

# Claim

Claim: "



This image shows a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Kursk offensive in August 2024."

## Actions

```
geolocate(![image 12] (media/22.jpg))  
reverse_search(![image 12] (media/22.jpg))  
image_search("chemical attack Kursk offensive")
```

## Evidence

### Evidence from **geolocate**

The most likely countries where the image was taken are: {'Palestine': 0.27, 'Jordan': 0.13, 'Ukraine': 0.08, 'Israel': 0.05, 'Argentina': 0.03, 'Kyrgyzstan': 0.03, 'Lesotho': 0.03, 'Mexico': 0.03, 'Pakistan': 0.03, 'Russia': 0.03}

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

The Institute for the Study of War published a map of the Ukrainian incursion into Kursk Oblast as of August 10, 2024, which indicates the Ukrainian forces advanced west of Semenovka. (<https://www.understandingwar.org/backgroundunder/russian-offensive-campaign-assessment-august-10-2024>)

# Ukrainian Incursion into Kursk Oblast as of August 10, 2024, 3:00 PM ET

**ISW**  
INSTITUTE FOR THE  
STUDY OF WAR  
AND  
**CT** **CRITICAL**  
**THREATS**  
THE DR. JACK LONDON  
GEOSPATIAL FUND



Geolocated footage posted on August 10 indicates that Ukrainian forces advanced west of Semenovka.

Geolocated footage posted on August 9 indicates that Ukrainian forces advanced in southern Cherkasskoye Porechnoye.

**Kursk Oblast  
(Russia)**

Russian sources claimed on August 10 that Russian forces captured Makhnovka and Zamostye, while geolocated footage posted on August 10 indicates that Ukrainian forces previously operated in Makhnovka. ISW cannot confirm the Ukrainian presence in Makhnovka at this time.

A Russian source claimed on August 10 that Ukrainian forces retreated from Plekhovo, while a Russian source claimed on August 10 that Ukrainian forces seized Plekhovo.

**Sumy Oblast  
(Ukraine)**



Observed Ukrainian Forces



Russian Field Fortifications



Claimed Limit of Ukrainian  
Advances\*  
(Not All Confirmed)



Russian and Ukrainian  
Settlements

0 5 10 20 Kilometers

Map by George Barros, Daniel Mealie, Noel Mikkelsen, Mitchell Belcher,  
Tom Thacker, Benjamin Cordola, and Harrison Hurwitz  
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**Area of Detail**

Sumy

Kharkiv

Ukraine

Dnipro

Donetsk

Note: The Claimed Limit of Ukrainian Advances layer depicts territory that Russian sources claim are Ukrainian-occupied when there is no observed contradictory evidence that could disprove the Russian claims.



Al Jazeera published an article on August 12, 2024, about the Ukrainian incursion into the Kursk region. (<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2024/8/12/has-ukraines-incursion-into-russias-kursk-changed-dynamics-of-the-war>)

## RUSSIA-UKRAINE WAR

# Attack on Russian border region of Kursk

Kyiv launched a surprise offensive in Kursk in the most significant attack across the border since Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine began in February 2022.



©Mapbox

Source: Al Jazeera, Institute for the Study of War | August 12, 2024



@AJLabs

ALJAZEERA

The Guardian published an article on August 11, 2024, about the Kursk incursion, which includes an image of destroyed military vehicles. (<https://www.theguardian.com/world/article/2024/aug/11/thousands-of-ukrainian-troops-aim-to-destabilise-russia-with-kursk->



[incursion](#))

## Elaboration

The evidence suggests that the image was likely taken in Palestine, Jordan, Ukraine, or Russia. The image search confirms that there was a Ukrainian incursion into the Kursk region in August 2024. However, there is no evidence to support the claim that the image depicts a chemical attack. The provided articles discuss the incursion but do not mention any chemical attacks.

Therefore, the claim that the image shows a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine during the Kursk offensive in August 2024 is not supported by the evidence.

The information about the nature of the explosion is missing.

## Actions

```
image_search("chemical explosion road")
```

## Evidence

### Evidence from `image_search`

The ABC News article (<https://abcnews.go.com/US/explosion-louisiana-business-evacuation/story?id=124900678>) contains an image of a large explosion





. WAAYTV ([https://www.waaytv.com/news/nation-world/a-fire-at-a-georgia-chemical-plant-is-forcing-evacuations-and-road-closures/article\\_b3eadcfc-f36d-55a1-9194-2962b68f2b46.html](https://www.waaytv.com/news/nation-world/a-fire-at-a-georgia-chemical-plant-is-forcing-evacuations-and-road-closures/article_b3eadcfc-f36d-55a1-9194-2962b68f2b46.html)) shows a fire at a Georgia chemical plant



. The Brisbane Times (<https://www.brisbanetimes.com.au/national/queensland/trailer-of-chemicals-explodes-after-crash-bruce-highway-believed-damaged-20240830-p5k6oi.html>) reported on August 30, 2024, about a trailer of chemicals exploding after a crash



## Elaboration

The new evidence provides examples of chemical explosions, but none of them match the image in the claim. The image search results show explosions at a Louisiana business, a Georgia chemical plant, and a trailer in Queensland, Australia. None of these events are related to the Kursk offensive or the Armed Forces of Ukraine.

Therefore, the claim remains unsupported by the evidence.

## Final Judgement

The image's location is uncertain, but it is likely not related to the Kursk offensive. The evidence does not support the claim that the image depicts a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The nature of the explosion is unknown. *false*

**Verdict: FALSE**

## Justification

The claim is unsubstantiated. While the image's location is uncertain, it is likely not related to the Kursk offensive. The evidence does not support the claim that the image depicts a chemical attack by the Armed Forces of Ukraine. The nature of the explosion is unknown.