

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 fighter jet shot down Russia")
```

Evidence

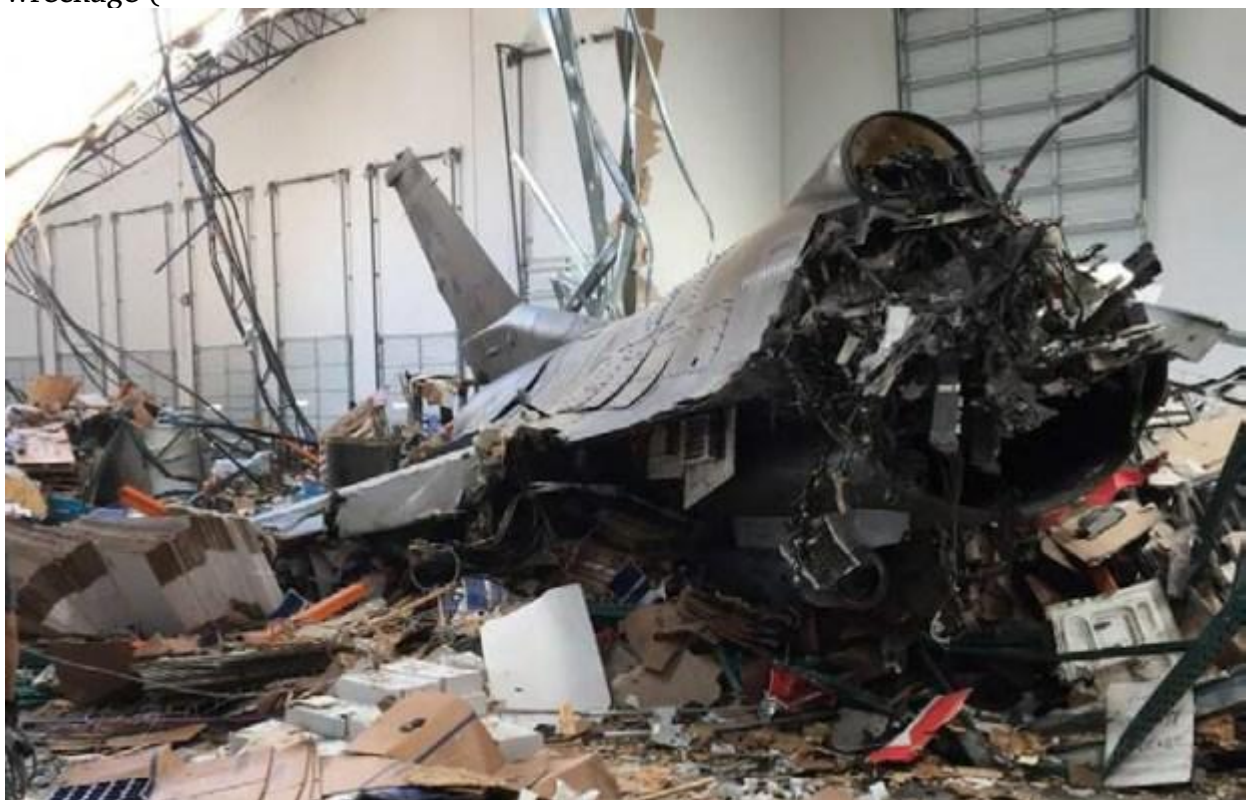
Evidence from **reverse_search**

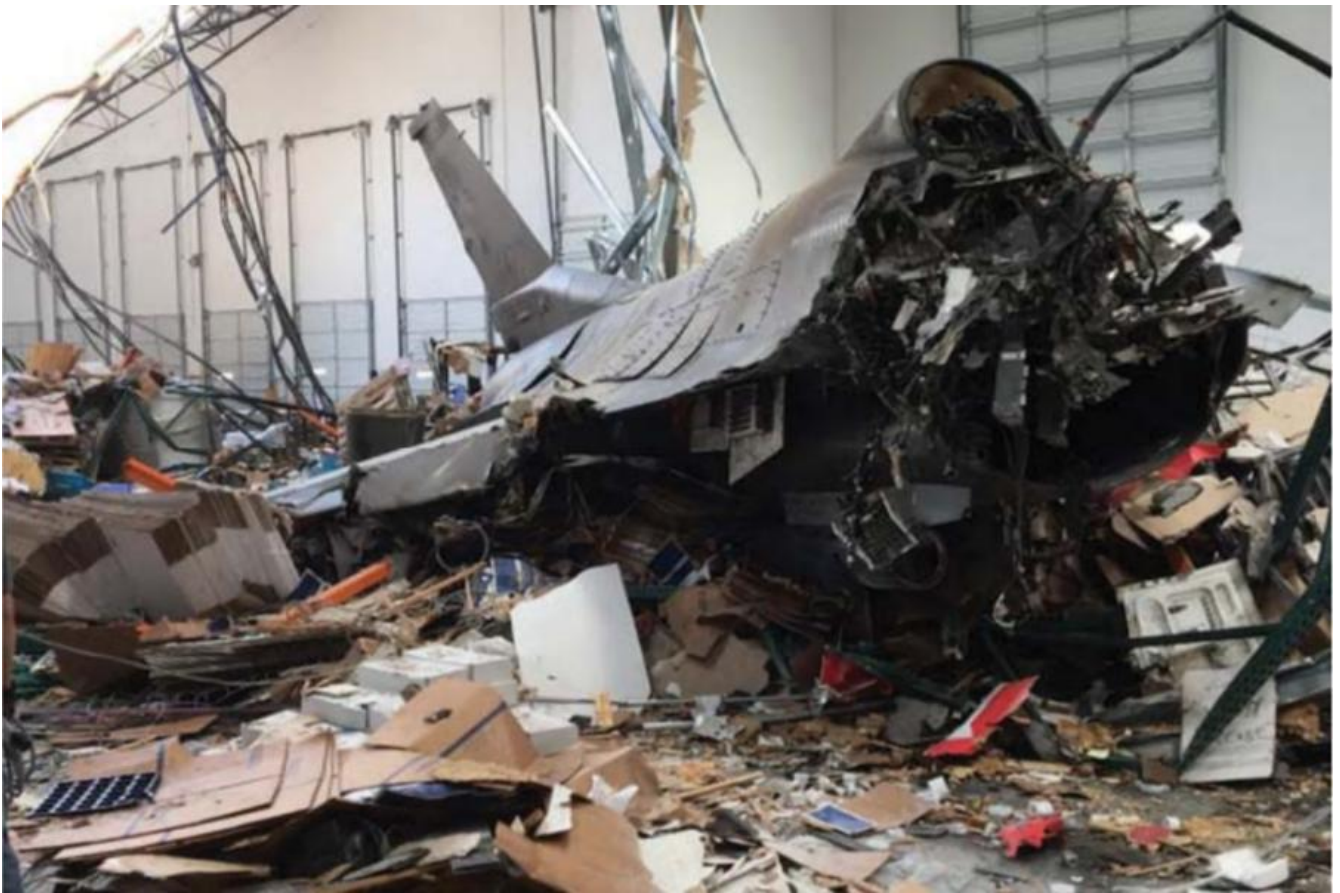
The image in the claim (



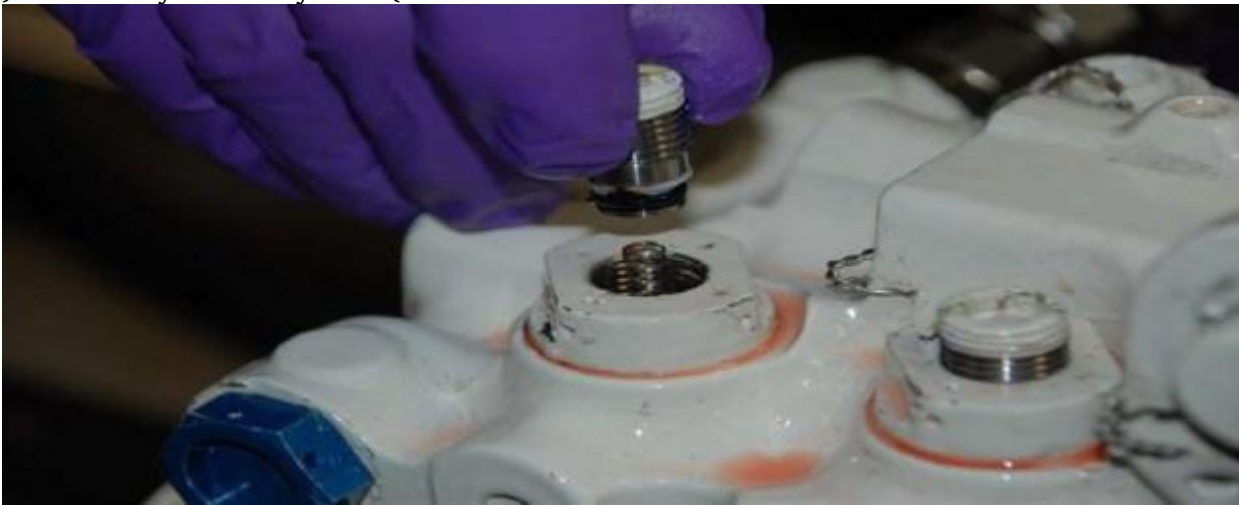
) is of an F-16 fighter jet that crashed into a warehouse near March Air Reserve Base in May 2019. The crash was caused by improperly installed parts in the aircraft's hydraulic system, not by Russian forces. The pilot ejected and survived.

The articles discussing the crash were published by The Press-Enterprise ([Source](#)), Air & Space Forces Magazine ([Source](#)), and The Sun ([Source](#)). The articles include images of the wreckage (





) and the hydraulic system (



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Evidence from web_search

CNN (<https://www.cnn.com/2025/06/29/europe/ukraine-f-16-pilot-killed-russia>) and Reuters (<https://www.reuters.com/world/europe/ukraine-pilot-killed-f-16-fighter-jet-lost-ukrainian-military-says-2025-06-29/>) report that a Ukrainian F-16 fighter jet was lost after a Russian attack, resulting in the death of the pilot.

ABC News (<https://abcnews.go.com/International/ukraine-loses-16-fighter-amid-massed-russian-drone/story?id=123315001>) also reports the loss of a Ukrainian F-16 during an attempt to repel a Russian attack, mentioning that the pilot, Maksym Ustimenko, shot down seven targets before his F-16 was damaged.



Elaboration

The claim is inaccurate. The image depicts an F-16 fighter jet that crashed in a warehouse near March Air Reserve Base in May 2019 due to mechanical failure, not a Russian attack. However, there is evidence of Ukrainian F-16s being lost in combat with Russia.

Final Judgement

The image in the claim shows an F-16 that crashed in 2019 due to mechanical failure, not a Russian attack. While there have been reports of Ukrainian F-16s being lost in combat with Russia, the image is misrepresented.

false

Verdict: FALSE

Justification

The image in the claim depicts an F-16 fighter jet that crashed in a warehouse near March Air Reserve Base in May 2019 due to mechanical failure, as reported by The Press-Enterprise ([Source](#)), not a Russian attack. While there have been reports of Ukrainian F-16s being lost in combat with Russia, the image is misrepresented.