

# 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." NPR has not obtained evidence that any Ukrainian generals owned homes in Los Angeles that were destroyed by the fires. The story first emerged on a



pro-Russian Telegram channel.

Forbes reported that there is zero evidence to support this claim, and the initial post on Telegram was satire, but subsequent reposts lacked any mention of it being a joke. Valerii Zaluzhnyi, former Ukrainian four-star general and current ambassador of Ukraine to the United Kingdom, was 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 social media accounts and has been debunked by fact-checkers. There is zero evidence to support the claim. The initial post was satire, but subsequent reposts lacked any mention of it being a joke.

## 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. There is no evidence to support the claim, and the initial post was satire.

false

**Verdict: FALSE**

## Justification

The claim is false. The narrative originated from pro-Kremlin social media and was debunked by fact-checkers. Sources like [NPR](#) and [Forbes](#) report that there is no evidence to support the

claim, and the initial post was satire.