

The Saab 32 Lansen (meaning the Lance) was a two-seater, high transsonic attack aircraft produced by SAAB from 1955 to 1960 for the Swedish Air Force (Flyavapnet), During its long operational life. the Saab 32 also served as a fighter, reconnaissance, electronic warfare and a target-tug aircraft.

This model kit depicts the attacker version A32A Lansen.

When the A32A entered service they replaced the last piston-powered SAAB B18 bomber, SAAB 32 Lansen broke the sound barrier on 25 October 1953 when it exceeded Mach 1 in a shallow dive. The A32 ("A" stands for attack) had an armament of four 20 mm Bofors m/49 cannon hidden under flaps in the nose. It could carry the RbO4C anti-ship missile. The Lansen normally was fitted with two RbO4C but it could also carry an additional missile. Its main role was to prevent any Soviet invasion across Sweden's coastline.

One planned use of the A 32A was to deliver nuclear warheads or chemical weapons. Sweden had an active nuclear weapons program during the 1950s and 1960s, but no weapons were ever produced.

The A32 Lansen was Sweden's last purpose-built attack aircraft. During the Cold War years, the Lansen distinguished itself with a solid if unspectacular career. Swedish pilots described it as pleasant to fly.

Gradually being replaced by more modern types, the Sgab 32 was used into the late 1990s. Two still remain operational with the sole task of taking high altitude air samples for research purposes for the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority. It was used to collect volcanic ash samples in April and May 2010.













