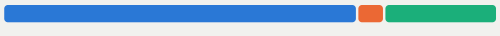
TJFSCC Daily

2026-10-16
Makani Lab · Theater Joint Force Space Component
Posture · Presence · Partnership

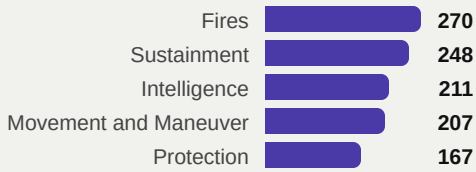
BLUF — Posture (authorities): a senator will seek a DoD IG probe of Ukraine's Starshield loss, a U.S. official says Trump ordered no limits, and Kyiv says access is not fully back; no one has said who can cut allied SATCOM. Posture (capability): classified USSF-481 reached LEO from Vandenberg. Partnership (train): the Theodore Roosevelt CSG is in Yokosuka for Keen Sword 27. Attention: pin down who decides commercial SATCOM access before a theater crisis.

LAST 7 DAYS BY P · 804 ITEMS

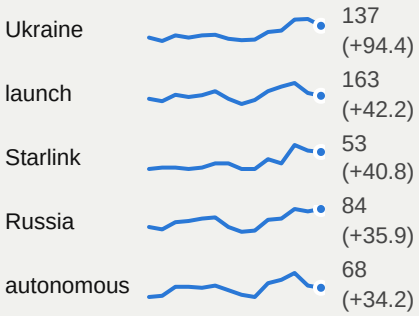


Posture 576 · Presence 44 · Partnership 184

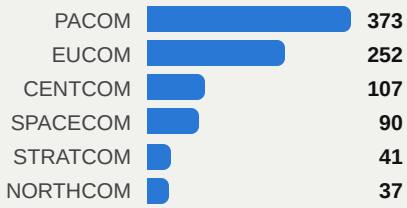
JOINT FUNCTIONS



RISING TERMS · 7D VS PRIOR



COCOM FOCUS · 7D



Posture

Force · Capability · C2 & authorities · Resilience

Tillis calls on Pentagon inspector general to investigate Ukraine’s Starshield loss

The Hill (Defense) · 2026-10-15 C2 & authorities · EUCOM · Command and Control · SATCOM

Sen. Tillis will ask the DoD IG to probe Ukraine's Starshield loss; a U.S. official says Trump ordered no limits, and Zelenskyy says access is not fully back.

So what: No one has said who can cut allied commercial SATCOM; that authority gap exists in theater.

Live coverage: SpaceX to launch classified payload for U.S. Space Force

Spaceflight Now · 2026-10-15 Capability · SPACECOM · Intelligence · Launch

USSF-481 (TH-2), a classified USSF payload, launched on Falcon 9 from Vandenberg at 0001Z 16 Oct to an 80-degree LEO, the second TH mission since 16 Sep.

So what: A second classified TH payload in a month adds to the LEO mix serving the joint force.

Navy Demonstrates Successful Drone Ship Landing Without GPS

Department of War · 2026-10-15 Resilience · PACOM · Movement and Maneuver · PNT / GPS

The Navy flew and landed an unmanned aircraft aboard a ship with no GPS and no pilot input in a recent live-flight demonstration (DoW).

So what: Shows a shipboard drone recovery path that holds when GPS is jammed or spoofed.

Koizumi says China carrier drills in Pacific highlight Japan’s ‘limited’ surveillance capabilities

The Japan Times · 2026-10-15 Capability · PACOM · Intelligence · Japan / ROK

Japan's Defense Minister Koizumi said Chinese carrier drills in the Pacific show Japan's 'limited' surveillance on its Pacific flank; a fix is 'urgent' (Japan Times).

So what: An allied surveillance gap east of Japan raises demand for U.S. space-based ISR and SDA.

South Korean lasers down three drones in Army demo, Hanwha says

Defense News · 2026-10-16 Capability · PACOM · Protection · Japan / ROK

Hanwha says two ROK laser weapons downed three drones in an Army exercise on 14 Oct alongside jamming; it puts each Cheongwang shot at about $1.50 (Defense News).

So what: A fielded low-cost ROK laser layer eases drone pressure on allied air and missile defense.

Presence

Planning · C2 · Execution · Exercises

Army Building Up New Space Operations Branch

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-10-15 Execution PACOM Fires Missile Warning / Defense

SMDC says a new USARPAC Theater Strike Effects Group will need space support and 1st Space Brigade will grow beyond GPS, missile warning and SATCOM (Air & Space Forces).

So what: Theater strike will need space effects tied to Army fires; TJFSCC should shape that link.

US, Philippine missile and drone defense drills reveal challenges of stopping an attack

Stars and Stripes (Pacific) · 2026-10-14 Exercises PACOM Protection Exercises

In combined air and missile defense drills, U.S. and Philippine troops found they may have seconds to decide on intercepts and too few weapons for every target (Stripes).

So what: With seconds to decide, missile-warning cues to Philippine shooters decide the engagement.

Military service members to square off against AI in ‘Mindgame’ tournament

DefenseScoop · 2026-10-15 Planning Command and Control AI & Data

Marines and joint personnel will wargame a Strategy Robot AI adversary in the Mindgame tournament on MCU's Wargaming Cloud; applications are due 14 Nov (DefenseScoop).

So what: An adaptive AI red team can stress space COAs before they reach the joint planning cell.

Partnership

Share → Plan → Train → Operate → Depend

Carrier USS Theodore Roosevelt Arrives in Japan Ahead of Keen Sword Exercise

USNI News · 2026-10-16 Train PACOM Movement and Maneuver Exercises

The Theodore Roosevelt CSG docked at Yokosuka on 16 Oct for Keen Sword 27, the first non-FDNF-J carrier there since 2022; Japan commits 45,000 troops and 40 ships (USNI).

So what: CSG-9 is aligning tactics with the JMSDF; Keen Sword is the venue to train space support.

Japan Wants to Sell Air Defense, Maritime Surveillance Systems to Philippine Forces

USNI News · 2026-10-15 Share PACOM Protection Japan / ROK

Japan is pitching Type 03, Type 11 and Type 91 air defense, maritime surveillance and counter-drone systems to the Philippines under revised export rules (USNI).

So what: A Japan-built Philippine air defense net would need shared warning data; ties are at Share.

Taiwan turns to US drone boats to track rising mainland Chinese sea activity

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-10-14 Share PACOM Intelligence Taiwan

Taiwan's coast guard is buying Martac Devil Ray T24 drone boats, to be built in the U.S. and Taiwan, to track PRC vessels around the island (SCMP).

So what: U.S.-built drone boats add to Taiwan's maritime picture; the tie is a sale, still at Share.

UK defends US reliance on F-35A and PrSM

UK Defence Journal · 2026-10-15 Depend EUCOM Fires FVEY

UK minister Pollard defended F-35A and PrSM buys against dependence concerns, citing UK equities and PrSM's partnership with Australia, without a direct answer (UKDJ).

So what: PrSM ties UK and Australian long-range fires to a U.S. program and its supply line.

UKSA Taps ClearSpace for Country’s First Debris Removal Mission

Payload · 2026-10-15 Share SPACECOM Intelligence FVEY

UKSA picked ClearSpace as prime for a ~£61M mission, NET 2029, to inspect, capture and move two defunct UK satellites out of LEO (Payload).

So what: A FVEY ally is paying industry for RPO and capture skills; data from it is still at Share.

WATCH LIST

- Keen Sword 27 opens 19 Oct with the Theodore Roosevelt CSG; Japan commits 45,000 personnel and 40 ships.
- n0n extortion group says it will publish data from Busan port operators on 19 Oct; claims are unverified.
- CISA KEV deadline 17 Oct for exploited Palo Alto PAN-OS and Cisco Secure Email Gateway flaws.
- Senate request for a DoD IG review of Ukraine's Starshield loss; watch for who ordered the limits.