

Claim

Claim: "During the January 2025 wildfires, eight mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in Los Angeles, California."

Actions

`web_search("January 2025 wildfires Los Angeles Ukrainian military offic`

Evidence

Evidence from `web_search`

Pro-Kremlin social media accounts spread a baseless narrative that mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in the Los Angeles wildfires, according to articles from NPR (<https://www.npr.org/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/los-angeles-california-fires-russia-ukraine>) and Houston Public Media (<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/npr/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/russia-trying-to-use-the-la-wildfires-to-spread-anti-ukraine-propaganda/>). The claim was debunked by fact-checkers and described as "Russian propaganda" by the Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation.

Forbes (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/petersuciu/2025/01/13/satire-or-disinformation-ukrainian-generals-lost-homes-in-la-fires/>) reported that the claim originated from a satirical post on Telegram and that there is zero evidence to support it. The article mentions Valerii



Zaluzhnyi as one of the individuals named in the claims.



Elaboration

The claim is false. The evidence indicates that the claim originated from a satirical post and is part of a disinformation campaign. Fact-checkers have debunked the claim, and there is no evidence to support it.

Final Judgement

The claim that eight mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in Los Angeles wildfires in January 2025 is false. The claim originated from a satirical post and was spread as disinformation. Fact-checkers have debunked the claim, and there is no evidence to support it.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim is false. According to NPR (<https://www.npr.org/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/los-angeles-california-fires-russia-ukraine>) and Houston Public Media (<https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/npr/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/russia-tried-to-use-the-l-a-wildfires-to-spread-anti-ukraine-propaganda/>), the claim was spread by pro-Kremlin social media accounts and debunked by fact-checkers. Forbes (<https://www.forbes.com/sites/petersuciu/2025/01/13/satire-or-disinformation-ukrainian-generals-lost-homes-in-la-fires/>) reported that the claim originated from a satirical post and has no supporting evidence.