

# **Utilisation of Scientific Knowledge and Technology against the Nuisance of Smoke in the Mid-Nineteenth Century Royal Navy**

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Scientific knowledge and technology that has to do with preventing environmental problems tends to be transferred to developing countries from developed countries as international aid or for an exchange. However, it cannot be asserted that such knowledge or technology cannot be diverted for military use. This article examines two historical cases in which scientific knowledge and technology was used against nuisances caused mainly by industrial smoke in nineteenth-century British cities and towns. This knowledge and technology, which could generally be regarded as peaceful, was used for military purposes, including for the improvement of early naval steamers that had only just begun to be used by the Royal Navy in the mid-nineteenth century. The article also reveals how and why knowledge and technology used to combat environmental degradation could be diverted for military use.