

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

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

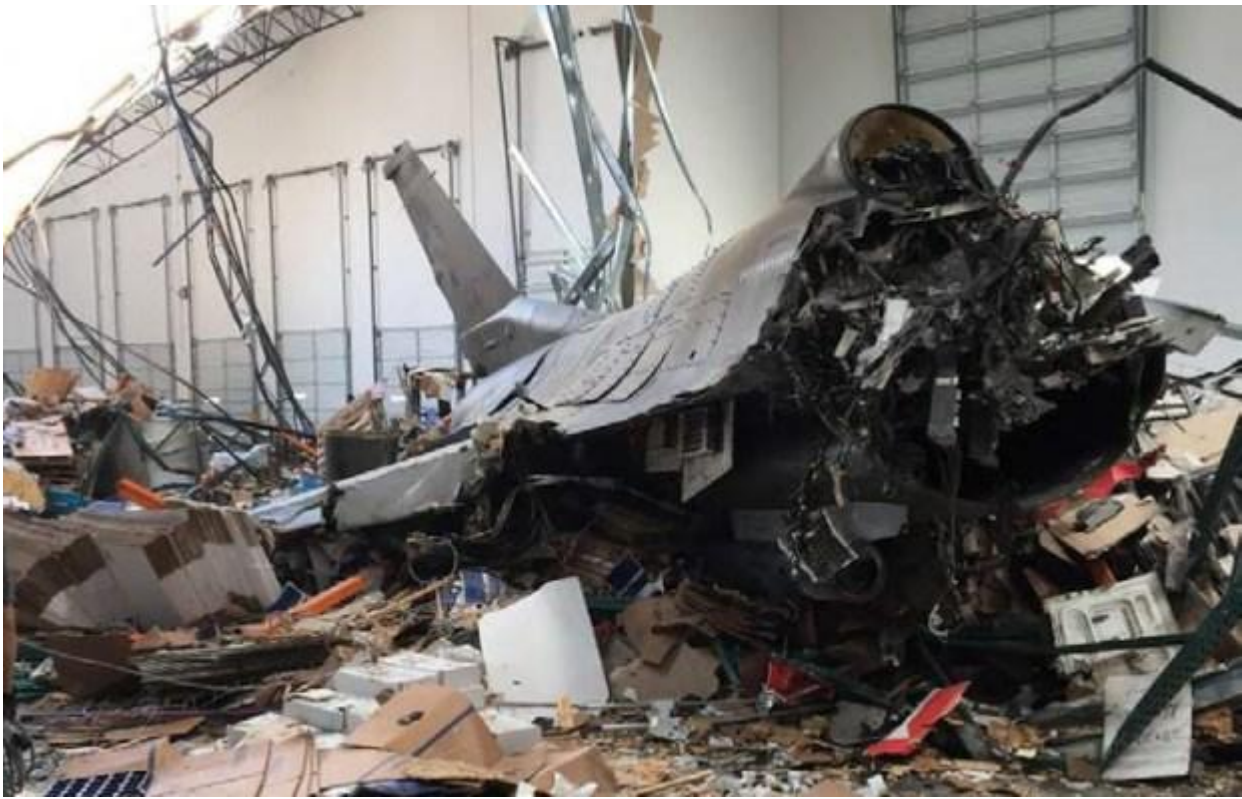
Evidence

Evidence from **reverse_search**

The image in the claim (



) is of an F-16 fighter jet that crashed near March Air Reserve Base in May 2019. The crash was caused by a hydraulic failure due to improperly installed parts. The pilot ejected and survived. The image appears in articles from 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/>), Air & Space Forces Magazine (<https://www.airandspaceforces.com/improperly-installed-parts-caused-f-16-to-crash-into-warehouse-in-may-2019/>), and The Sun (<https://www.sbsun.com/2020/04/23/hydraulic-failure-caused-f-16-to-crash-near-march-base-last-year-air-force-says/>). The image in the articles is the same as the image in the claim (



).

Evidence from web_search

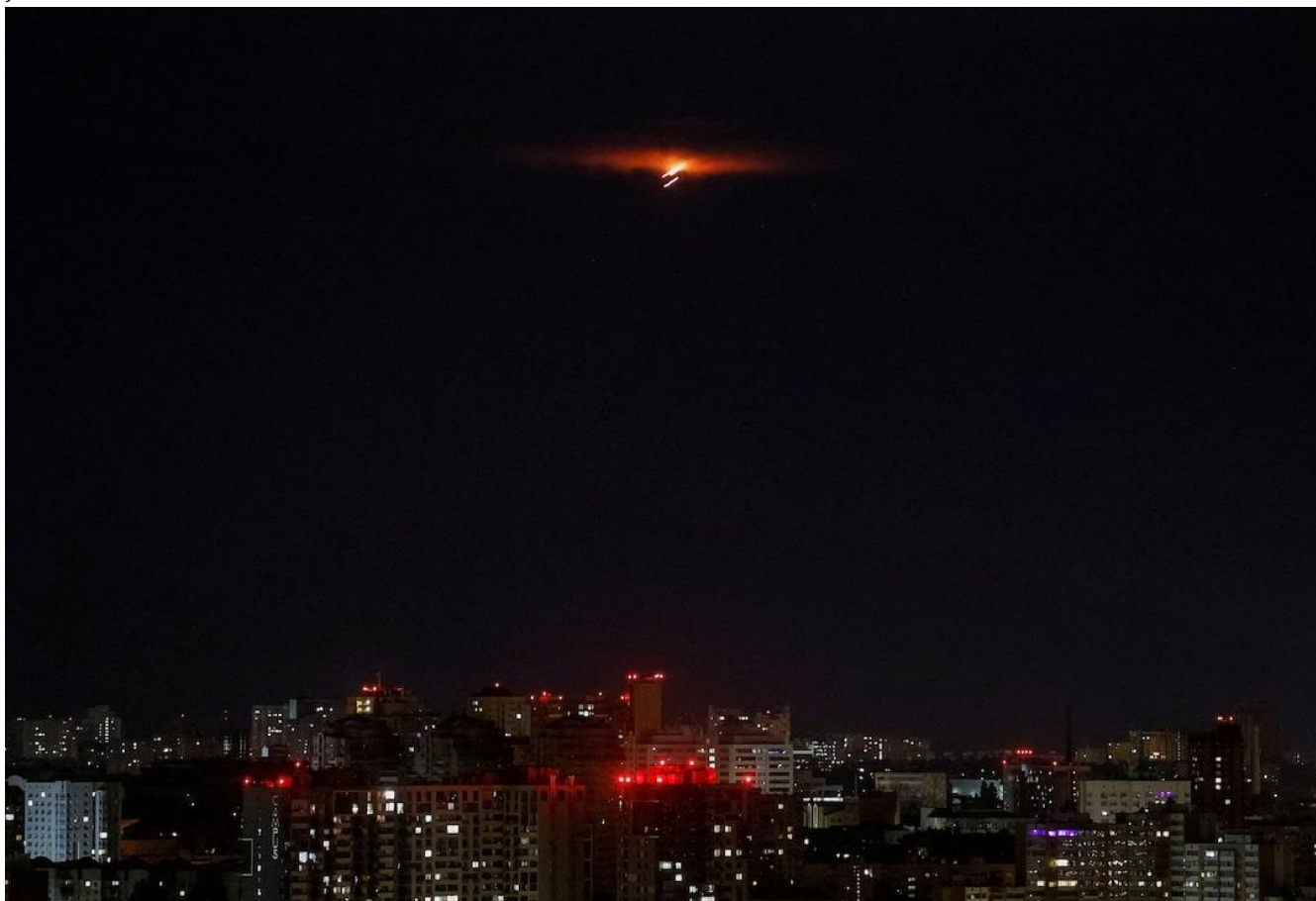
Newsweek reports that a third Ukrainian F-16 fighter pilot has been killed in action, and that Russia launched a "massive strike" on Ukraine. (<https://www.newsweek.com/ukraine-f16-pilot-killed-russia-2092478>) Reuters reports that a Ukrainian F-16 fighter pilot died in a crash while repelling a Russian air attack, and that Ukraine has lost three F-16s since it began operating the jets last year. (<https://www.reuters.com/business/aerospace-defense/>

[least-six-wounded-large-scale-russian-air-attack-ukraine-ukrainian-authorities-2025-06-29/](#))

CNN reports that a Ukrainian F-16 pilot was killed after Russia launched a large aerial assault, and that this was the fourth F-16 lost by Ukraine since they began flying the jets. (<https://www.cnn.com/2025/06/29/europe/ukraine-f-16-pilot-killed-russia>) The articles include images of F-16s



, and a Russian drone strike



Elaboration

The image in the claim (



Final Judgement

The image in the claim is of an F-16 fighter jet that crashed near March Air Reserve Base in May 2019 due to a hydraulic failure. The image is being misrepresented in a new context.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The image in the claim is of an F-16 fighter jet that crashed in 2019 due to a hydraulic failure, as confirmed by reverse image search and articles from The Press-Enterprise, Air & Space Forces Magazine, and The Sun (<https://www.pressenterprise.com/2020/05/01/heres-why-the-missiles-on-the-crashed-f-16-near-march-air-reserve-base-did-not-explode/>). The claim misrepresents the image's origin and context.