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. This claim was debunked by fact-checkers from Greece and the United States. The Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation described the claim as "Russian propaganda." NPR has not obtained evidence that any Ukrainian generals owned homes in Los Angeles that were destroyed by the fires. The story first emerged on a pro-Russian Telegram channel. The Forbes article states that there is zero evidence to support this claim and that the original post on Telegram was satire, but subsequent reposts lacked any mention of it being a joke. The article mentions Valerii Zaluzhnyi, former Ukrainian four-star general and current ambassador of Ukraine to the United Kingdom, as one of the

individuals named in the claims.



The claim was reported by NPR, Houston Public Media, and Forbes.

Elaboration

The evidence indicates that the claim is false. Fact-checkers from the United States and Greece debunked the claim. The story originated on a pro-Russian Telegram channel and was described as Russian propaganda by the Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council's Center for Countering Disinformation. NPR has not found any evidence to support the claim. Forbes also stated that there is zero evidence to support the claim.

Final Judgement

The claim is demonstrably false. Multiple sources, including NPR and Forbes, have debunked the claim, stating there is no evidence to support it. The claim originated from a pro-Russian source and was identified as propaganda.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The claim that eight mansions belonging to Ukrainian military officials burned down in the January 2025 Los Angeles wildfires is demonstrably false. The claim originated from a pro-Russian source and has been debunked by fact-checkers and news outlets like NPR and Forbes, with no evidence to support it.