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 in January 2025. This claim was debunked by fact-checkers from Greece and the United States. The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation described the

claim as "Russian propaganda." (

The claim originated on a pro-Russian Telegram channel and was later reposted without any mention of it being a joke. The Forbes article mentions Valerii Zaluzhnyi, former Ukrainian four-star general, as one of the individuals named in the claims. (



Sources:

- https://www.npr.org/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/los-angeles-california-fires-russia-ukraine
- https://www.houstonpublicmedia.org/npr/2025/01/16/nx-s1-5259842/russia-tried-to-use-the-l-a-wildfires-to-spread-anti-ukraine-propaganda/
- https://www.forbes.com/sites/petersuciu/2025/01/13/satire-or-disinformation-ukrainian-generals-lost-homes-in-la-fires/

Elaboration

The claim is false. The evidence indicates that the claim originated from pro-Kremlin sources and was debunked by fact-checkers. The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation labeled it as Russian propaganda.

Final Judgement

The claim that eight mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in Los Angeles wildfires in January 2025 is false. This claim originated from pro-Kremlin sources and has been debunked by fact-checkers.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim is false. It originated from pro-Kremlin social media accounts and was debunked by fact-checkers as Russian propaganda, as reported by sources like NPR and Houston Public Media.