

# NEWS RELEASE

NEW COLLEGE

SARASOTA, FLORIDA 33578

813/355-7131

1 - 186 - 5/7/68

Ref.: Furman Arthur

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

SARASOTA--An explanation of the Middle East crisis and the hopes for a peace settlement there will be given by a former newspaper correspondent at New College Friday, 7 p.m. in Hamilton Center.

James Batal of Coral Gables, now a resident lecturer for the Arab Information Center, will talk on "The Middle East Crisis--What Hope for Peace" before students. The lecture also is open to the public.

Batal's first contact with the Middle East came in 1943-44 as a researcher-writer with the U.S. Office of War Information in Cairo. Later, he returned as lecturer at the American University in Beirut, Lebanon and made another trip to do a research project in Egypt.

Three books bear Batal's imprint as author. His first, as a co-author with Dr. Ralph Linton, was "Most of the World," and was published by Columbia University Press. He also wrote "Your Newspaper" and "Assignment: Near East."

Batal was graduated from Amherst College, and spent a year at Harvard University as the winner of a Nieman Fellowship in journalism.

A question and answer period will follow the talk.