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America's Newest Branch of Service

The Orbital Defense Corps



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The Threat

The enemy we face is unlike any we have known before. And while the devastating attack this nation suffered last month could not have been specifically predicted, we were not caught entirely unawares. For some time now, our military and intelligence services have been tracking this enemy, learning about it, determining its intentions.

The news is grim. The very land our nation has called home for almost two and a half centuries... that is the land to which our enemy lays claim, the prize it seeks to gain by turning its firepower upon us in unprovoked and cowardly attacks.

And while this nation is centered in the crosshairs, our neighbors are no safer. Reports indicate that the enemy has its eyes on a broad swath of land, from the West Coast to the Mississippi, crossing national borders to include much of Canada and Central America.

Intelligence suggests that we have a respite, a short period of eight or nine months to prepare for the next attack... but the next strike could fall anywhere in an area greater than 5 million square miles. Defense in the face of such uncertainty would be impossible for traditional military forces—but this great nation has another trick up its collective sleeve.



America's Response

How does a nation go about defending itself from spaceborne strikes? By their very nature, such attacks can come rapidly, with little or no warning, and land nearly anywhere. The answer is to expand the defensive bubble—to push what we think of as our “borders” into the three-dimensional space above our heads.

This is not a new concept. The Strategic Defense Initiative explored the idea as early as the 1980s, and Air Force Space Command already develops and maintains resources in orbit to aid in the national defense. But before now, the focus was always on defense against terrestrial attacks... not threats originating from outside our world.

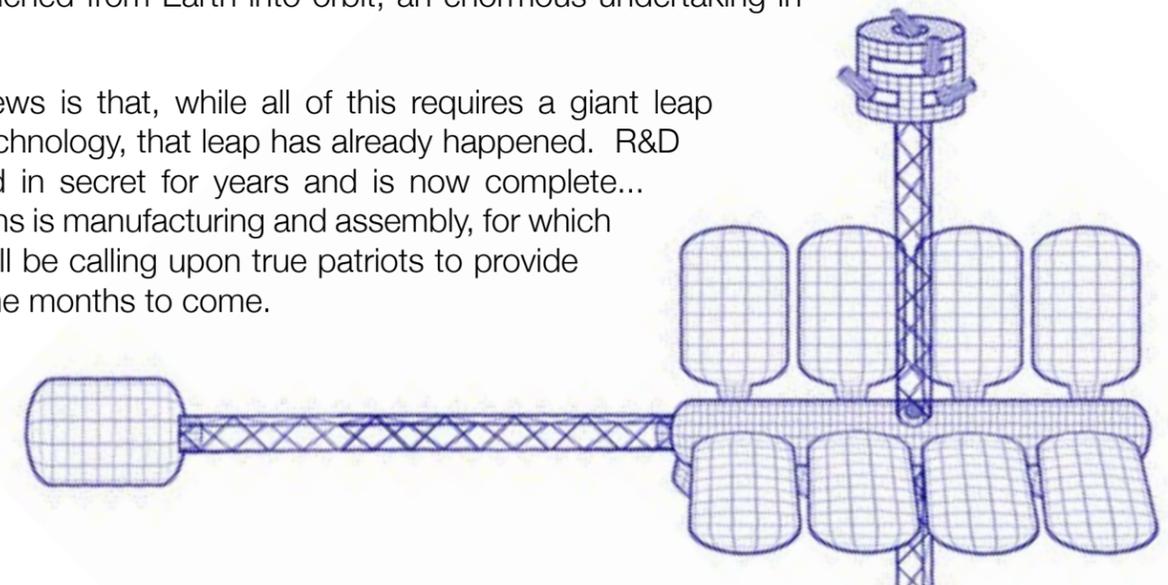
The time has come for an entirely new branch of military, an organization whose sole purpose is to defend this nation's orbital borders against threats from outside this world; that new organization is the Orbital Defense Corps. Taking as its symbol the Gryphen—a majestic mythological creature known for safeguarding priceless treasures—the Orbital Defense Corps, or ODC, will embody its Latin motto: *Ultima spes hominum...* the last hope of humanity.



Technological Leap Forward

Deploying an entire branch of military into orbit, then equipping those personnel to fulfill their mandate, is far from a trivial undertaking. Of utmost importance is putting a fleet of small, one-pilot fightercraft in place to interdict against incursion from without. But such a force could never stand on its own without support—for every pilot, there must exist three or four support personnel in-theater. And to accommodate such a large force of troops, there must also exist barracks in which to sleep; other facilities in which to train, exercise, and prepare meals; maintenance shops in which to repair damaged equipment; and saferooms for storing munitions and other hazardous materials. And all of this—personnel and equipment both—must be launched from Earth into orbit, an enormous undertaking in its own right.

The good news is that, while all of this requires a giant leap forward in technology, that leap has already happened. R&D has occurred in secret for years and is now complete... all that remains is manufacturing and assembly, for which our nation will be calling upon true patriots to provide capacity in the months to come.

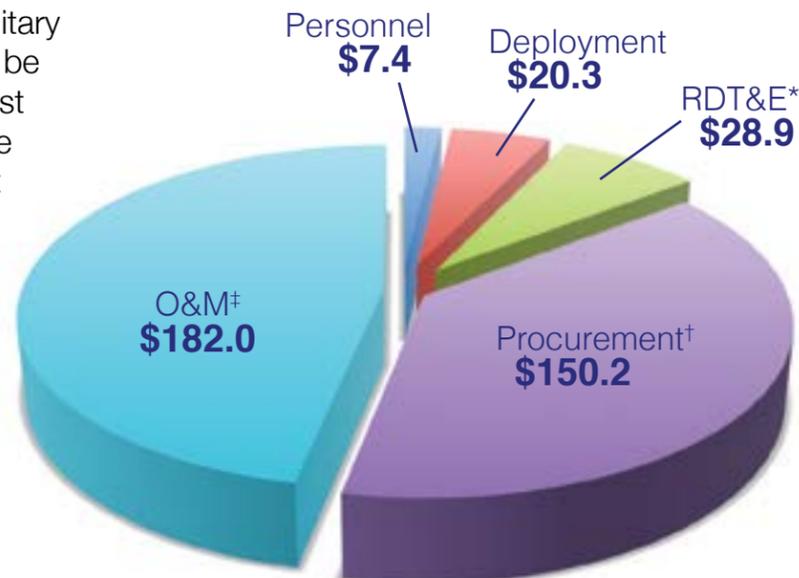


Proposed 2015 Budget

Creating a brand-new branch of military within a few short months will not be cheap. And while the ODC's most valuable resource will be its people, the nature of orbital warfare is such that our greatest monetary expense will come from acquiring or manufacturing equipment and ordnance, putting it into orbit, and then maintaining or replenishing it.

The most significant procurement line items include production of four orbital defense bases at a cost of \$27.8B each, as well as 89 Destrier space superiority fightercraft at a cost of \$110MM each. In addition, the decision has been made to acquire mass-transit shuttle technology by purchasing Out of this World Tours (OWT)—a publicly-traded space tourism concern—for roughly \$8.3B. This acquisition makes it possible to transport more than 200 personnel into orbit at a time aboard the Longship orbiter, of which one fully-operational prototype already exists, with two more currently in production.

The greatest ongoing expense is that of launching equipment into orbit. At a cost of \$1.8B per Longship launch and half that per supply shipment, the cost of defense adds up quickly.

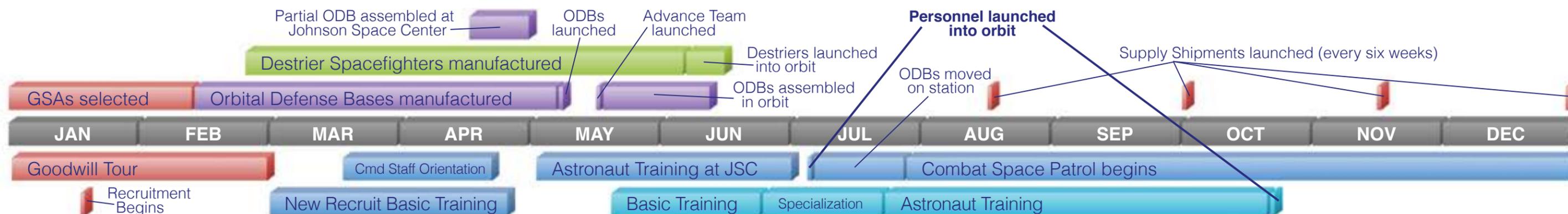


Total Proposed Budget: \$388.9B
 Figures may not total 100% due to rounding.

* RDT&E - Research, Development, Test, & Evaluation
 † Procurement includes Manufacturing & Acquisitions
 ‡ O&M - Operations & Maintenance

Manufacturing & Deployment Timeline (2015)

Legend: ■ ODBs ■ Destriers ■ First Deployment ■ Second Deployment ■ Other



Personnel Needs

This new theatre of war is such that an initial deployment of 180 pilots is adequate to defend the skies above our great nation; although that is a staggering amount of space, the problem is simplified by cutting edge predictive modeling and the sheer speeds at which fightercraft can move in empty vacuum. But for even 180 pilots to operate at peak efficiency, they must sit atop a pyramid of support personnel—600+ to be deployed with them, and another 47,000 to remain “dirtside.”

While this number seems small in comparison with other major branches of military (by comparison, the Air Force employs ten times as many!), it is still a staggering number of individuals to recruit and train in half a year. Fortunately, a vast majority of the best people for the job are already serving in the U.S. military. Transferring them to the ODC short-circuits much of the time and money cost of training, allowing them to focus primarily on conditioning for life in space. Ironically, while the ODC will inherit much of the Air Force tradition, it will likely be best represented by Navy transfers, since these individuals are already accustomed to living and working in claustrophobic confines.

Personnel by Type

Active Duty ODC	
Domestic	24,163
Deployed to Orbit	812
Air Force Support	9,325
Civilian	14,051
Total	48,351

Active Duty ODC Personnel by Source

Transfers	
Air Force	4,201
Army	2,318
Coast Guard	435
Marine Corps	2,752
Navy	4,780
New Recruits	
NASA	2,832
Other	7,657
Total	24,975

Recruitment

Those individuals with necessary skillsets who cannot be transferred must be recruited from the populace or from agencies such as NASA. In coming weeks, Air Force recruiters will begin accepting ODC applications as well as those for their own service. Meanwhile, the ODC will embark on a goodwill tour, with officers making appearances all over the nation, posing for photos, answering questions, and—in general—offering hope.

Goodwill Ambassador Profiles



Col John McLaughlin

A master tactician, John McLaughlin serves as the ODC's second-in-command and was responsible for training the pilots who now form the core of the ODC. McLaughlin matriculated at the Air Force Academy, during which time he met his beloved wife Evelyn.



2d Lt Gene Jenkins

With more than twenty years experience in public relations, Gene Jenkins was an important early addition to the ODC. Though he will eventually fly as a pilot, he currently leads the PR effort and is responsible for the ODC website and publications such as this one.



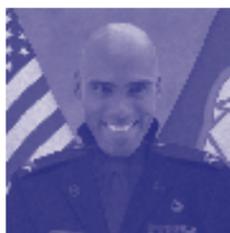
Lt Col Skylar McClinic

An honors graduate of the Air Force Academy, Skylar McClinic is more than just a gifted pilot and experienced officer. She is at heart a linguist and a classicist, and no matter where service to God and country takes her, she always brings a thick stack of reading material.



2d Lt Roger Harris

A family man and former stock broker, Roger Harris joined the service out of a desire to serve and protect not just his family but all others. When deployed to orbit, Harris will leave behind a wife and three teenagers, all of them eagerly and prayerfully awaiting his swift return.



Maj Barrett Williams

An experienced pilot and long-time colleague of Anna Haynes, Barrett Williams is a terminally outgoing man whose sense of humor and practical jokes are already legendary within the Air Force. Williams currently serves as self-appointed morale officer for the ODC.



2d Lt Shaniqua Watson

If Barrett Williams is the ODC's morale officer, Shaniqua Watson is its undisputed heart and soul. Possessed of an unquenchable spirit, she is the ultimate encourager, never letting her compatriots forget the importance of their task. Watson worked formerly as a barista.

Col Kara Dunn ODC Commandant

Though new to the military, Kara Dunn conceptualized much of the ODC's cutting-edge technology and led portions of the R&D effort. She brings with her a wealth of experience as a software developer and analyst, and most importantly, as a leader. Col Dunn will be the highest ranking ODC officer deployed to orbit.



Lt Col Kevin Smith

Formerly a career Air Force officer, Kevin Smith transferred from Air Force Special Operations Command. Details remain classified, but Smith has planned and executed numerous sensitive operations in support of bringing stability to wartorn and developing countries.



2d Lt Jose Morales

New ODC recruits come from all walks of life, and Jose Morales is no exception. In school to be a fashion designer when the attack came, he was later responsible for designing the ODC's dress uniform. Morales formerly worked as a sanitation engineer to pay for school.



Maj Jameson Faulk

Judging by his open, friendly demeanor, one would never guess that Jameson Faulk—J.T. to his friends—spent most of his Air Force career supporting highly-classified “black ops.” Prior to joining the service, Faulk was an all-American linebacker at his alma mater.



2d Lt Donald DeMaria

A meticulous and calculating individual, Donald DeMaria worked as a freelance writer and copy-editor before volunteering for the ODC. His keen mind and technical background will undoubtedly prove an asset when the ODC enters combat against a largely unknown foe.



Maj Anna Haynes

One of the longest-running members of the Air Force squadron that later formed the core of the ODC, Anna Haynes is a serious and committed pilot. Prior to joining that squadron, Haynes and Barrett Williams were part of an outfit operating from Peterson AFB.





Media Contact

For press questions or for assistance in identifying the appropriate press office, call 855-ODCORPS (632-6777) or email press@orbitaldefense.com.

For general information, visit the Orbital Defense Corps on the web at www.orbitaldefense.com.

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