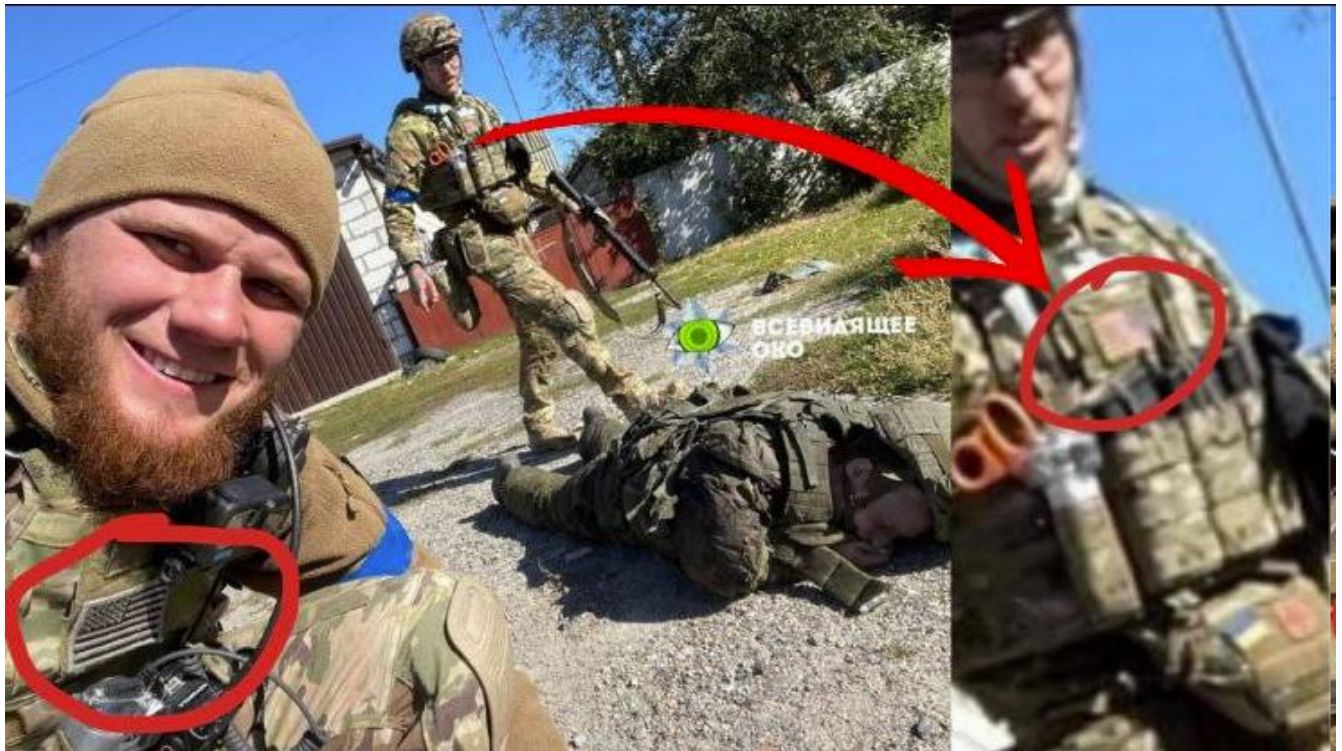


# Claim

Claim: "



This image shows American mercenaries participating in Ukraine's incursion into Russia's Kursk Oblast in August 2024."

## Actions

```
reverse_search(![image 24] (media/75.jpg))  
image_search("American mercenaries Ukraine Kursk Oblast")
```

## Evidence

### Evidence from **reverse\_search**

The image in the claim (





) appears in articles discussing the Russian retreat from Balakleya in the Kharkiv region in September 2022. The articles are from [Apostrophe.ua](https://www.apostrophe.ua/), [Charter97.org](https://www.charter97.org/) and [cripo.com.ua](https://www.criipo.com.ua/). The articles do not mention American mercenaries or the Kursk Oblast.

### Evidence from **image\_search**

The BBC published an image of Ukrainian soldiers (



). The Telegraph published an article on August 14, 2024, about Ukraine seizing land in the border region, mentioning Ukrainian servicemen near the Russian border (



# Ukraine seizes more land in a week than Russia managed in eight months

Kyiv said it controls 74 settlements in border region as Moscow turns attention from eastern Ukraine

Joe Barnes

14 August 2024 • 5:24am

## Related Topics

Russia-Ukraine war, Ukraine, Russia, Kyiv



Ukrainian servicemen near the Russian border. It is thought the seized territory could be used as a bargaining chip in any peace talks | CREDIT: Viacheslav Ratynskiy/Reuters

). Al Jazeera discusses the recapture of Kursk by Russian forces (



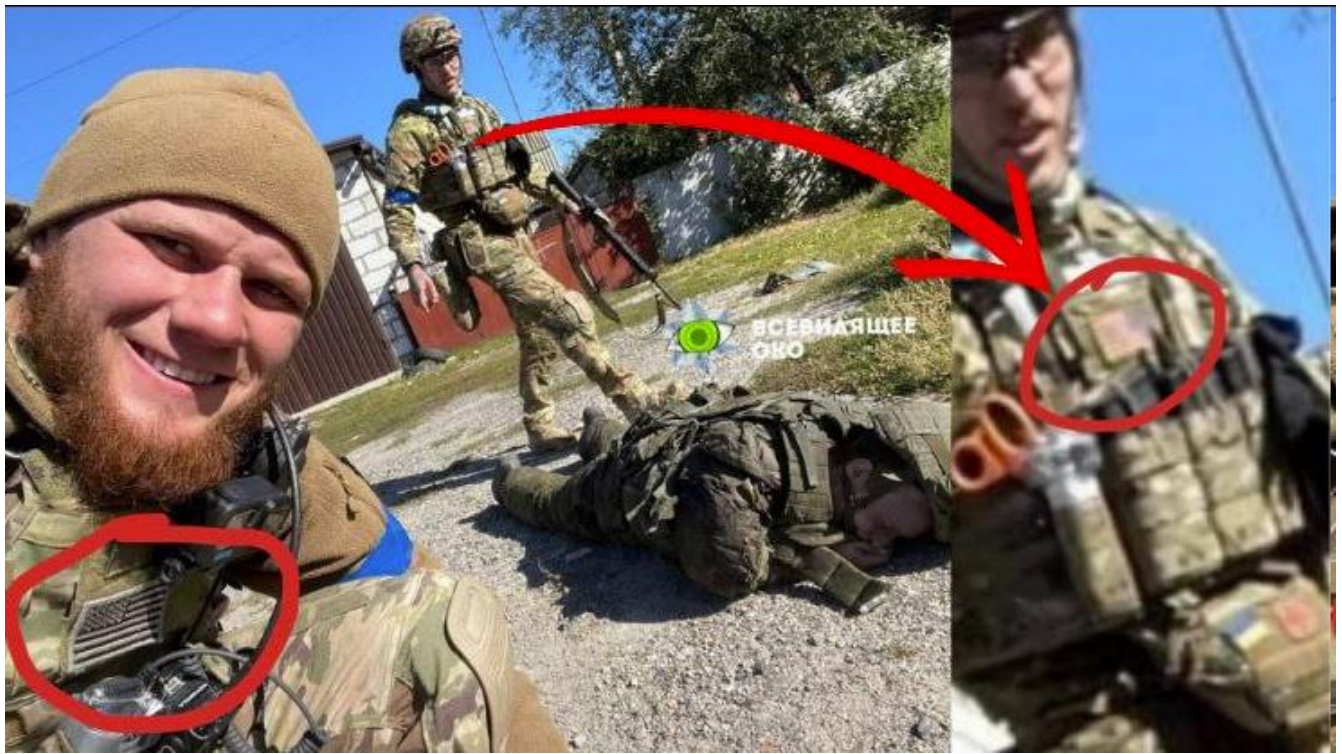
).

The sources are: <https://www.bbc.com/news/articles/c984g10e22lo>, <https://www.ukrainianphotographers.com/en/news-articles/foreign-mercenaries-in-the-kursk-region>, and <https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2025/3/13/russian-forces-recapture-kursk-raising-questions-about-us-ukraine-cutoff>.

## Elaboration

The image in the claim (





## Final Judgement

The image in the claim is from September 2022 and shows soldiers in the Kharkiv region, not the Kursk Oblast in August 2024. The image search results show that the claim is not supported by the evidence.

false

**Verdict: FALSE**

## Justification

The image in the claim (

