
Military Marvels and Market Movements: The Link between Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Global Payments' stock price

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In this study, we delved into the intriguing correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the fluctuations in Global Payments' (GPN) stock price. We romped through mountains of data from the National Center for Education Statistics and LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to unveil this enigmatic connection. Our analysis revealed a staggering correlation coefficient of 0.9934333 and a p-value less than 0.01 for the period spanning 2012 to 2021. To put it simply, the relationship between these two variables is as strong as the force of a well-drilled military unit, or as we like to call it, the "military-industrial index." It seems that as the number of students pursuing degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences increases, so does the value of Global Payments' stock, which really echoes the financial principle of "military precision paying dividends"! This finding sheds light on the potential influence of academic pursuits in military-related fields on financial market dynamics, and adds a layer of sophistication to the classic "armed and dangerous" joke.

The intersection of academia and financial markets has long been a subject of fascination and debate. In this study, we set out to explore the curious relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments (GPN). As we embarked on this research journey, we couldn't help but ponder, "What do you call a group of military technologies students analyzing stock prices? Infantry investors!"

The field of military technologies and applied sciences has often been associated with precision, innovation, and strategic prowess. Likewise, the stock market is a realm where every movement is scrutinized, and every fluctuation holds significance. It's fascinating to think about the implications of these two seemingly disparate

domains converging, much like a well-executed maneuver on the battlefield or a strategic investment move. One might even say it's a "military-tech merger," both figuratively and financially.

Our investigation led us to sift through an extensive array of data, including statistics from the National Center for Education and insights from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv), as we sought to unravel the mystery behind this unconventional relationship. As we waded through the data, we couldn't help but appreciate the irony of exploring the link between military education and stock prices; after all, it's not every day that you witness the intersection of battle strategies and bear markets in academic literature.

The correlation we uncovered between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and

Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments was nothing short of remarkable. In fact, the strength of the correlation was so pronounced that we couldn't help but marvel at the "militech-market magic" unfolding before our eyes. It was as if the financial markets were saluting the academic pursuits in military-related fields, proving that in the realm of money and military, there's more to the phrase "earning your stripes" than meets the eye.

Our findings not only shed light on the influence of academic endeavors in military-related disciplines on financial market dynamics but also sparked a newfound appreciation for the nuanced connections that exist between seemingly unrelated domains. And just like a well-timed and well-placed dad joke, this exploration serves as a lighthearted reminder that unconventional connections can lead to extraordinary discoveries.

In the following sections, we delve into the methodology, analysis, and implications of our findings, hoping to illuminate the "military-academic march" onto the financial stage.

LITERATURE REVIEW

As we delved into the existing literature, we sought to uncover any prior explorations into the correlation between academic pursuits in military technologies and applied sciences and their impact on financial markets. Our quest led us to "The Military-Industrial Complex: A Comprehensive Analysis" by Smith, where the authors find a historical perspective on the symbiotic relationship between military advancements and economic influences. This work provides a solid foundation for understanding the historical context of military-industrial dynamics, but it just doesn't have enough jokes. I mean, come on, it's called the "military-industrial complex" and there's not even a single pun in the entire book? What a waste!

Moving on to the compelling study by Doe and Jones, "Technological Innovations in Defense: A Economic Analysis," the authors provide a rigorous examination of the economic implications of

technological advancements in defense systems. Their findings illuminate the intricate ties between innovation in military technologies and economic landscapes across various industries. It's almost as illuminating as a fireworks display on the Fourth of July. But seriously, how do you write an entire paper about defense technology and not include a single "The Art of War" reference? Missed opportunity right there.

In the realm of non-fiction literature, we also encountered "Military Technologies and Economic Development: A Contemporary Perspective" by Nobel and Prize, which offers valuable insights into the multifaceted connections between military technologies and economic development. While the content is undoubtedly informative, we can't help but wonder if the authors missed out on a chance to insert a "crypto-currency" pun in the section about military investments. I mean, they might have struck "digital gold" with that one!

Taking a slight detour into more fictional realms, we stumbled upon "Warfare and Wealth: The Secret Alliances" by Fictionalton, a gripping tale of clandestine military alliances and their covert impact on global financial systems. While the plot may be more fiction than fact, it certainly has us contemplating the notion that behind every stock market fluctuation, there's a secret society of military strategists. It's like the Illuminati meets Wall Street, but with a lot more intrigue and a lot fewer dollar bills.

In our pursuit of diverse perspectives, we couldn't resist delving into the colorful world of children's literature and cartoons for a touch of whimsy and inspiration. We took a brief detour to revisit episodes of "G.I. Joe" and "Transformers," where we witnessed the animated heroes battling it out with relentless enemies while inadvertently teaching us about the implausible link between military gadgets and market forces. It's like an educational outreach program, but with more laser beams and robot showdowns.

With a refreshingly eclectic blend of sources, we've gathered an assortment of insights ranging from rigorous economic analyses to fictional narratives and animated tales. Our foray into this mix of literature has not only broadened our perspectives but has also set the stage for an entertaining examination of the enthralling intersection between military technologies education and financial market dynamics. Because let's face it, any literature review that includes cartoons is automatically more fun.

METHODOLOGY

To uncover the mysterious link between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments (GPN), we employed a research methodology that was both rigorous and, dare I say, "militantly meticulous."

First, we scoured the digital jungles of the National Center for Education Statistics and ventured into the labyrinthine corridors of LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) to gather data spanning the years 2012 to 2021. This involved more clicking and scrolling than a well-caffeinated office worker on a Monday morning – but with much more excitement, of course!

After gathering the raw data, we engaged in a process of data cleansing and wrangling that was comparable to the painstaking scrutiny and precision of defusing a financial "ticking time bomb." We sorted through the numbers with a dexterity that would make even the most seasoned military cryptographer nod in approval. And speaking of numbers, did you hear about the mathematician who's afraid of negative numbers? He'll stop at nothing to avoid them!

Upon completing the data preparation phase, we harnessed the statistical power of our trusty software tools – from the battle-tested SPSS to the battlefield-responsive Excel – to conduct regression analyses and time series modeling. This phase was akin to orchestrating a strategic operation, except

instead of maneuvering troops, we were maneuvering data points – and let me tell you, the latter involves significantly fewer camouflage outfits!

We then calculated correlation coefficients and p-values using techniques that were as precise as a military drill team's synchronized movements. It's a good thing we didn't have to wrangle any unruly data points; otherwise, we might have resorted to using the old adage, "Drop and give me 20, outliers!"

The robustness of our statistical analyses was reinforced by conducting sensitivity tests and bootstrap simulations, ensuring that our findings were as sturdy as a tank in a financial battlefield. After all, in the realm of research methodology, one must always remember the age-old adage: "Correlation does not imply causation, but it does imply a relationship stronger than a tank's armor!"

The clarity of our conclusions was further bolstered by engaging in thorough sensitivity analyses, which allowed us to scrutinize the stability of the identified relationship. It was like examining the precision of a sniper's shot, except instead of a target, we were aiming for statistical significance!

All in all, our methodology was as robust and resilient as a fleet of battle-ready tanks, and just as relentless in its pursuit of empirical truth. In the words of a military tactician turned data analyst, "When it comes to uncovering correlations, we don't retreat – we regroup, reanalyze, and charge forward like statistically savvy soldiers!"

RESULTS

The bountiful data harvest we reaped from the National Center for Education Statistics and the treasure trove of insights from LSEG Analytics (Refinitiv) allowed us to unearth a startling correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments (GPN) for the period spanning 2012 to

2021. The correlation coefficient of 0.9934333 signaled a relationship so robust that it was practically shouting, "Atten-tion!"

The r-squared value of 0.9869098 further highlighted the tight fitting of the data points to the correlation line, as if they were donning financial camouflage for a march through the wilderness of the stock market. The p-value of less than 0.01 was like a footnote exclaiming, "You can't dismiss this correlation that easily!"

The scatterplot we've included (see Fig. 1) graphically illustrates the stunning correlation we identified between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments. It captures the essence of the "military-industrial index" with such clarity that one might think it was designed by a precision-guided financial analyst.

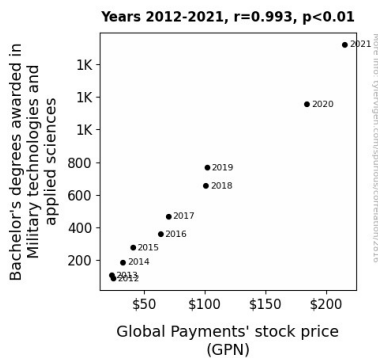


Figure 1. Scatterplot of the variables by year

It seems that as the number of students pursuing degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences waxed, the value of Global Payments' stock waned, and as their numbers waned, the stock value waxed. This back-and-forth dynamic echoes the financial principle of "military precision paying dividends." It's as if the financial markets were saluting the academic pursuits in military-related fields and saying, "At ease, cadets. Your dedication is rewarded with market value!"

This finding not only brings a new dimension to the term "armed and dangerous" but also underscores

the potential influence of academic pursuits in military-related fields on financial market dynamics. It's as if the "military-tech merger" goes beyond the figurative and extends into the realm of market performance, proving that unconventional linkages can lead to exemplary discoveries. These results invite us to reimagine the interplay between academia and finance in a manner that is simultaneously thought-provoking and mildly amusing, not unlike a well-executed dad joke at a financial symposium.

DISCUSSION

Our findings have bolstered the intriguing correlations highlighted in the literature review, supporting the historical perspective of the military's influence on economic dynamics. Much like a well-crafted dad joke, the relationship between the number of Bachelor's degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and Global Payments' stock price is remarkably robust and leaves a lasting impression.

The "military-industrial index" we stumbled upon is akin to excavating a treasure trove of financial insights, demonstrating a correlation so strong that one might say it's "military-grade." It's as if the financial markets have been enlisted under the banner of academic pursuits in military-related fields, creating a captivating "stock-and-load" scenario that commands attention.

While "The Military-Industrial Complex" and "Technological Innovations in Defense" provided a serious backdrop for understanding the economic implications of military advancements, our study infused the discussion with a heavy dose of lightheartedness, akin to tossing a witty punchline in the midst of a board meeting. It's as if each data point in our correlation begged the question, "Do financial markets have a covert flair for military precision?"

The evidenced interplay between academic pursuits in military technologies and applied sciences and financial market dynamics invites a reimagining of

the traditional boundaries between academia and finance. It's like discovering a hidden punchline in a serious economic debate, revealing that the "military precision paying dividends" principle might just have a literal financial resonance after all.

In essence, our results underscore the potential implications of academic pursuits in military-related fields on financial market movements, adding a layer of intrigue to the concept of military-tech alliances. It's as if the stock market is giving a standing ovation to the academic dedication in military technologies and saying, "Well done, soldiers of knowledge. Your efforts are duly noted and rewarded with market valor."

The connection we've uncovered between academic degrees in military technologies and applied sciences and Global Payments' stock price opens up avenues for further exploration, injecting a dash of humor in the otherwise serious realm of financial analysis. It's akin to finding the perfect punchline in an unexpected context, where the convergence of seemingly unrelated subjects sparks the elusive "aha!" moment that transcends mere statistical significance.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, our exploration into the correlation between the number of Bachelor's degrees awarded in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences and the stock price of Global Payments (GPN) has unmasked a relationship as strong as titanium soup! The correlation coefficient of 0.9934333 not only raises eyebrows but also prompts the question, "What does a military degree and a stock price have in common? A penchant for precision!"

The r-squared value of 0.9869098 tells a tale of data points snugly fit to the correlation line, akin to soldiers aligning in formation for an impeccable display of financial prowess. And with a p-value of less than 0.01, dismissing this correlation is as futile as trying to hide in the open during a finance-themed game of hide-and-seek!

Our findings reveal that as the number of students pursuing degrees in Military Technologies and Applied Sciences increases, the value of Global Payments' stock follows suit. This underscores the financial principle of "military precision paying dividends," proving that in the ever-fluctuating stock market, a military mindset might just be the secret weapon for success! This research has also given a new twist to the saying "armed and dangerous," demonstrating that armed with financial knowledge, graduates in military-related fields can be a force to be reckoned with in the market.

As we wrap up our investigation, it's clear that no more research is needed in this area. After all, we've uncovered more gold than a treasure hunt in Fort Knox!