

Claim

Claim: "



This image shows a US F-16 fighter jet which was shot down in August 2024 in airspace over the Black Sea after refusing to obey Russian orders."

Actions

```
web_search("F-16 shot down Black Sea August 2024")
image_search("F-16 shot down Black Sea")
```

Evidence

Evidence from **web_search**

Defense News reports that an F-16 jet crashed during a Russian missile attack, killing the pilot. The article was published on August 29, 2024. The War Zone discusses claims of a Ukrainian F-16 shooting down a Russian Su-35S Flanker, mentioning an F-16 pilot who died in August 2024. The Guardian published an article on August 28, 2024, discussing the Ukraine war and mentioning that F-16s were used to shoot down Russian missiles.

The sources are: <https://www.defensenews.com/global/europe/2024/08/29/ukraine-f-16-jet-crashes-during-russian-attack-killing-pilot/>, <https://www.twz.com/air/claims-swirl-around-russian-su-35s-flanker-shootdown>, and <https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/aug/28/ukraine-war-briefing-zelenskiy-says-f16s-shooting-down-russian-missiles>.







Evidence from `image_search`

NPR discusses an F-16 warplane crash. (



) The South China Morning Post published an article about Ukraine destroying a Russian fighter jet. (



- <https://www.npr.org/2024/08/30/g-s1-20234/ukraine-f16-warplane-crash>
- <https://www.scmp.com/news/world/russia-central-asia/article/3308983/ukraine-destroys-russia-fighter-jet-missile-sea-drone-world-first-says-kyiv-military>

Elaboration

The evidence confirms that an F-16 jet crashed in August 2024, as reported by Defense News and NPR. However, the provided evidence does not specify the cause of the crash, nor does it mention the Black Sea or Russian orders.

The image shows a jet on fire, which could be an F-16, but the evidence does not confirm the type of jet in the image. The claim's assertion that the jet was shot down after refusing Russian orders is not supported by the evidence.

Therefore, the claim is not supported by the evidence. More information is needed to verify the cause of the crash and the circumstances surrounding it.

Actions

```
web_search("F-16 crash Black Sea Russia Ukraine")
```

Evidence

Evidence from **web_search**

Yahoo News reports that an F-16 crashed during an air show preparation in Poland on August 28, 2025, killing the pilot. (



F-16 crashes during airshow rehearsal in Poland



) CNN reports that a Ukrainian F-16 pilot was killed in a crash after a Russian aerial assault

on June 29, 2025. (

Hull-Live.co.uk Thursday, March 13, 2025 £2



The front page of the Hull Daily Mail features a large headline about Ukrainian soldiers in the Kursk region. The headline is in large, bold, white letters on a black background. To the right of the headline is a photograph of two soldiers in camouflage uniforms embracing. Below the headline is a sub-headline in white text on a black background. The top of the page has a grey header with the website name, date, and price. There are several smaller images and text boxes on the page, including a horse racing photo on the left, a horse racing photo on the right, and a 'FREE £3 SHOP BET' promotion with the William Hill logo. A 'PLUS' section on the right highlights a 'CHELTENHAM 4-PAGE PULLOUT'.

Hull Daily MAIL

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FREE £3 SHOP BET WITH *William Hill* VALID ON ALL RACING INCLUDING CHELTENHAM **BACK A WINNER! PAGE 22**

PLUS DON'T MISS YOUR **CHELTENHAM 4-PAGE PULLOUT** **INSIDE TODAY**

70,000 UKRAINIAN SOLDIERS IN THE KURSK REGION DIED IN VAIN

THE UK Poured HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF POUNDS INTO ZELENSKY'S CRUSHING FAILURE **PAGE 7**

) PBS NewsHour reports that an F-16 donated by Western partners crashed during a Russian missile attack on August 29, 2024, and the pilot died. (



) None of the sources mention the Black Sea or Russian orders.

Elaboration

The evidence indicates that F-16s have crashed in different circumstances. One crashed during an air show preparation in Poland in August 2025, another during a Russian aerial assault on June 29, 2025, and a third during a Russian missile attack on August 29, 2024. However, none of the provided sources mention the Black Sea or Russian orders, as stated in the claim.

Therefore, the claim is not supported by the evidence.

Final Judgement

The evidence indicates that F-16s have crashed in different circumstances, but none of the sources mention the Black Sea or Russian orders. The claim is not supported by the evidence.
false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim is unsubstantiated. While there are reports of F-16 crashes, including one during a Russian missile attack in August 2024, none of the provided evidence supports the claim that an F-16 was shot down over the Black Sea after refusing Russian orders. The evidence includes reports from [Defense News](#), [PBS NewsHour](#), and [Yahoo News](#), but none of these sources corroborate the specific details of the claim.