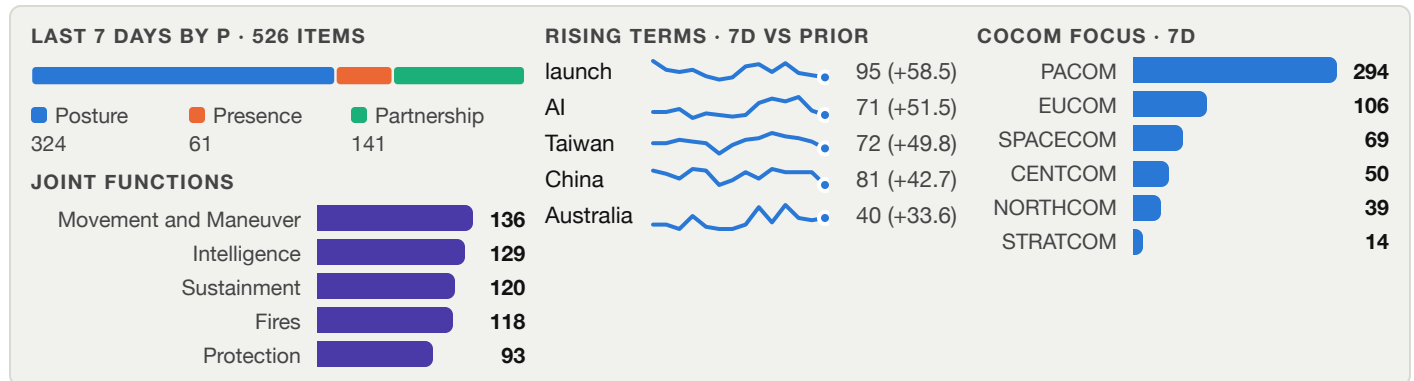


BLUF — Posture (resilience): Chinese researchers say China refuelled a high-orbit BeiDou satellite in orbit (SCMP); SLD 45 is adding lasers to defend Cape Canaveral from drones. Posture (capability): PLAN warships backed a CCG block of a Philippine resupply near Second Thomas Shoal. Partnership holds at Share on Taiwan. Attention: COSMOS 2369 vs Fengyun-1C ASAT debris, Pc 7.1e-3, TCA 28 Sep 1922Z (Space-Track).



Posture

Force · Capability · C2 & authorities · Resilience

Claims China's BeiDou satellite was refuelled in orbit could change space race

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-09-26 [Resilience](#) [PACOM](#) [Intelligence](#) [China / PLA](#)

State-funded Chinese researchers say, in a paper under peer review, that China refuelled a high-orbit BeiDou satellite in orbit for the first time (SCMP).

So what: GEO refuelling would extend PRC maneuver and RPO endurance; SDA custody must account for it.

Laser Weapons Will Be Deployed At Cape Canaveral Spaceport To Take Down Drones

The War Zone · 2026-09-26 [Resilience](#) [SPACECOM](#) [Protection](#) [USSF](#)

SLD 45 is adding an AFRL-tested laser counter-drone system at Cape Canaveral SFS after hundreds of drone incursions; no fielding date given (TWZ).

So what: Hardens assured access to space against drones without RF jamming that could harm payloads.

Space Force opens new competition for satellite-control antennas

SpaceNews · 2026-09-25 [Capability](#) [SPACECOM](#) [Command and Control](#) [USSF](#)

USSF is seeking bids for new satellite command-and-control ground antennas, restarting a buy that ran into trouble under its original contractor (SpaceNews).

So what: Ground antenna capacity limits satellite contacts; the restart resets the fielding clock.

Chinese Cutters, Warships Block Philippine Resupply Mission to Second Thomas Shoal

USNI News · 2026-09-25 [Capability](#) [PACOM](#) [Intelligence](#) [China / PLA](#)

PLAN warships, incl. two Type 022 missile boats, backed CCG cutters that blocked a Philippine resupply bound for Second Thomas Shoal on 24 Sep (USNI News).

So what: PLAN now backs gray-zone blocks; raises demand for maritime ISR and warning in the SCS.

■ Presence

Planning · C2 · Execution · Exercises

Army will address 12 capability areas during US-UK counter-drone exercise

Inside Defense · 2026-09-25 [Exercises](#) [EUCOM](#) [Fires](#) [Electronic Warfare](#)

V Corps' US-UK counter-drone exercise Flytrap 6.0 will put ~1,000 soldiers over 50+ sq km in an LSCO setting and test 12 areas incl. C2 and DE (Inside Defense).

So what: Model for exercising C-UAS and EW through degraded links; adaptable to Pacific drills.

■ Partnership

Share → Plan → Train → Operate → Depend

US 'very much' understands Taiwan's defence needs, Taipei official says

The Straits Times (Asia) · 2026-09-26 [Share](#) [PACOM](#) [Intelligence](#) [Taiwan](#)

A senior Taiwanese diplomat says the US 'very much' understands Taiwan's defence needs and that arming Taiwan is a US interest after the Trump-Xi summit (Straits Times).

So what: Holds at Share; no new arms-sale or info-sharing step since the summit.

Rocket Lab CFO Adam Spice Predicts More M&A Deals on the Horizon

Payload · 2026-09-25 [Depend](#) [SPACECOM](#) [Command and Control](#) [SATCOM](#)

Iridium shareholders approved Rocket Lab's acquisition with 99.6% of votes; closing is expected mid-2027, and Rocket Lab's CFO forecasts more M&A (Payload).

So what: DoD relies on Iridium SATCOM; an ownership change touches a service the force depends on.

Rocket Lab launches 13th Synspective satellite

SpaceNews · 2026-09-26 [Share](#) [PACOM](#) [Intelligence](#) [Launch](#)

Electron launched a 13th StriX SAR satellite for Japanese imaging firm Synspective on 25 Sep, the third StriX launch this month (SpaceNews).

So what: Grows Japan's commercial SAR fleet, a candidate source for allied maritime imagery.

UK Thwarts Suspected Terrorist Plot Against Base Used by US Bombers for Strikes on Iran

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-09-27 [Operate](#) [EUCOM](#) [Protection](#) [Allies & Partners](#)

UK police arrested five men with three vans near RAF Fairford, home to US B-1Bs, on terrorism charges on 27 Sep; Trump credited joint UK-US work (Air & Space Forces Mag).

So what: Host-nation police defended a US strike base; a check for FP plans at Pacific space sites.

WATCH LIST

- COSMOS 2369 vs Fengyun-1C debris TCA 28 Sep 1922Z; STARLINK-1777 reentry 28 Sep 0149Z over central PRC.
- PLA Southern Theater air-sea drill at Scarborough Shoal 27 Sep; next Philippine resupply to Second Thomas.
- Chinese research ship Kexue seen lowering a wire in Japan's EEZ north of Ishigaki (Japan Times).
- KEV due 28 Sep: WordPress, SharePoint, MikroTik; Tarang Shakti F-35 sorties in India through 12 Oct.