

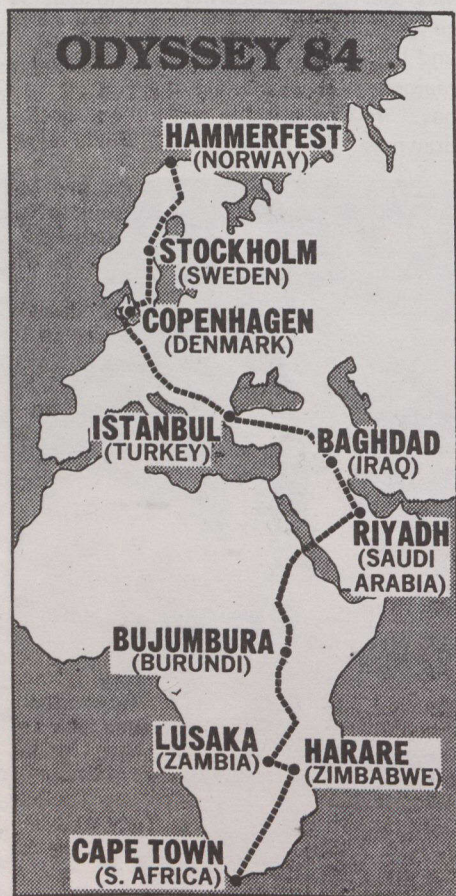
Africa to Arctic odyssey

Two 33-year-old Canadians are setting out to establish a world record by driving from Cape Agulhas at the southern tip of South Africa to Nordkapp, Norway, the most northern point of Europe.

The two men — Kenneth Langley and Gary Sowerby, a professional engineer and former Canadian Forces pilot — have known each other since they were undergraduate students at Mount Allison University in New Brunswick. Their friendship was cemented in Ottawa in the 1970s, when Mr. Langley was working for a member of Parliament and Mr. Sowerby, an Armed Forces officer, was stationed in the capital.

This is not their first such expedition. In 1980 they circled the globe from east to west in 74 days setting a record for the fastest around-the-world trip by car. They then planned to take part in a Peking-to-Paris race which fell through last year.

But, bitten by the adventure of their first trip, they decided to sell the *Guinness Book of World Records* on another idea: a Cape-to-Cairo record trip. They



Map shows route of two Canadian travellers.

went to England to present the idea to the Guinness people and were countered with another: they proposed the trip from the southernmost tip of Africa to the northernmost tip of Europe. The Canadians agreed and mapped out their trip through East Africa, across the Red Sea, around the Mediterranean via Yemen, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Iraq and Turkey, into Europe through Greece and due north.

Their trip will cover some 21 000 kilometres and they are expected to reach their destination in about 25 days.

Nova Scotia boasts innovative travel service

When Jim Myles started making travel and accommodation arrangements for 9 500 conventioners attending the Canadian Offshore Resources Exhibition in Halifax, Nova Scotia last fall, he shunned private travel agencies and the convention bureau.

Jim Myles called a Nova Scotia Crown corporation, Check In Ltd., which handled travel, car rental and accommodation for the entire convention.

"The people there are very good," he said. "There is no other city that I know of in North America that has this set-up."

Check Inns, which stands for Check In Nova Scotia, is a province-wide information system, administered by the Tourism Industry Association of Nova Scotia and financed partly by the provincial Department of Tourism.

Although most of its business is aimed at tourists from throughout North America, 10 per cent of all reservations handled by the corporation are from business travellers. They book everything from airplane seats to hotel rooms by calling the system's toll-free lines, which are available throughout Canada and the United States, director Gordon Stewart said.

For its services, Check Inns reaps the standard travel agent's fee of 10 per cent. But unlike most agencies, it does not collect for customers who do not show up.

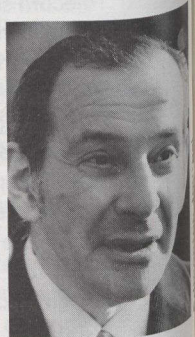
Check Inns has contracts with the provincial tourism department and with Canadian Pacific Air Lines Ltd. of Vancouver and Eastern Provincial Airways Ltd. of Gander, Newfoundland, to provide custom mailings of tourist and convention information.

The system lists more than 90 per cent of the province's hotel rooms, in 290 hotels and motels, 80 campgrounds, 20 car rental companies and CP Air and EPA.

It also provides restaurant information and lists coming events. Five hotels have already signed up for the system, which "starts when the guest walks in the door".

Physicist awarded Killam Prize

Dr. Werner Israel of the department of physics at the University of Alberta has received the 1984 Izaak Walton Killam Memorial Prize, worth \$50 000, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to the theory of general relativity and its applications in theoretical physics and astrophysics.



Dr. Werner Israel

Dr. Werner Israel's researches into general relativity and gravitation have been internationally acclaimed as landmark in theoretical physics. He is best known for his proof of the uniqueness of static black holes and his contributions to the concept of the event horizon. As the result of his work and follow-up theorems developed by other researchers we now have a full mathematical description of the black holes which exist in the distant universe.

Dr. Israel's work on relativistic shock waves and continuity equations is also well known, as are his studies of relativistic kinetic theory, in which he has investigated the thermodynamics of black holes and the theory of spinning objects. He also has done important research into gravitational collapse, the thermodynamics of non-stationary processes, relativistic thermodynamics, and the theory of polarization. At present he is studying non-equilibrium statistical mechanics in general relativity.

Dr. Israel was educated at the University of Cape Town and Trinity College, Dublin, where he received a Ph.D. in mathematics. He has taught at the University of Alberta since 1958. He has served as a visiting professor in universities and institutes in the Republic of Eire, France, the United States, Britain and Switzerland.