

Serial Number **1954/130**

THE SHIPPING SIGNALS OF DISTRESS RULES 1954

C. W. M. NORRIE, Governor-General

ORDER IN COUNCIL

At the Government Buildings at Wellington, this 24th day of August 1954

Present:

THE RIGHT HON. S. G. HOLLAND PRESIDING IN COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the Shipping and Seamen Act 1952, His Excellency the Governor-General, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, hereby makes the following rules.

RULES

1. (1) These rules may be cited as the Shipping Signals of Distress Rules 1954.

(2) These rules shall come into force on the date of their notification in the *Gazette*.

2. In these rules, unless the context otherwise requires, the expression "signal of distress" means any of the signals of distress referred to in clause 4 of the Collision Regulations Order 1953.*

3. These rules shall apply to—

(a) New Zealand ships, wherever they may be:

(b) Other ships when within the jurisdiction of New Zealand.

4. (1) No signal of distress shall be used by any ship to which these rules apply unless the master of the ship so orders.

(2) The master of the ship shall not order any signal of distress to be used by his ship unless he is satisfied—

(a) That his ship is in serious and imminent danger, or that another ship or an aircraft is in serious and imminent danger and cannot of itself send that signal; and

(b) That the ship in danger (whether his own ship or another ship) or the aircraft in danger, as the case may be, requires immediate assistance in addition to any assistance then available to her.

(3) The master of every ship to which these rules apply, being a ship which has sent any signal of distress by means of radio, shall cause that signal to be revoked as soon as he is satisfied that the ship or aircraft to which the signal relates is no longer in need of assistance as aforesaid.

T. J. SHERRARD,
Clerk of the Executive Council.

* Statutory Regulations 1953. Serial number 1953/169, page 805.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

[*This note is not part of the rules, but is intended to indicate their general effect.*]

These rules prescribe the circumstances in which the signals of distress prescribed by the Collision Regulations Order 1953 (Serial number 1953/169) are to be used by ships and the circumstances in which those signals of distress, if sent by radio, are to be revoked. The rules implement provisions of the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea 1948 relating to the misuse of signals of distress.

Issued under the authority of the Regulations Act 1936.

Date of notification in *Gazette*: 26 August 1954.

These regulations are administered in the Marine Department.