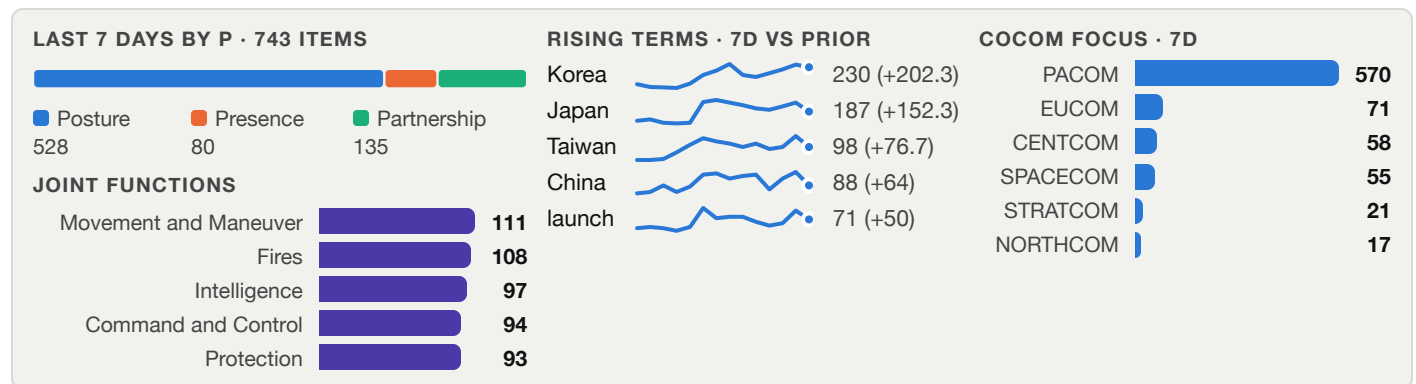


TJFSCC Daily

Makani Lab · Theater Joint Force Space Component
Posture · Presence · Partnership

BLUF — Posture: SSC and DIU awarded GHOST-R prototypes to Northrop Grumman and True Anomaly for GEO satellites that inspect other spacecraft, and SDA opened its Tranche 3 ground-architecture competition. Presence was partner-led: an eight-nation ADMM-Plus maritime activity, the Yudh Abhyas command post exercise, a Kadena tsunami drill. Attention: Kim's 20 Sep test, reported as a hypersonic glide vehicle, days before the Trump-Xi summit.



Posture Force structure, capability fielding, readiness, basing, budget/legislation, adversary threats that drive how the force is arrayed.

Pentagon taps Northrop Grumman, True Anomaly for recon satellites that can monitor other space systems

DefenseScoop · 2026-09-21 [SPACECOM](#) [Intelligence](#) [USSF](#) [On-Orbit Threats](#)

SSC and DIU awarded GHOST-R prototype contracts to Northrop Grumman and True Anomaly for commercial GEO satellites that image other spacecraft (DefenseScoop).

So what: Organic GEO characterization would cut theater reliance on national SDA feeds.

North Korea's Kim hails 'new' weapon thought to be hypersonic missile

The Japan Times · 2026-09-21 [PACOM](#) [Fires](#) [DPRK](#) [Missile Warning / Defense](#)

Kim called the 20 Sep launch of two missiles a new weapon, reported as a hypersonic glide vehicle; ROK's defense ministry doubts the claim (Japan Times, Stripes).

So what: A DPRK HGV stresses theater missile-warning timelines and sensor tasking.

SDA Seeks to Expand Ground Architecture for Future Missile Tracking Satellites

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-09-21 [SPACECOM](#) [Command and Control](#) [Missile Warning / Defense](#) [Policy & Budget](#)

SDA opened a competition to expand the ground architecture behind its missile warning and tracking constellation, sized for Tranche 3 (Air & Space Forces Magazine).

So what: Ground entry points set where theater missile-warning data lands and how fast.

How are China's Type 052D destroyers shifting the balance in the western Pacific?

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-09-21 [PACOM](#) [Fires](#) [China / PLA](#) [Emerging Space Tech](#)

State TV footage showed a PLAN Type 052D firing a YJ-20 hypersonic anti-ship missile, a weapon previously tied only to the larger Type 055 (SCMP).

So what: Wider PLAN strike reach raises theater demand for space-based ISR and warning.

■ Presence Forces operating forward: deployments, exercises, operations, patrols, transits, HADR, launches in support of theater ops.

U.S. naval forces join eight nations in exercise to strengthen maritime security

U.S. Pacific Command · 2026-09-21 PACOM Command and Control Exercises Allies & Partners

U.S. naval forces joined eight nations in the ADMM-Plus Experts' Working Group maritime security joint cooperative activity, which began 20 Sep (INDOPACOM).

So what: Multinational maritime events are a venue to push space effects to partner staffs.

U.S., Indian Army forces begin Command Post Exercise during Yudh Abhyas 2026

U.S. Pacific Command · 2026-09-21 PACOM Command and Control Exercises Allies & Partners

U.S. and Indian Army forces began a brigade-level command post exercise at Auli, India, running 15-22 Sep under Yudh Abhyas 2026 (INDOPACOM).

So what: A CPX with India is an opening to normalize space support with a non-treaty partner.

Air Force, Japan Exercise Tsunami Evacuation Procedures

Department of War · 2026-09-21 PACOM Protection Japan / ROK Allies & Partners

The 18th Wing and Okinawa local officials ran a joint tsunami evacuation drill across Kadena Air Base (DoW).

So what: Base HADR readiness protects forward space, SATCOM and comms nodes on Okinawa.

Taiwan coastguard's rare missile firing reveals deepening links with navy

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-09-22 PACOM Fires Taiwan China / PLA

Taiwan's coastguard fired a supersonic anti-ship missile in an exercise last week, unusual for a civilian agency and tied by analysts to navy integration (SCMP).

So what: More partner coastal fires means more demand for space-enabled targeting data.

■ Partnership Allies, partners, FVEY, combined exercises, agreements, data-sharing, industry and interagency partnerships.

US tightens Japan, South Korea ties ahead of Trump-Xi summit

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-09-21 PACOM Command and Control Allies & Partners Japan / ROK

Rubio, Motegi and Cho opened trilateral economic-security talks, agreed a supply-chain early warning system and backed Taiwan Strait stability (SCMP, Yonhap).

So what: Trilateral machinery is the track space data-sharing with Japan and ROK can ride.

Boeing picks Lite Coms for Aussie BLOS SATCOM terminals

Breaking Defense · 2026-09-22 PACOM Command and Control SATCOM Allies & Partners

Boeing selected Lite Coms to supply beyond-line-of-sight SATCOM terminals for Australia's LAND 4140 land C4I modernization program (Breaking Defense).

So what: Allied terminal choices set the interoperability baseline for combined SATCOM.

US torpedo test-fired from UK sea drone for first time as part of AUKUS

ABC News Australia · 2026-09-21 PACOM Movement and Maneuver Allies & Partners FVEY

The UK government said a US-Australian heavyweight torpedo was test-fired from a UK uncrewed surface vessel for the first time, under AUKUS (ABC Australia).

So what: AUKUS autonomy work sets the pace for the space links it will depend on.

Taiwan-donated patrol vessel handed to Philippine Coast Guard: Source

Focus Taiwan (CNA) · 2026-09-22 PACOM Movement and Maneuver Taiwan Allies & Partners

A decommissioned 500-tonne Kinmen-class patrol vessel donated by Taiwan's Coast Guard has been delivered to the Philippine Coast Guard, a source told CNA (Focus Taiwan).

So what: Partner-to-partner transfers add sensors to the theater maritime picture.

WATCH LIST

- Trump-Xi summit in Washington this week; watch PRC gray-zone and counterspace activity in the AOR.
- DPRK HGV claim: await an official US or ROK assessment before briefing it as fact.
- Starship's first orbital flight NET 28 Sep from Starbase, pending FAA approval.
- GHOST-R prototype-to-program-of-record transition and the SDA Tranche 3 ground competition.