TO PROTECT & DEFEND THE SPACE DOMAIN

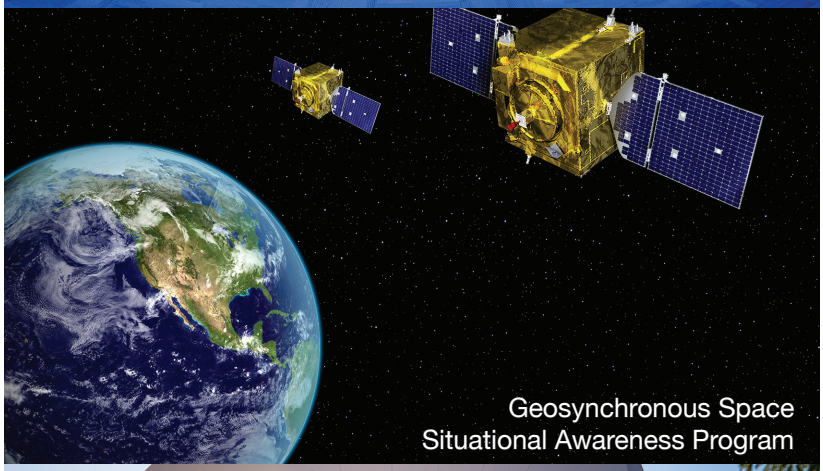
COMMANDER'S VISION

Brig. Gen. Tom James

July 28, 2021

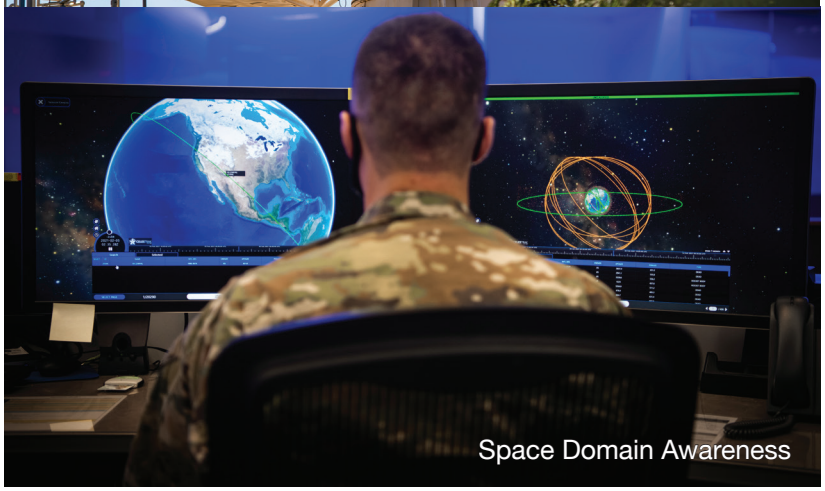
JOINT TASK FORCE-SPACE DEFENSE

National Space Defense Center



Geosynchronous Space Situational Awareness Program

Integrated Sensor Plan



Space Domain Awareness

COMMANDER'S FOREWORD

"Space is a warfighting domain, not because we want it to be, but because our adversaries have seen the advantages space has provided to our way of life and our way of war, and they constantly seek ways to hold our assets at risk." **Gen. James Dickinson, U.S. Space Command commander**

The American way of life is fueled by space. The importance of space to the modern world cannot be overstated. The ultimate high ground has provided the United States with a strategic advantage that must be protected and defended. Should deterrence fail, the combat power generated by our Combined and Joint Force will ensure we prevail.

Today, space is a crucial domain, underpinning all instruments of national power and providing enormous economic, scientific, foreign policy and national security advantages. The United States and its allies have responsibly enjoyed unfettered access to space since the U.S. launched Explorer 1 in 1958, leveraging capabilities and services that empower the world.

Space operations and capabilities have progressed exponentially since the early years of the Space Age, and the rate of progress has accelerated in the last decade. Today, malign competitors have transformed the space domain into a place of competition.

Space is no longer benign, and unfettered access and freedom to operate in space is no longer a given.

Global competitors are working to match and exceed United States' capabilities in space to gain the military, economic and prestige benefits that the world has accrued from our leadership in the domain. More concerning, these competitors have weaponized space in a way that holds U.S. and allied capabilities at risk. In doing so, they have created the most competitive and dangerous space environment in history, turning a once peaceful sanctuary into a warfighting domain.

Joint Task Force-Space Defense is charged with the singular responsibility to protect and defend U.S., allied, and commercial capabilities to ensure there is "never a day without space" for the benefit of humankind.

To this end, our unique command is brimming with bold, innovative, and aggressive masters of orbital warfare, operating shoulder to shoulder with our civilian and intelligence community counterparts in the National Space Defense Center, ready to ensure a secure, stable, and accessible space environment. A team, that if called upon, will fight to maintain space superiority, preserving our modern way of life.

Brigadier General Tom James, U.S. Army
Commander, Joint Task Force-Space Defense

JOINT TASK FORCE-SPACE DEFENSE GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- We are a Warfighting Team, First and Foremost
- We are Ready to Fight Today/Tonight
- We are Advancing Future Capabilities for the Space Domain

Protect and Defend the Space Domain

MISSION
JTF-SD, in unified action with mission partners, deters aggression, defends capabilities, and defeats adversaries throughout the conflict continuum in order to gain and maintain space superiority in the U.S. Space Command area of responsibility.

HOW WE WIN
By providing America and her allies the most capable and versatile space warfighting organization in the world, executed by the most formidable space warriors, armed with superior domain understanding, and readiness to employ space superiority capabilities at the time and place of our choosing.

THREE CORE FUNCTIONS:
SPACE DOMAIN AWARENESS. Effectively identify, characterize and understand any factor, passive or active, associated with the space domain that could affect space operations and thereby impact the security, economy or environment of our nation.

INDICATIONS AND WARNING. Conduct 24/7 space and counter-space system monitoring, identifying threatening and non-threatening activities to issue timely warning to satellite owners and operators.

SPACE SUPERIORITY. When called, protect and defend U.S. and allied interests in space permitting the conduct of operations at the time and place of our choosing.

Additionally, the JTF-SD executes campaign and contingency planning; exercises, experiments and wargames; capability integration and commercial partnering to better understand our area of responsibility.

Joint Task Force-Space Defense
TIMELINE

OCT. 1, 2015
Joint Interagency Combined Space Operations Center Established

APR. 2, 2017
JICSpOC Renamed National Space Defense Center

JAN. 8, 2019
NSDC Transitions to 24/7 Operations

AUG. 29, 2019
U.S. Space Command Established

OCT. 21, 2019
Joint Task Force-Space Defense Establishment Recognized

https://www.schriever.spaceforce.mil/Units/Joint-Task-Force-Space-Defense/

The JTF-SD, and its National Space Defense Center, provide unprecedented unity of effort with the Department of Defense, Intelligence Community and National Reconnaissance Office to protect and defend against threats in the space domain.

The difference between "us" and "them" is not military might, technical advancements or space capabilities – it is our people … each of whom, at any given time, is capable of being the most critical trooper on the battlefield – and when combined with their crewmates, partners and allies – are unmatched in the space domain.

COMMANDER'S INTENT

PURPOSE: JTF-SD will ensure freedom of action for U.S. and coalition assets in the space area of operations across the spectrum of conflict and, when necessary, deny the adversary the same.

KEY TASKS:

- Plan, prepare and conduct Space Superiority Operations.
- Understand the space AOR through dominant Space Domain Awareness (includes space situational awareness and intelligence) to provide indications and warning.
- Develop/enhance partnerships to integrate and synchronize actions for unity of effort across the Whole of Government.
- Develop and integrate doctrine and tactics, techniques and procedures to enhance space as a warfighting domain.
- Recruit, train, develop, promote, retain and care for a uniquely qualified workforce to achieve our space superiority mission.
- Influence the development of, and integrate future space superiority systems, to include mission command systems, across the JTF-SD enterprise.
- Define and request the authorities needed to conduct space superiority missions.

END STATE:
A well-disciplined team, properly manned, trained and equipped with the necessary authorities to conduct space superiority operations; has secured unfettered access and freedom to operate in the space AOR for the U.S. and our strategic partners, and when necessary, deny adversaries the same.