



Francis Gary Powers and his Lockheed U-2 were shot-down by a Soviet surface-to-air (SAM) missile on May 1, 1960. This image, by an unnamed Soviet photographer, depicts a view of the wreckage.

This was not the first time the Soviets had shot-down a plane flying over its territory. It was actually the 11th shoot-down, according to a formerly top-secret/now-declassified document entitled "[Maybe You Had to Be There](#)." (See page 5 of the 44-page report.)

There was a difference, however, between the other shoot-downs and that of the Powers' U-2 Incident. This time, the pilot (who had no accompanying crew) lived.

Credits:

Photo, by unnamed Soviet photographer, depicting wreckage of the U-2 flown by Francis Gary Powers and shot-down over Soviet territory on May 1, 1960.

See Alignments to State and Common Core standards for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicAlignment/Francis-Gary-Powers-and-His-U-2-Wreckage-0>

See Learning Tasks for this story online at:

<http://www.awesomestories.com/asset/AcademicActivities/Francis-Gary-Powers-and-His-U-2-Wreckage-0>