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PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Iceberg A-68C Calves from A-68A

24APR2020, Suitland, MD — The U.S. National Ice Center (USNIC) has confirmed that a new iceberg calved from parent iceberg A-68A, currently the world's largest iceberg. The new iceberg A-68C is the second to calve from A-68 and measures 11 nautical miles on its longest axis and 7 nautical miles on its widest axis with an area of approximately 51 square nautical miles. A-68C is located at 60°25' South, 51°06' West at the edge of the Weddell Sea and South Atlantic Ocean in the vicinity of the South Orkney Islands on the Antarctic Peninsula. A-68C was first spotted by Jan Lieser of the Australian Bureau of Meteorology and confirmed by USNIC Master Ice Analyst Christopher Readinger.

Iceberg names are derived from the Antarctic quadrant in which they were originally sighted. The quadrants are divided counter-clockwise in the following manner:

A = 0-90W (Bellingshausen/Weddell Sea) C = 180-90E (Western Ross Sea/Wilkes land)
B = 90W-180 (Amundsen/Eastern Ross Sea) D = 90E-0 (Amery/Eastern Weddell Sea)

When first sighted, an iceberg's point of origin is documented by USNIC. The letter of the quadrant, along with a sequential number, is assigned to the iceberg. For example, D-28 is sequentially the 28th iceberg tracked by the USNIC in Antarctica between 90E-0 (Quadrant D).



Figure 1: Sentinel-1A image from 22 April (2255Z) showing new iceberg A-68A and A-68C. (Sentinel-1 Imagery courtesy of European Space Agency)

To access daily products, weekly products, archival data and much more of USNIC data in various formats, visit the USNIC webpage at: http://www.natice.noaa.gov/Main_Products.htm

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The U.S. National Ice Center is a tri-agency center operated by the Navy, NOAA, and Coast Guard and provides global to tactical scale ice and snow products, ice forecasting, and related environmental intelligence services for the United States government.