

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, according to reports 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-tried-to-use-the-l-a-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 on a Russian Telegram channel and mentioned Valerii Zaluzhnyi as one of the individuals named in the



claims. There is zero evidence to support this claim.



Elaboration

The claim is false. The evidence indicates that the claim originated from pro-Kremlin social media accounts and was debunked by fact-checkers. The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation labeled it as "Russian propaganda." Forbes reported that the claim originated on a Russian Telegram channel and that there is zero evidence to support it.

Final Judgement

The claim that eight mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfires is demonstrably false. Multiple reliable sources, including NPR, Houston Public Media, and Forbes, have debunked the claim, identifying it as Russian propaganda and stating there is no evidence to support it.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim is false. It originated from pro-Kremlin social media accounts and was debunked by fact-checkers. Reports 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-tried-to-use-the-l-a-wildfires-to-spread-anti-ukraine-propaganda/>) identified it as Russian propaganda. 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 on a Russian Telegram

channel and that there is zero evidence to support it.