Considered to be a permissible method of warfare.

Ruses of war are acts intended to mislead an adversary or induce him to act recklessly but they infringe no rule of international humanitarian law and are not *perfidious* [1] because they do not invite the confidence of an adversary with respect to protection under that law. Examples of ruses of war are:

a. camouflage (natural, paints, nets, smoke);

b. displays (decoys, feints);

c. simulations and mock operations; and

d. dissemination of false information.

See also *Perfidy* [1]; *Methods of warfare* [2];

**OUTLINE**

Chapter 9, III. 3. b) perfidy: the distinction between perfidy and permissible ruses of war [3]

**LEGAL SOURCES**

HR, 24 [4]
CASE

Sri Lanka, Naval War against Tamil Tigers

BIBLIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES


Source URL: https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/ruse-war

Links
[1] https://casebook.icrc.org/glossary/perfidy
[3] https://casebook.icrc.org/law/conduct-hostilities#iii_3_b