

Claim

Claim: "



This image shows a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Kursk offensive in August 2024."

Actions

```
reverse_search(![image 12] (media/22.jpg))  
image_search("chemical attack Kursk offensive August 2024")  
geolocate(![image 12] (media/22.jpg))
```

Evidence

Evidence from `image_search`

The Institute for the Study of War (ISW) published a map of the Ukrainian incursion into Kursk Oblast as of August 10, 2024, which indicates the Ukrainian forces advanced west of Semenovka. (<https://www.understandingwar.org/backgroundunder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-august-10-2024>)

Ukrainian Incursion into Kursk Oblast as of August 10, 2024, 3:00 PM ET

ISW
INSTITUTE FOR THE
STUDY OF WAR
AND
CT **CRITICAL**
THREATS
THE DR. JACK LONDON
GEOSPATIAL FUND



Geolocated footage posted on August 10 indicates that Ukrainian forces advanced west of Semenovka.

Geolocated footage posted on August 9 indicates that Ukrainian forces advanced in southern Cherkasskoye Porechnoye.

**Kursk Oblast
(Russia)**

Russian sources claimed on August 10 that Russian forces captured Makhnovka and Zamostye, while geolocated footage posted on August 10 indicates that Ukrainian forces previously operated in Makhnovka. ISW cannot confirm the Ukrainian presence in Makhnovka at this time.

A Russian source claimed on August 10 that Ukrainian forces retreated from Plekhovo, while a Russian source claimed on August 10 that Ukrainian forces seized Plekhovo.

**Sumy Oblast
(Ukraine)**



Observed Ukrainian Forces



Russian Field Fortifications



Claimed Limit of Ukrainian
Advances*
(Not All Confirmed)



Russian and Ukrainian
Settlements

0 5 10 20 Kilometers

Map by George Barros, Daniel Mealie, Noel Mikkelsen, Mitchell Belcher,
Tom Thacker, Benjamin Cordola, and Harrison Hurwitz
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Area of Detail



Note: The Claimed Limit of Ukrainian Advances layer depicts territory that Russian sources claim are Ukrainian-occupied when there is no observed contradictory evidence that could disprove the Russian claims.

Al Jazeera published an article on August 13, 2024, about the attack on the Russian border region of Kursk, mentioning a surprise offensive in Kursk by Kyiv. (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2024/8/13/russia-ukraine-live-news-russia-hits-back-at-ukrainian-forces-in-kursk>)

RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

Attack on Russian border region of Kursk

Kyiv launched a surprise offensive in Kursk in the most significant attack across the border since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022.



©Mapbox

Source: Al Jazeera, Institute for the Study of War | August 13, 2024



@AJLabs

ALJAZEERA

Evidence from geolocate

The most likely countries where the image was taken are: {'Palestine': 0.27, 'Jordan': 0.13, 'Ukraine': 0.08, 'Israel': 0.05, 'Argentina': 0.03, 'Kyrgyzstan': 0.03, 'Lesotho': 0.03, 'Mexico': 0.03, 'Pakistan': 0.03, 'Russia': 0.03}

Elaboration

The evidence indicates that there was an offensive in the Kursk region in August 2024, with Ukrainian forces advancing. The image search results do not provide any information about a chemical attack. The geolocation of the image is inconclusive, with Russia being one of the possible locations.

Based on the available evidence, it is impossible to verify the claim that the image shows a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Kursk offensive in August 2024. More information is needed to confirm the nature of the attack and the involvement of the Ukrainian forces.

Actions

```
image_search("chemical explosion road")
```

Evidence

Evidence from `image_search`

The search results include images of explosions and fires. ABC News shows an image of an explosion in Louisiana (



), while WAAY TV shows a fire at a Georgia chemical plant (



). The Brisbane Times reported on a trailer of chemicals exploding after a crash on the Bruce Highway on August



30, 2024 (

Elaboration

The new evidence provides additional examples of explosions, including one involving chemicals on a highway. However, none of the new evidence supports the claim about the image depicting a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Kursk offensive in August 2024. The search results do not provide any information about the specific event in the image.

Therefore, the claim remains unverified due to a lack of supporting evidence.

Actions

```
image_search("chemical explosion Kursk offensive")
```

Evidence

Evidence from `image_search`

From [Source](#): Content: ABC News published an article about the Kursk offensive, including an image of an explosion.



Elaboration

The new evidence from ABC News shows an image of an explosion related to the Kursk offensive. However, the image does not match the one in the claim. The new evidence does not provide any information about a chemical attack.

The claim remains unverified.

Final Judgement

The evidence indicates that there was an offensive in the Kursk region in August 2024, but there is no evidence to support the claim that the image shows a chemical attack by the

Armed Forces of Ukraine. The image search results do not provide any information about a chemical attack. The geolocation of the image is inconclusive.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim is not supported by the evidence. While there was an offensive in the Kursk region in August 2024, as reported by the [Institute for the Study of War](#) and [Al Jazeera](#), there is no evidence to suggest that the image depicts a chemical attack by Ukrainian forces.