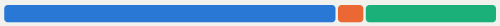
TJFSCC Daily

2026-11-17
Makani Lab · Theater Joint Force Space Component
Posture · Presence · Partnership

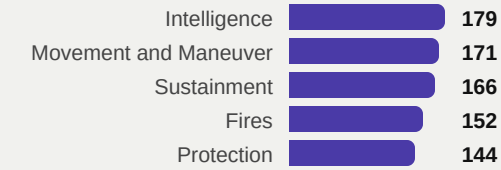
BLUF — Posture (capability): a DIA image of a probable Shenlong spaceplane and a ~300-aircraft PLA air exercise show China rehearsing reach and scale. Presence: Russian aircraft violated Japanese airspace 17 Nov and were tracked by Japan, the ROK and Taiwan on the eve of the Xi-Trump-Putin meeting. Partnership: the ROK joined NATO's Starlift launch program without the U.S.; watch the 19 Nov Shenzhen trilateral for space or Taiwan terms.

LAST 7 DAYS BY P · 693 ITEMS

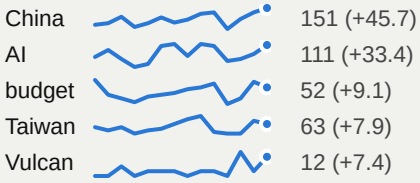


Posture 468 · Presence 39 · Partnership 186

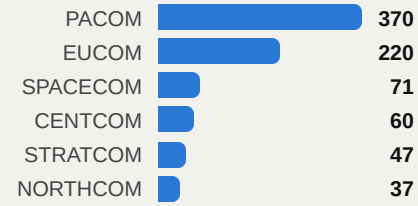
JOINT FUNCTIONS



RISING TERMS · 7D VS PRIOR



COCOM FOCUS · 7D



Posture

Force · Capability · C2 & authorities · Resilience

40 Chinese spaceplanes could hit any target on Earth in minutes: study

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-11-16 **Capability** SPACECOM Intelligence China / PLA

DIA released an image 26 Oct of a craft widely believed to be China's Shenlong spaceplane; a Chinese study cited by SCMP models 40 such craft for global strike.

So what: Reusable PRC spaceplanes add a maneuvering on-orbit threat that theater SDA must track.

What does China's massive warplane build-up say about its combat readiness?

South China Morning Post (China) · 2026-11-17 **Force** PACOM Intelligence China / PLA

Satellite imagery shows nearly 300 PLA Air Force aircraft at 11 western China bases for an annual combat exercise, up from 194 seen before, SCMP reports.

So what: PLA is rehearsing a sustained mass air campaign that space support must be ready to meet.

From Refueling to Relocation: SSC Expands On-Orbit Support Capabilities | Q&A with Col. Scott Carstetter, Director of Servicing Mobility & Logistics

Space Systems Command · 2026-11-16 **Resilience** SPACECOM Sustainment USSF

SSC's Servicing, Mobility and Logistics office (System Delta 80) is building refueling, life-extension and relocation services for sustained space maneuver.

So what: Refuelable, movable satellites harden the theater constellation against attrition.

NSA Warns About Potential Malware Hijacking CAC-Enabled Computers

Department of War · 2026-11-16 **Resilience** CYBERCOM Protection Cyber Operations

An NSA official warns of new malware that targets personal computers while a CAC is inserted in a connected card reader.

So what: Home CAC use is a credential path into command networks; reinforce Guardian cyber hygiene.

Senate defense bill backs space buildup but questions acquisition strategy

SpaceNews · 2026-11-16 **Capability** SPACECOM Sustainment USSF

The Senate defense bill backs the Space Force buildup but questions the service's acquisition strategy, according to SpaceNews.

So what: Funding and acquisition pace set when new warning, SATCOM and SDA reach the theater.

China has ‘normalized’ naval presence near Japan since political spat of 2025

Defense News · 2026-11-16 Force PACOM Intelligence China / PLA

Experts tell Defense News China has normalized naval and coast guard presence near Japan since the 2025 political dispute, citing a large recent flotilla.

So what: Steady PLA Navy presence near Japan raises daily maritime SDA and ISR demand.

Presence

Planning · C2 · Execution · Exercises

Japan sends up jets after alleged Russian incursion of its airspace

BBC News (Asia) · 2026-11-16 C2 PACOM Command and Control Russia

Two suspected Russian aircraft entered Japanese airspace near Okinoshima 17 Nov; Japan scrambled jets and protested, and the ROK and Taiwan also tracked Russian aircraft.

So what: Three partner ops centers tracked one Russian sortie; a shared picture speeds decisions.

Quad leaders announce plans for 1st maritime patrol aircraft exercise in 2027

Yonhap News (English) · 2026-11-17 Planning PACOM Intelligence Allies & Partners

Quad leaders met in Manila 17 Nov and announced the first Quad maritime patrol aircraft exercise, set for 2027, Yonhap reports.

So what: Opens a planning window to build space-enabled maritime awareness into the design.

UK and Japan strengthen defence ties with major exercise

UK Ministry of Defence · 2026-11-17 Exercises PACOM Movement and Maneuver Allies & Partners

British and Japanese troops are training side by side in Hokkaido this month to improve their ability to operate together, the UK MOD says.

So what: A chance to fold degraded GPS and SATCOM play into allied field training in Japan.

Partnership

Share → Plan → Train → Operate → Depend

NATO kicks off 11-nation Starlift satellite launch program

Breaking Defense · 2026-11-17 Plan EUCOM Sustainment Launch

NATO launched its 11-nation Starlift program to contract commercial launch; the ROK joined (Yonhap), while France and the U.S. were left out (Breaking Defense).

So what: Moves the ROK into NATO launch planning; the U.S. is outside the program.

WRAIR-AFRIMS protects force health at Super Garuda Shield 2026

USINDOPACOM · 2026-11-16 Train PACOM Protection Allies & Partners

WRAIR-AFRIMS and the Australian Defence Force Malaria and Infectious Diseases Institute ran real-time disease surveillance for Super Garuda Shield 2026.

So what: U.S. and Australian teams training together inside the combined exercise force.

Takaichi and ASEAN leaders agree to boost energy and supply chain cooperation

The Japan Times · 2026-11-16 Plan PACOM Sustainment Allies & Partners

PM Takaichi and ASEAN leaders agreed to boost energy and supply chain cooperation, including a framework to coordinate emergency oil reserve releases.

So what: Japan-ASEAN crisis planning steadies partner states that host U.S. access.

SEOPS Signs Rideshare Deal With Stoke

Payload · 2026-11-16 Share SPACECOM Sustainment Launch

SEOPS signed a rideshare deal with Stoke Space, adding a launch option as SpaceX plans to end Falcon 9 rideshare around 2029, Payload reports.

So what: More commercial rideshare widens the industry base for responsive launch.

WATCH LIST

- Xi-Trump-Putin trilateral in Shenzhen Thu 19 Nov at APEC; watch for space, nuclear or Taiwan language.
- COSMOS 385 debris conjunction TCA 18 Nov 0850Z (Pc 3.3e-3); two Starlink reentries in South Pacific 18 Nov.
- USSF-317 on Falcon 9 19 Nov 0300Z; Long March 2D 18 Nov 2250Z; NROL-136 21 Nov 1230Z.
- SWPC G1 storm watch 17-18 Nov; FY27 defense appropriations may move before the 11 Dec CR expiry.