

(c) Nothing in these Rules shall interfere with the operation of any special rules made by the Government of any nation with respect to the use of additional whistle signals between ships of war or vessels sailing under convoy.

#### RULE 29

Nothing in these Rules shall exonerate any vessel, or the owner, master or crew thereof, from the consequences of any neglect to carry lights or signals, or of any neglect to keep a proper look-out, or of the neglect of any precaution which may be required by the ordinary practice of seamen, or by the special circumstances of the case.

#### RULE 30

##### *Reservation of Rules for Harbours and Inland Navigation*

Nothing in these Rules shall interfere with the operation of a special rule duly made by local authority relative to the navigation of any harbour, river, lake, or inland water, including a reserved seaplane area.

#### RULE 31

##### *Distress Signals*

When a vessel or seaplane on the water is in distress and requires assistance from other vessels or from the shore, the following shall be the signals to be used or displayed by her, either together or separately, namely:—

- (a) A gun or other explosive signal fired at intervals of about a minute.
- (b) A continuous sounding with any fog-signal apparatus.
- (c) Rockets or shells, throwing red stars fired one at a time at short intervals.
- (d) A signal made by radiotelegraphy or by any other signalling method consisting of the group . . . — — — . . . in the Morse Code.
- (e) A signal sent by radiotelephony consisting of the spoken word "Mayday."
- (f) The International Code Signal of distress indicated by N.C.
- (g) A signal consisting of a square flag having above or below it a ball or anything resembling a ball.
- (h) Flames on the vessel (as from a burning tar barrel, oil barrel, &c.).
- (i) A rocket parachute flare showing a red light.

The use of any of the above signals, except for the purpose of indicating that a vessel or a seaplane is in distress, and the use of any signals which may be confused with any of the above signals, is prohibited.

*Note.*—A radio signal has been provided for use by vessels in distress for the purpose of actuating the auto-alarms of other vessels and thus securing attention to distress calls or messages. The signal consists of a series of twelve dashes, sent in 1 minute, the duration of each dash being 4 seconds, and the duration of the interval between two consecutive dashes 1 second.