

30/08/1997

#### Silverstone's 4x4 expedition

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THE Silverstone TransAfrica 4x4 Expedition will be the world's first large-scale overland journey from the Cape of Good Hope to the Mediterranean Sea, said its organisers.

"The expedition seeks to learn about our African brothers, their land and their history, their cultures and aspirations and in return we hope they will learn from us," said organising chairman Mr George Wong in Shah Alam yesterday.

Foreign Affairs Minister Datuk Seri Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said at the officiation ceremony that he was pleased that Malaysians are keen to participate in the expedition and hopes that it will be successful.

Travelling in a self-contained convoy of 16 four-wheel drives, the expedition will travel through 12 African nations, namely South Africa, Namibia, Botswana, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Sudan and Egypt.

The organisers said the vehicles and equipment will be shipped from Port Klang to Cape Town in October and patron of the expedition, Prime Minister Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, is expected to hand over the Malaysian flag to the expedition in a ceremonial send-off in November.

The expedition, which will be flagged off by South Africa's President Nelson Mandela on December 1 at Cape Town, is expected to finish in Cairo on January 1998, traversing some 17,000km over 33 days.

Also present was Silverstone Bhd's director and adviser to the expedition General Tan Sri Zain Hashim.

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