



Aftermath of the 1956 Suez crisis: Global Ramifications and Reflections for Dockyards and Shipyards



Naval Dockyards Society 30th Annual Conference (hybrid)
National Maritime Museum Greenwich Saturday 28 March 2026

Sponsored by the Society for Nautical Research

What immediate challenges did the governments concerned face for their dockyards and shipyards? What long-term impacts resonate for them today?



Signifying personal and international interest and legacy: USS *Salem*, US 6th Fleet flagship being lifted by AFD 35 in Grand Harbour Malta, 1956, just before the Suez crisis.

Decommissioned, now at US Naval and Shipbuilding Museum, Quincy, Massachusetts,
<https://www.uss-salem.org/>.

Photo Roger Bendall, 1956.

Writing a decade after the Suez crisis, one contemporary politician dismissed the affair as merely ‘the dying convulsion of the British Empire.’* This view is still widely held today, but how authentic is that interpretation in hindsight?

How did the Suez crisis redefine Britain’s international identity and economic profile and its relationship with former colonies and ongoing allies? And how did it influence attitudes among Britain’s allies, including France and Israel, who had taken part, and the United States who had forced an early end to the action?

Critically, how did the Suez aftermath and its often-bitter recriminations shape future British naval policy on home and overseas dockyards and shipyards and their communities?

Conference presentations will address:

- How the Suez crisis shaped subsequent British and Allied naval strategy and deployment
- Analysis of the post-Suez impact on home and overseas Dockyards
- Political, local, social and economic effects of Suez on dockyards and shipyards globally
- Global strategic threats and opportunities arising from Suez
- Acceleration of the global power shift from Britain to the United States

See full programme <https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/>

Naval Dockyards Society <https://navaldockyards.org/>

Facebook: NavalDockyardsSociety

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1443502952760615>

* Nutting, Anthony. *No End of a Lesson*. Constable, 1967. p. 108. A noted Arabist, Nutting resigned as Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs in protest at the invasion of Egypt.

BOOKING FORM

Member price applies to NDS, SNR, SNR(S) members

Conference fee includes teas & coffees.

Purchasing NDS membership for a year with the conference booking will give you the member price plus two journal Transactions and two Dockyards newsletters. Full-time students applying from a university email address can join the NDS for £10.00.

UPDATES see <https://navaldockyards.org/conferences/>

QUERIES: contact Dr Ann Coats avcoatsndschair@gmail.com

National Maritime Museum, Romney Road, Greenwich SE10 9NF

<http://www.rmg.co.uk/national-maritime-museum/> **There is no museum parking**

National Rail 08457 484950 <http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

Transport for London: 0343 222 1234 <https://www.tfl.gov.uk/>

Please complete and return one form per delegate to Treasurer David Jenkins, 5 Beeby Way, Carlton, Bedfordshire, MK43 7LW, UK to arrive by post or email by:

BOOKING DEADLINE 27 March.

BACS: Name Naval Dockyards Society, Sort Code 60-09-16, Account No.

51358719; **PayPal:** Go to the website and ask to send money. Enter email:

ndstreasurer@hotmail.co.uk & amount; Payee Reference: NDS CONFERENCE 2026 A/B/C/D, click OK; and email your details to the Treasurer.

Please note that lunch will NOT be provided, just teas and coffees. You can eat in the cafeteria or BYO.

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NDS 2026 in-person & online conference: Aftermath of the 1956 Suez crisis: Global Ramifications and Reflections for Dockyards and Shipyards

- I am booking a NDS 2026 Conference place by selecting my choice below.
- I am making a non-refundable payment: BACS/PayPal/cheque to *Naval Dockyards Society* of £.....
- 'Member' or 'Non-member' column (definitions above)

	Event category	£ Member	£ Non-member
A	In-person Conference & coffees & teas	45.00	50.00
E	Online Conference	10.00	15.00
C	FT Student from a university email address	FREE	
D	Membership of Naval Dockyards Society for one year: Individual 25.00; Couple at same address £33.00; FT university student £10.00		

If In-person, please confirm/delete as required: **I am/not disabled / have a medical problem of which NDS should be aware (specify):**

Name, address, telephone, email, date: