numbers in the Soviet Union in the pre-war years.

The R-5 was designed while N.Polikarpov was working as the chief designer at Moscow's №25 factory. It was designed to be simple to fly, haven a long life and be of wooden construction. It was designed around the BMV VI inline engine, which then entered licence production in the S U as the M-17.

The R-5 became the standard reconaissance, bomber and attack aircraft with the SU AF, being used in large numbers, with over 100 air regiments equipped with the R-5. This aircraft took active part in the Nomonhan Incedente, Soviet invasion of Poland and Winter War against Finland. They remained in service during the war against Germany in 1941-45, where they were mainly used as night bombers and liasion aircraft, serving until 1945!

Eventualy 7.000 aircraft were built over seven (1930-1936) years.





















































