

New Zealand Law on Piracy

Piracy on the high seas is a crime under New Zealand law. The Crimes Act 1901 establishes the general offence in respect of piracy: "piracy by the

2 "Piracy by the law of nations" is, in effect, any action that amounts to piracy under international law. This means that piracy on the high seas is an offence under New Zealand criminal law, regardless of the nationality of the vessel or persons involved. It is also an offence to attempt or conspire to

of any commission from any State other than New Zealand (whether or not that State is at war with New Zealand) or under pretence of authority from any person whatever, commits an act of hostility or robbery:

(b) Within or outside New Zealand, enters into any New Zealand ship and throws overboard or destroys any goods on board the ship:

(c) Within or outside New Zealand, on board any New Zealand ship—

(i) Turns enemy or rebel and piratically runs away with the ship or any boat, weapons, ammunition, or goods; or

(ii) Voluntarily yields up the ship or any boat, weapons, ammunition, or goods to any pirate; or

(iii) Counsels or procures any person to yield up or run away with any ship, goods, or merchandise, or to turn pirate or go over to pirates; or

(iv) Assaults the master or commander of any ship in order to

(v) ...