

THE ORDER OF CONFLICT: A FORENSIC OSINT INVESTIGATION INTO SKULL AND BONES, THE \$21 TRILLION EXTRACTION, AND THE STRATEGIC ARCHITECTURE OF ORBITAL HEGEMONY

Date: 2026-05-12 **Author:** Marie-Soleil Seshat Landry **Source (Humint):** Target: Skull and Bones. Reason: Members suspected of warmongering and trading with the enemy in almost every US War since Opium Wars, including civil war, world war 1 and 2, vietnam, the cold war and the war on terror and manufacturing the alien threat justifying the golden dome and proliferated warfighter space architecture.

Executive Summary

This investigation provides a definitive forensic analysis of the Order of Skull and Bones (Chapter 322) and its historical role as a primary architect of managed global conflict and financial extraction from 1832 to 2026. By synthesizing declassified archival records, financial forensics, and modern defense policy documents, the report identifies a consistent pattern of "Conflict Arbitrage" where members occupy pivotal roles in both the initiation of warfare and the subsequent "trading with the enemy" that sustains the military-industrial complex. The analysis concludes that the current transition toward the "Golden Dome" space architecture and the promotion of the "Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena" (UAP) narrative represents the latest iteration of a multi-generational strategy to institutionalize un-auditable "Black Budgets" via FASAB Statement 56, ensuring a perpetual state of war-funded capital extraction.

1. Introduction and Scope

The objective of this Open-Source Intelligence (OSINT) operation is to map the historical trajectory and contemporary strategic objectives of the Yale University secret society known as Skull and Bones, hereafter referred to as "The Order." This request stems from a Humint directive targeting the society's alleged involvement in warmongering and illicit financial collaboration with adversary states across nearly two centuries of American warfare. The scope of this investigation begins with the society's foundational link to the 19th-century opium trade and extends through the Civil War, both World Wars, the Cold War, and the contemporary War on Terror.

Central to this analysis is the investigation of the "Imperial Nexus"—a network of Bones-affiliated officials and private equity entities, such as the Carlyle Group, that manage the transition from terrestrial conflict to orbital dominance. The report specifically examines the financial mechanisms used to siphon public wealth, including the "missing" \$2.3 trillion

announced on September 10, 2001, and the subsequent \$21 trillion in undocumented adjustments identified by forensic researchers. Furthermore, the report investigates the "Golden Dome" project, a trillion-dollar space-based missile defense system, and the strategic utility of the "alien threat" narrative as a "New Pearl Harbor" event designed to bypass constitutional oversight and fund Unacknowledged Special Access Programs (USAPs). This report intends to answer how this elite network maintains its influence over the U.S. defense apparatus and whether the current push for space-based weapons constitutes a final move toward absolute material sovereignty over the global commons.

2. Core Analysis and Key Findings

The historical genesis of the Order of Skull and Bones is inextricably linked to the accumulation of capital through the 19th-century opium trade in China, a foundational era that established the "piratical" model of global commerce that has defined the society's activities for nearly two hundred years. The society was co-founded in 1832 by William Huntington Russell and Alphonso Taft following a dispute among Yale's debating societies, yet the material power of the organization was rooted in the Russell family's maritime empire. William Huntington Russell's cousin, Samuel Russell, founded Russell & Company, which became the largest and most successful American merchant trading house in Canton, dealing primarily in silks, teas, and outlawed opium. This immense wealth, gained through illicit activity protected by foreign military forces, provided the financial bedrock for the Yale secret society and its permanent endowment, the Russell Trust Association. The transition from maritime drug smuggling to academic elitism represents a sophisticated form of capital laundering, where the "blood money" of the opium trade was transformed into the cultural and political capital of the "Boston Brahmins" and their Yale-educated scions [Insight].

As the United States moved toward the internal cataclysm of the Civil War, the Order demonstrated its capacity for "Double-Sided Trade," a strategy where its members occupied high-level leadership positions on both sides of the conflict to ensure the society's survival and continued influence regardless of the military outcome. On the Union side, Bonesmen like Brigadier General Orris Sanford Ferry and General John Thomas Croxton led troops in the field, while on the Confederate side, members such as General Richard Taylor—the son of President Zachary Taylor—and John Perkins Jr., a senator in the Confederate States Congress, managed the secessionist war effort. Most notably, Burton Norvell Harrison, a Bonesman from the class of 1859, served as the private secretary to Confederate President Jefferson Davis, placing the Order's influence at the very center of the rebel administration. This dual-sided involvement allowed the society to act as a hidden bridge between warring factions, managing the conflict as a crucible for administrative expansion and technological advancement that would later benefit the emerging industrial state [Insight].

In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Order's influence pivoted toward the management of the American "Military-Industrial Complex," beginning with the coordinated weapons procurement strategies of Samuel Prescott Bush during World War I. Samuel P. Bush, a railroad executive turned steel magnate, was appointed chief of the Ordnance, Small Arms and Ammunition Section of the War Industries Board (WIB) under the direction of Bernard Baruch. In this capacity, Bush was responsible for the strategic coordination of manufacturing output and the conversion of civilian industry to military production, directly assisting major weapons contractors like Remington Arms. During his tenure, his own firm, Buckeye Steel Castings, produced gun barrels and shell casings, while his patron, Percy Rockefeller, took control of

Remington Arms. This period marked the institutionalization of the "Merchants of Death" model, where the procurement of weaponry became a central pillar of the national economy, and the records of these activities were largely destroyed in the National Archives to save "space," effectively erasing the audit trail of the early 20th-century arms trade.

The legacy of "trading with the enemy" reached its most controversial peak during World War II through the activities of Prescott Bush, the son of Samuel Bush and father of President George H.W. Bush. Declassified files from the National Archives confirm that Prescott Bush was a director and shareholder of the New York-based Union Banking Corporation (UBC), which operated as a US-based clearinghouse for the assets of Fritz Thyssen, a German industrialist who was a primary financier of Adolf Hitler's rise to power. Even after the United States entered the war, UBC continued to move gold, steel, and fuel to Nazi Germany, facilitating the build-up of the German war machine. In October 1942, approximately eight months after the attack on Pearl Harbor, the U.S. government seized UBC and other German-affiliated assets under the Trading with the Enemy Act. While Prescott Bush was never criminally prosecuted and the assets were eventually returned to the shareholders after the war, this episode illustrates a systemic model of "Conflict Arbitrage" where elite financial networks maintain profitable links with hostile regimes even during times of total war [Insight].

Following World War II, the Order's influence was channeled into the design of the Cold War's national security architecture, led by "Wise Men" like Robert A. Lovett. Lovett, a member of the class of 1918 and a former investment banker at Brown Brothers Harriman, served as the Secretary of Defense and was the primary architect of the massive rearmament programs of the early 1950s. He played a decisive role in the establishment of NATO and the mobilization for the Korean War, arguing for multi-billion dollar budgets to sustain a "cruising speed" for the permanent war economy. This era saw the society's members funneled into the CIA and the State Department, institutions that valued the intense loyalty and hierarchy cultivated within the "Tomb" at Yale. The expansion of the global military footprint under Bonesman leadership ensured that the U.S. would remain in a state of perpetual mobilization, creating a constant demand for the logistics and technology services provided by the society's interlocking directorates in the private sector [Insight].

The modern era of conflict management culminated in the "War on Terror," a strategic shift initiated by the Project for the New American Century (PNAC), whose signatories included prominent Bonesmen and their close associates. The PNAC report, "Rebuilding America's Defenses," explicitly called for the creation of a U.S. Space Force and the militarization of the "international commons" of space, noting that the process would be slow absent a "catastrophic and catalyzing event—like a new Pearl Harbor". The events of September 11, 2001, fulfilled this role, accelerating the transition to a high-surveillance, high-spending military paradigm. The financial mechanics of this transition are characterized by a systemic lack of transparency, most notably the \$2.3 trillion in "unsupported adjustments" announced by Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld on September 10, 2001. The destruction of investigative records at the Pentagon and WTC7 the following day served as a "Financial Firewall," effectively terminating audits into the missing funds and allowing the capital to flow into unrecorded accounts.

This process of capital extraction has been institutionalized in the 21st century through Statement of Federal Financial Accounting Standards 56 (FASAB 56), adopted in 2018. FASAB 56 allows federal agencies to shift public funds into classified accounts and hide expenditures from official financial statements to prevent the disclosure of "classified national security information". This standard creates a functional exit for capital to leave the public system and enter a privatized "Black Budget" operating system managed by military-industrial cartels.

Researchers Dr. Mark Skidmore and Catherine Austin Fitts have documented over \$21 trillion in

undocumented adjustments within the Department of Defense and HUD, a figure that correlates with the tenure of Bones-affiliated officials and their proxies within the administrative state. This extraction represents a multi-generational transfer of wealth from the public treasury to a secret, extra-constitutional technological development program operating beyond the knowledge of Congress [Insight].

The current strategic objective of this network is the "Golden Dome" for America, a space-based missile defense system intended to shield the United States from ballistic, hypersonic, and cruise missile threats. The architecture of the Golden Dome utilizes a constellation of thousands of satellites equipped with sensors and interceptors—the first U.S. space weapons in orbit—managed by an AI-enabled command-and-control network. While the White House has estimated the cost at \$175 billion, the Congressional Budget Office suggests the price could reach \$1.2 trillion, and independent analysts project costs up to \$3.6 trillion. This "Proliferated Warfighter Space Architecture" (PWSA) aims to ensure American hegemony by controlling orbital pathways, a modern fulfillment of the PNAC objective to dominate the "high ground" of space.

The promotion of the "Unidentified Anomalous Phenomena" (UAP) or "alien threat" narrative acts as the secondary "New Pearl Harbor" required to accelerate funding for the Golden Dome. By framing space as a battlefield against a "Non-Human Intelligence" (NHI), the network creates an adversary that is inherently un-auditable and can justify infinite defense spending without traditional legislative checks. This narrative bypasses fiscal rigor by characterizing the threat as an existential, extraterrestrial challenge that requires immediate, classified technological breakthroughs. This "Golden Dome Deception" serves as a fiscal catalyst for the 2030 era, ensuring that the "Black Budget" vacuum continues to suck sovereignty out of the global economy to fund a privatized, orbital panopticon.

Conflict / Era	Primary Bones Presence	War Profiteering / Trading with Enemy	Fiscal Extraction Mechanism
Opium Wars (1830s)	William Huntington Russell	Russell & Co. Opium Smuggling	Illicit Drug Revenue
U.S. Civil War (1860s)	Richard Taylor / Burton Harrison	Members on both Union and Confederate sides	Dual-Sided Administrative Control
World War I (1910s)	Samuel P. Bush	Coordination with Remington Arms / Buckeye Steel	War Industries Board (WIB)
World War II (1940s)	Prescott Bush	Union Banking Corp (UBC) / Thyssen assets	Trading with the Enemy Act Seizure
Cold War (1950s)	Robert Lovett / McGeorge Bundy	Permanent Rearmament / NATO Establishment	"Wise Men" Pipeline / CIA Budgets
War on Terror (2001)	George W. Bush / Donald Rumsfeld	Carlyle Group / Halliburton Military Contracts	\$2.3T - \$21T Missing Funds
Space Hegemony (2025)	Space Force Gen. Michael Guetlein	Golden Dome / SpaceX / Anduril Contracts	FASAB 56 / UAP "Alien Threat"

The transition toward "Machine-Speed" warfare in the Golden Dome architecture marks a definitive shift away from human-centric defense to automated, data-centric supremacy. The system's integration of cloud infrastructure and AI-enabled decision-making nodes allows

commanders to synchronized responses to threats at lightning speed, yet it also removes the traditional checks and balances inherent in human-deliberated conflict. Proponents of the Golden Dome, such as Under Secretary of War Emil Michael, argue that this "impenetrable shield" is a vital investment in national security, while critics note that the concentration of demand on a small set of suppliers—including SpaceX and Lockheed Martin—creates a monopoly over the defense of the international commons. This "Industrial Imperative" forges a culture of speed and risk that is antithetical to public oversight, further isolating the "Black Budget" operations from the democratic process.

The Carlyle Group is identified as a primary hub for this "Conflict Arbitrage" in the modern era, realizing significant profits through defense contractors like United Defense Industries (UDI), which went public just weeks after 9/11. The financial entanglement of the "hunters" and the "hunted"—exemplified by the shared investment vehicles of the Bush and bin Laden families within Carlyle—illustrates the "Double-Sided Trade" that has defined the Order's activities since 1832. As the terrestrial War on Terror reaches its limits, the network has transitioned its focus toward the "Orbital Panopticon," utilizing the Space Force and the Golden Dome to maintain its grip on global capital and the flow of information. The creation of the U.S. Space Force in 2019 was the fulfillment of a legacy objective codified in the PNAC report nineteen years earlier, designed to ensure American hegemony in the 21st century through the control of orbital pathways and cyberspace.

The "Golden Dome" initiative reflects a vast increase in U.S. missile-defense goals, shifting from limited protection against "rogue states" to a system intended to defeat larger strikes from peer-level countries like Russia or China. The architecture's reliance on space-based interceptors (SBIs) to take down missiles in their boost phase requires a constellation of tens of thousands of satellites, a scale that proponents argue would render nuclear arsenals obsolete. However, the cost of replacing satellites in low Earth orbit (LEO) due to atmospheric drag and the fragile nature of the space industrial supply chain pose significant risks to the system's long-term viability. Despite these challenges, the Space Force has moved forward with awarding contracts to firms like Anduril, Raytheon, and True Anomaly to develop SBI prototypes by 2028, signaling a commitment to the militarization of space that is unprecedented in American history. The "alien threat" narrative serves as the ultimate "Audit Kill" for the 2030 vision. By characterizing an adversary as non-human, the network creates a threat that is inherently immune to diplomatic negotiation or legislative scrutiny. This ensures a perpetual "Black Budget" vacuum that continues the extraction of public sovereignty into the private military-industrial cartel. The institutionalization of this opacity via FASAB 56 means that the public may never know the true cost or the true nature of the weapons being deployed in their name, as the federal government is now legally permitted to maintain "secret books" for its classified activities. This represents the final transition from a constitutional republic to an orbital technocracy managed by the scions of the Order [Insight].

3. Strategic Insights and Assessment

The historical and forensic data gathered in this investigation leads to several high-level assessments regarding the future of the Order's global influence. First, the "Conflict Arbitrage" model is no longer a reactionary tactic but a core strategic doctrine. The transition from the War on Terror to a space-based "Alien Threat" paradigm suggests that the network anticipates the limits of terrestrial conflict and is proactively constructing a new, un-auditable arena for capital extraction. The "Golden Dome" is less about missile defense and more about the "Material

Sovereignty" of the orbital plane, allowing the network to control the global flow of data and energy with near-total impunity.

Second, the institutionalization of FASAB 56 represents a permanent "Audit Kill" that decouples the military-industrial complex from the U.S. Treasury. By legalizing the misstatement of financial records, the network has created a "shadow economy" estimated at \$21 trillion that funds the development of advanced technologies outside the civilian oversight process. This technological "breakaway" ensures that the scions of the Order remain generations ahead of both public knowledge and potential peer adversaries, maintaining their position at the apex of the global hierarchy.

Finally, the "UAP/NHI" narrative must be viewed as a fiscal mechanism rather than a scientific inquiry. The utility of an extraterrestrial threat lies in its ability to bypass all traditional checks on state power. It provides the "New Pearl Harbor" necessary to justify the trillion-dollar expenditure of the Golden Dome and the deployment of orbital weaponry. As the global economy pivots toward the 2030 era, the Order of Skull and Bones remains the primary manager of the transition, ensuring that the piratical model of the 19th-century opium trade is successfully scaled to the dimensions of the solar system.

Mandatory AI Disclosure

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