

Claim

Claim: "



This image shows a Ukrainian F-16 fighter jet which was shot down by Russia as part of the large-scale Russian invasion in Ukraine."

Actions

```
reverse_search(![image 22] (media/73.jpg))  
web_search("Ukrainian F-16 shot down")
```

Evidence

Evidence from **reverse_search**

The image in the claim (



) shows the wreckage of an F-16 that crashed into a warehouse near March Air Reserve Base, Calif., in May 2019. The crash was caused by a loss of hydraulic pressure due to improperly installed parts. The pilot ejected and survived. The Press-Enterprise published an article on May 1, 2020, about the crash, which included the same photo of the crashed F-16 inside a warehouse.

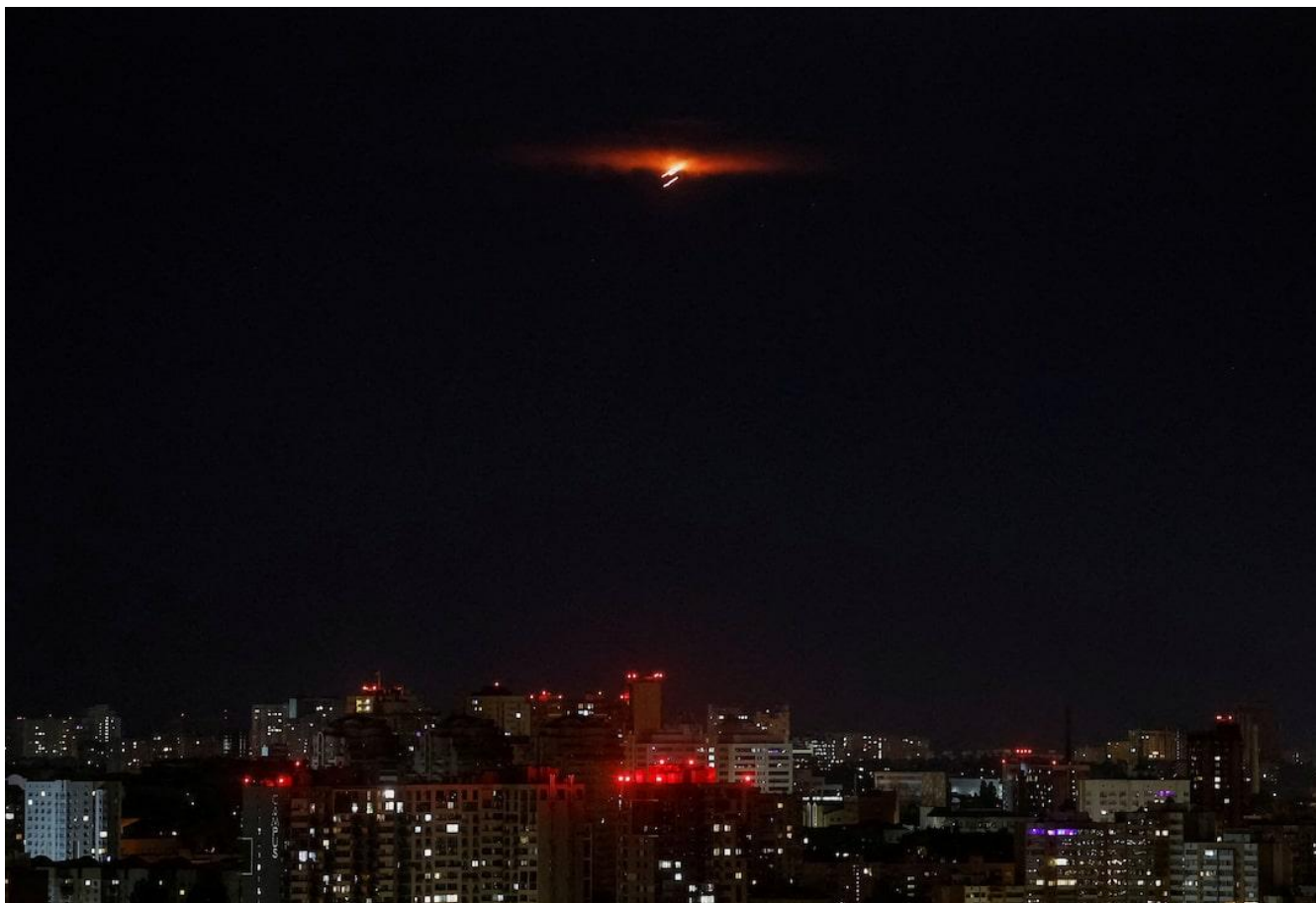
The articles can be found on the following websites: <https://www.pressenterprise.com/2020/05/01/heres-why-the-missiles-on-the-crashed-f-16-near-march-air-reserve-base-did-not-explode/>, <https://www.airandspaceforces.com/improperly-installed-parts-caused-f-16-to-crash-into-warehouse-in-may-2019/>, and <https://www.sbsun.com/2020/04/23/hydraulic-failure-caused-f-16-to-crash-near-march-base-last-year-air-force-says/>.

Evidence from web_search

CNN (<https://www.cnn.com/2025/06/29/europe/ukraine-f-16-pilot-killed-russia>) and ABC News (<https://abcnews.go.com/International/ukraine-loses-16-fighter-amid-massed-russian-drone/story?id=123315001>) reported on June 29, 2025, that a Ukrainian F-16 fighter jet was lost during a Russian attack, resulting in the death of the pilot. ABC News also mentioned that Russia launched 537 drones and missiles into Ukraine overnight.

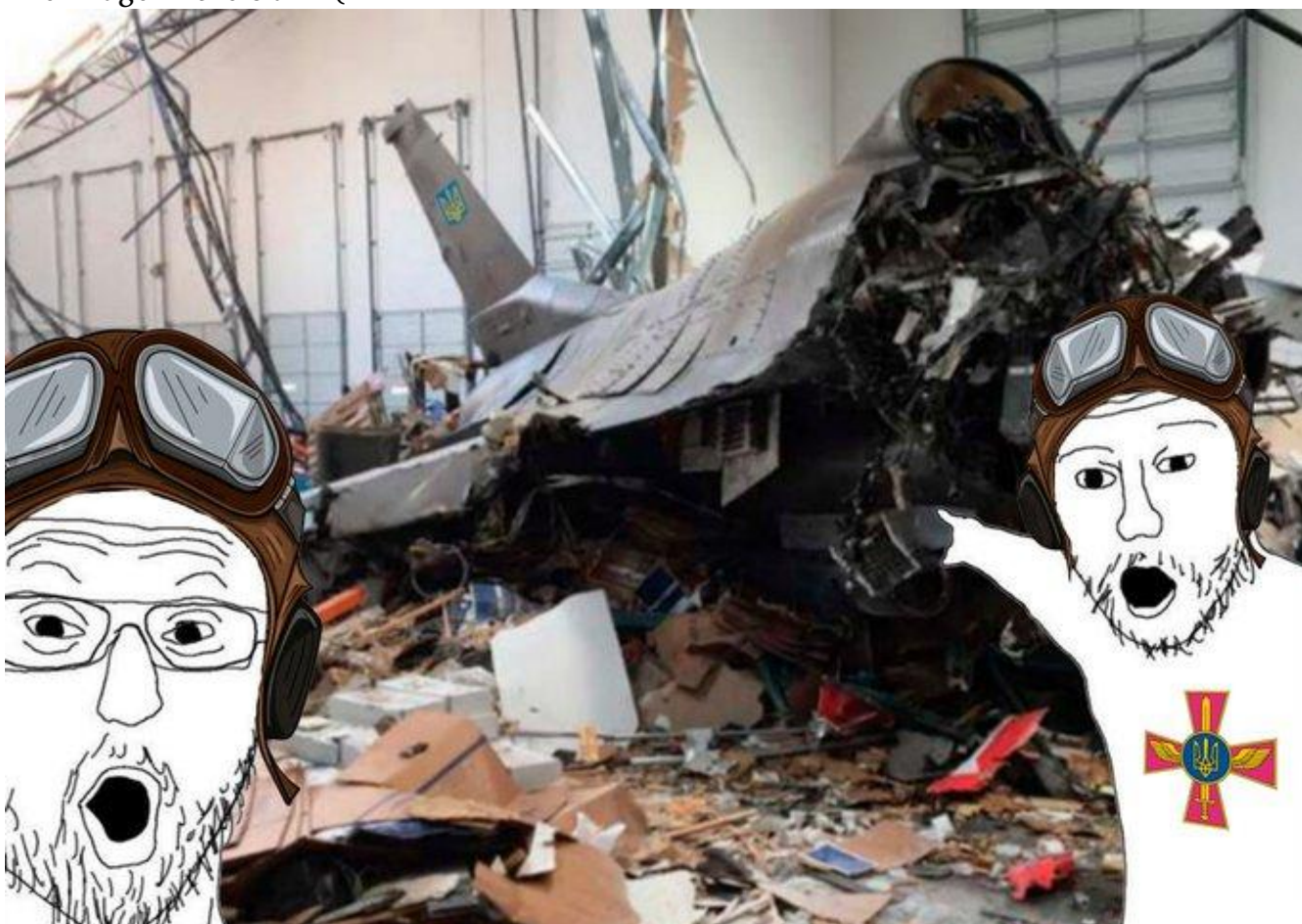
Reuters (<https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/least-six-wounded-large-scale-russian-air-attack-ukraine-ukrainian-authorities-2025-06-29/>) also reported on June 29, 2025, that a Ukrainian F-16 fighter pilot died in a crash while repelling a Russian air attack. The article also states that Ukraine has lost three F-16s since it began operating the jets last year. [image:k](#),





Elaboration

The image in the claim (



Final Judgement

The image in the claim is of an F-16 that crashed in 2019 due to mechanical failure, not as a result of the Russian invasion. While there have been reports of Ukrainian F-16s being lost in the conflict, the image is not related to those events.

The claim is demonstrably false because the image is misrepresented. `false`

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The image in the claim is of an F-16 that crashed in 2019 due to mechanical failure, as reported by the Press-Enterprise (<https://www.pressenterprise.com/2020/05/01/heres-why-the-missiles-on-the-crashed-f-16-near-march-air-reserve-base-did-not-explode/>). While there have been reports of Ukrainian F-16s being lost in the conflict, the image is not related to those events.