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SPORTS: MALIK BEGINS ENGLISH CHANNEL SWIM

By: Asan Ahmad

DOVER, Aug 3 (Bernama) -- Malaysia's marathon swimmer Abdul Malik Mydin began his swim across the 32.8km-wide English Channel at 2.08am local time (9.08am Malaysian time) today.

The 28-year-old began his swim from Abbots Cliff Beach, about 10km from Dover Marine Base here, 12 days after his first scheduled attempt.

Abdul Malik's swim will be monitored by the Channel Swimming and Piloting Federation (CSPF) officials on board the Aegean Blue, piloted by Michael Oram who is the CSPF honorary secretary.

Abdul Malik is expected to reach Cape Gris Nez in Calais, France within 14 hours.

Among those at the starting point to cheer him on were Malaysian Student Affairs Department Director Datuk Kamaruddin Mohd Nor, Seberang Prai Utara District Officer Datuk Abdul Ghani Ariffin and officials from the Malaysian High Commission.

At 1.36am local time, Abdul Malik received a personal note from Datuk Seri Dr Mahathir Mohamad, wishing him success.

-- BERNAMA
AHA MFJ ZUL