

Pentagon is moving toward establishing Trump’s Space Force

Notes & Cues:	<p><b>Article:</b></p> <p>The Pentagon is moving toward fulfilling President Donald Trump’s request to establish a Space Force, in what would be the first new branch of the military in more than 70 years.</p> <p>In a speech at the Pentagon Thursday at 11:15 a.m., Vice President Mike Pence is scheduled to lay out the administration’s plan.</p> <p>The Pentagon is also expected to release a Congressionally-mandated report on the issue.</p> <p>But the calls for a separate military branch have been met with strong reluctance in some parts of the Pentagon amid concerns that it doesn’t need the burdens of a new bureaucracy.</p> <p>The move could significantly reorganize the military and potentially strip the Air Force of some of its key responsibilities.</p> <p>Congressional approval would be needed to stand up an entirely new military branch.</p> <p>A Space Force, dedicated to space the way the Navy is to the sea, would be the first new military service since the Air Force was created in 1947.</p> <p>But Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said that creating a new combatant command for space, such as one that governs the Pentagon’s Special Operations “is certainly one thing that we can establish.”</p> <p>Military leaders have said repeatedly that modern warfare depends on space.</p> <p>The Pentagon and intelligence community has a host of sensitive satellites that perform all sorts of vital national security tasks, such as missile warning, precision-guided munitions, military communications, intelligence.</p>
Summary:	