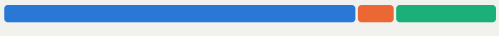
TJFSCC Daily

2026-10-21
Makani Lab · Theater Joint Force Space Component
Posture · Presence · Partnership

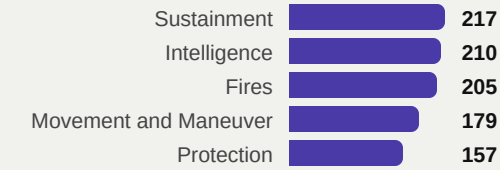
BLUF — Posture (force): Gen. Schiess ordered Guardians embedded 'at scale' at combatant commands, and a USSF RFI plans up to 56 Meadowlands jammers worldwide. Posture (authorities): letters to SpaceX, Hegseth and the DoD IG ask who throttled Starlink/Starshield in Ukraine on 12-14 Oct. Presence: Typhoon Champi cut back parts of Keen Sword. Attention: no one has said who can restrict a commercial SATCOM service a partner depends on.

LAST 7 DAYS BY P · 749 ITEMS

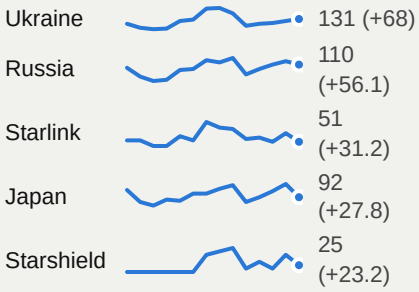


Posture 536 · Presence 58 · Partnership 155

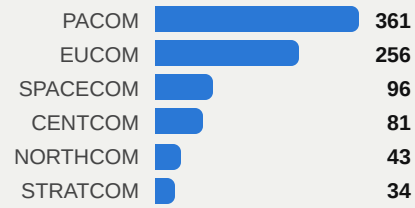
JOINT FUNCTIONS



RISING TERMS · 7D VS PRIOR



COCOM FOCUS · 7D



Posture

Force · Capability · C2 & authorities · Resilience

Space Force aims to beef up guardian presence for Centcom and other combatant commands

DefenseScoop · 2026-10-20 Force SPACECOM Command and Control USSF

CSO Gen. Schiess called for Guardians at combatant commands 'at scale'; a USSF RFI expects up to 56 Meadowlands jammers 'dispersed throughout the world' (DefenseScoop).

So what: More Guardians and jammers per CCDR raises what SPACEPAC can request and must absorb.

Congress Seeks Answers On Starlink Disruptions in Ukraine

Payload · 2026-10-20 C2 & authorities EUCOM Command and Control SATCOM

Senators asked SpaceX and the DoD IG, and House appropriators asked Hegseth, who ordered the 12-14 Oct Starlink/Starshield limits in Ukraine (Payload, Inside Defense).

So what: Unclear authority to throttle commercial SATCOM is a risk in any theater that relies on it.

Ceres-1 sea launch lofts first satellite for low-inclination Wuyang remote sensing constellation

SpaceNews · 2026-10-20 Capability PACOM Intelligence China / PLA

A Ceres-1 launched from the Yellow Sea on 20 Oct with the first pathfinder for the Guangzhou-backed, low-inclination Wuyang remote-sensing constellation (SpaceNews).

So what: Low-inclination PRC imagers revisit the AOR's latitudes more often, adding SDA demand.

Chinese space robotics startup Sinxbot raises tens of millions of dollars for on-orbit refueling, deorbit services

SpaceNews · 2026-10-21 Resilience SPACECOM Intelligence China / PLA

PRC startups Sinxbot (tens of millions of dollars, with Alibaba and China Mobile) and Space Robot (about $15M) raised funds for on-orbit servicing (SpaceNews).

So what: Commercial PRC robotic arms are dual-use RPO tools that could contest U.S. satellites.

Army shrinks mounted PNT competition timeline by a third

Inside Defense · 2026-10-20 Resilience PACOM Movement and Maneuver PNT / GPS

The Army wants to cut its NorthStar vehicle-mounted PNT competition from three years to two, citing rising jamming and spoofing (Inside Defense).

So what: Ground forces that fuse GPS with other sources keep moving and shooting under GNSS jamming.

Space Access PAE publishes vision and requirements document

Space Systems Command · 2026-10-20 Capability SPACECOM Sustainment USSF

The USSF Space Access PAE published a vision and requirements document to modernize the Eastern and Western Ranges for rising launch and test demand (SSC).

So what: Range throughput sets how fast lost or new theater satellites can be put on orbit.

Presence

Planning · C2 · Execution · Exercises

US Army support for Golden Dome missile shield takes shape

Defense News · 2026-10-20 Planning NORTHCOM Command and Control Missile Warning / Defense

SMDC says an Army air defense unit is earmarked for Golden Dome; JTF-Gold ran planning sprints with about 300 stakeholders to draft a CONOPS (Defense News).

So what: Golden Dome CONOPS will shape how missile warning and sensors are shared with theaters.

Super Typhoon Champi disrupts Keen Sword drills across southern Japan

Stars and Stripes (Pacific) · 2026-10-20 Exercises PACOM Movement and Maneuver Exercises

Super Typhoon Champi forced U.S. and Japanese forces to scale back parts of Keen Sword 27, which has about 45,000 JSDF and 11,000 U.S. personnel (Stars and Stripes, DoD).

So what: Running the drill through a typhoon tests C2 and SATCOM plans under degraded conditions.

Partnership

Share → Plan → Train → Operate → Depend

Major Ukrainian Arms Maker Rethinking Future Reliance On Starlink

The War Zone · 2026-10-20 Depend EUCOM Command and Control SATCOM

A major Ukrainian arms maker told TWZ it is rethinking reliance on Starlink after terminals cut out at 130-161 km/h on parts of the front.

So what: A partner backing away from a commercial SATCOM it depends on shows the cost of one vendor.

Taiwan admits paying for retired US general to observe largest annual war games

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-10-20 Share PACOM Command and Control Taiwan

Taiwan's defense ministry confirmed it funds USINDOPACOM to send a retired general and other personnel to observe its largest annual war games (SCMP).

So what: Funded U.S. observers at Han Kuang open a Share-stage channel on Taiwan's defense plans.

Australia marks missile, cyber ‘firsts’ in exercise with Indonesia

Breaking Defense · 2026-10-21 Train PACOM Fires Allies & Partners

Australia marked missile and cyber 'firsts' in exercise Keris Woomera with Indonesia, during a month of drills from Singapore to Japan (Breaking Defense).

So what: Australia training Indonesia in missile and cyber work deepens a Train-stage regional tie.

Arctic Experiment Explores Ways to Close Air Surveillance Gaps

Department of War · 2026-10-20 Train NORTHCOM Intelligence Allies & Partners

U.S. and Canadian teams ended a three-year Arctic air domain awareness series, using HAARP and a low-cost receiver to detect aircraft beyond radar coverage (DoD, TWZ).

So what: Joint U.S.-Canada testing of OTH radar moves a FVEY sensing tie from Share to Train.

Why the Army only has one Security Force Assistance Brigade left

Task & Purpose · 2026-10-20 Train PACOM Movement and Maneuver Allies & Partners

The 5th SFAB, the Army's last advisor brigade, works under USARPAC priorities; Pacific partners ask how the U.S. uses tactics from Ukraine (Task & Purpose).

So what: Advisors bring Ukraine lessons to Pacific partners, a Train-stage path for space ones too.

WATCH LIST

- Starlink/Starshield in Ukraine: watch for a DoD IG decision to investigate and a DoD answer to the letters.
- PRC Long March 6A and 4B launches with undisclosed payloads are scheduled for 23 Oct.
- Keen Sword runs to 29 Oct: track typhoon impacts and PLA ISR around Japan's southwest islands.
- JTF-Gold holds its next Golden Dome planning sprint at the end of October in Colorado Springs.