Space Watch

2026-W45 · 02 Nov – 08 Nov 2026
Makani Lab · Space Watch
Orbital Warfare · SATCOM · SDA · PNT · Satellite Control · Missile Warning · ISR · EW

BLUF — CSO Gen. Schiess said USSF tracked Kosmos 2612 near an ICEYE SAR satellite and plans 2,800 more Guardians and 2,000 civilians in FY27, largely for components, SPACEPAC among them. SSC stood up the SDN Backbone operations center (Viasat, up to $450M). PRC orbited 10 Yaogan satellites in 14 days. Attention: the growth depends on an FY27 budget held by a CR.

LAST 7 DAYS BY MISSION AREA · 226 ITEMS



Orbital Warfare 12 · SATCOM 30
Space Domain Awareness 23 · PNT / Navwar 6
Satellite Control 11 · Missile Warning 17
ISR 14 · Electronic Warfare 2
Space Enterprise 111

RISING TERMS · 7D VS PRIOR

Space Force		46 (+15.3)
Golden Dome		15 (+12)
contract		40 (+9)
commercial		47 (+7.1)

BY THE NUMBERS · 7D

Orbital launches 6 (3 PRC, 1 US, 0 failed) · max Kp 5.33
GPS NANUs 0 (0 unusable) · reentries 18 (16 payloads)
Conjunctions < 1 km, next 7 d: 9,439 (7230 active pairs)
Space-Track emergency-reportable CDMs 34, TIP reentries 9 (0 high-interest)

COUNTERSPACE SPOTLIGHT — YAOGAN / PLA ISR CONSTELLATIONS · PRC (PLA) · Yaogan ('remote sensing') EO/SAR/ELINT triplets, Jilin-1 commercial

WHY NOW

Three PRC launches, 23 Oct to 5 Nov, put 10 Yaogan military remote-sensing satellites in LEO (Launch Library).

MENTIONS, 30D · PACOM RELEVANCE



0 this week. Coverage spans the First Island Chain, Guam and the joint force's sea approaches.

CAPABILITIES / TTPS

- Grouped launches: six Yaogan 53/56 sats on one LM-4B (23 Oct)
- Triplet clusters (Yaogan 51, LM-2C) as used for ocean surveillance
- EO, SAR and ELINT families feeding PLA long-range targeting

IMPLICATIONS

- More revisits shrink unobserved movement windows in the Western Pacific.
- Each new group needs 18 SDS custody before it informs counter-ISR plans.

Orbital Warfare

Counterspace threats and space superiority: ASAT tests and weapons, co-orbital a

Space Force chief: Intelligence officials ‘making sure we get lessons learned’ from recent Russian satellite maneuvers near commercial sat

DefenseScoop · 2026-11-04

Gen. Schiess: USSF tracked Kosmos 2612 near ICEYE's SAR sat; IC is taking lessons; weapons disclosure was deterrence.

So what: Russia showed LEO RPO on a commercial SAR sat; PRC could do the same to allied ISR in theater.

Consider: Consider asking S4S for the Kosmos 2612 lessons-learned read-out for theater planners.

SPACECOM · Rendezvous & proximity · Counterspace threat · Russian Aerospace Forces (VKS)

PNT / Navwar

Position, navigation and timing and navigation warfare: GPS constellation status

Director of GPS Innovation Alliance warns of risks to civilians from military testing of jamming and spoofing technologies

DefenseScoop · 2026-11-06

GPSIA says U.S. jamming tests hit civil users; NTSB ties a fatal May crash to GPS loss during White Sands EW tests.

So what: Navwar tests and exercises can spill into civil aviation; theater ranges face the same scrutiny.

Consider: Consider reviewing NOTAM and deconfliction steps for GPS denial events in theater exercises.

NORTHCOM · GNSS interference · Exercises & training · GPS

SATCOM

Military and commercial satellite communications: WGS, MUOS, AEHF/ESS, protected

USSF, in partnership with Golden Dome for America, Expands Multi-Vendor Space Data Network Backbone with Mission Operations Center

Space Systems Command · 2026-11-05

SSC is standing up the SDN Backbone Mission Operations Center; Viasat won an up-to-$450M IDIQ (DefenseScoop).

So what: The MOC will set data-transport priority across vendors; location and theater access not disclosed.

Consider: Consider feeding INDOPACOM transport priorities to SSC's SBST SDN-B program office early.

SPACECOM · Acquisition & contracts · Proliferated LEO · Golden Dome

Space Domain Awareness

Knowing what is on orbit and what the environment is doing: space surveillance a

NASA’s Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory reenters over Western Indonesia

Spaceflight Now · 2026-11-04

NASA's Swift (about 1.6 t) reentered 4 Nov 1239Z near 3N 99E over North Sumatra, inside the USSF 1142-1342Z window, per USSF tracking confirmed by NASA; NASA said some parts may have survived (Spaceflight Now).

So what: An uncontrolled reentry over a theater partner tracked to the predicted window; partners may ask.

Consider: Be aware Indonesia may raise debris questions; 18 SDS TIP products are the record.

PACOM · SPACECOM · Debris & reentry

Pentagon Loans $150M to LeoLabs to Build Ground Radars

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-11-05

DoD's Office of Strategic Capital agreed a conditional $150M loan, matched privately, for LeoLabs to add dozens of radars by 2030; it has sites in NZ, Australia, Hawaii and Alaska (Air & Space Forces Magazine).

So what: More commercial radar in and near the AOR adds LEO custody, including surge capacity under CASR.

Consider: Consider tracking which new LeoLabs sites fall in the AOR and how their data reaches theater SDA.

SPACECOM · PACOM · Commercial integration · Industrial base & supply chain · JCO / commercial SDA

Satellite Control

Flying the constellations: the Satellite Control Network, ground segment and ant

NRO Official Details New Cyber Office With $250M Budget; White House Warns of AI-Speed Attacks

Via Satellite · 2026-11-03

NRO's Cyber Protection Office has 600-plus staff, a $250M annual budget and Space Force Delta 26, and is expanding cyber support to combatant commands, onboarding their priority IT and cyber assets (Via Satellite).

So what: Theater ground and IT assets may be offered centralized NRO cyber protection.

Consider: Be aware of the CPO onboarding path for combatant command priority IT and cyber assets.

CYBERCOM · CENTCOM · Cyber & space systems · Organization & people

ISR

Space-based intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance: tactical ISR from spa

Falcon 9 launches from California on classified mission for U.S. Space Force

Spaceflight Now · 2026-11-06

Falcon 9 launched classified USSF-432 from Vandenberg 7 Nov 0048Z; it is thought to carry Starshield-based satellites (Spaceflight Now). USSF-627 and USSF-317 follow 10 and 13 Nov (Launch Library).

So what: Proliferated classified LEO capacity keeps growing; payload mission is not public.

Consider: Be aware of the launch cadence; mission detail stays at the classified level.

SPACECOM · Launch · Proliferated LEO · Starlink / Starshield

Space Enterprise

The service and the enterprise behind the mission areas: force design and organi

Space Force Chief Eyes Growth in Components to Meet Operational Demand

Air & Space Forces Magazine · 2026-11-04

Gen. Schiess said USSF will add 2,800 Guardians and 2,000 civilians in FY27 if funded, much of it to components, with the CENTCOM, EUCOM, NORTHCOM, AFRICOM and PACOM ones prioritized (Air & Space Forces Magazine).

So what: SPACEPAC is named for growth; size and timing depend on the FY27 budget.

Consider: Consider preparing SPACEPAC manpower and capability priorities for the growth discussion.

PACOM · CENTCOM · Organization & people · Budget & policy

“Blue Tsunami” Puts Democrats in Control of House and Senate Next Year

SpacePolicyOnline · 2026-11-04

Democrats will control the House and Senate next year (SpacePolicyOnline). USSF's $71B FY27 request is in doubt: ~$12B rides on reconciliation unlikely to pass, and a CR bars new starts (A&SF).

So what: New starts and component growth slip while the CR holds; Golden Dome funding is contested.

Consider: Be aware programs that need FY27 new-start authority may slip right.

NORTHCOM · Budget & policy · Missile defense · Golden Dome

Nothing significant this week: Missile Warning · Electronic Warfare

WATCH LIST

- 10-13 Nov: Falcon 9 USSF-627 (10 Nov 0303Z) and USSF-317 (13 Nov 0423Z), Vandenberg, likely Starshield (LL2).
- 11 Nov: ROK ADD Mir first full orbital demo, sea launch 0500Z; Long March 2D, Jiuquan 1140Z (LL2).
- 18 SDS: Fengyun 1B CDM, Pc 4.3e-3, TCA 10 Nov 1223Z; STARLINK-1400 TIP 11 Nov 2032Z, nominal south of NZ.

RECOMMENDATIONS (FOR AWARENESS)

- Consider asking S4S and 18 SDS for custody and pass products on the 10 new Yaogan satellites for counter-ISR planning.
- Recommend reviewing how the SDN Backbone MOC will prioritize INDOPACOM traffic before vendor architecture settles.
- Be aware FY27 component growth and new starts depend on appropriations; consider ranking SPACEPAC needs now.