

Student From Jordan Likes N.C., People

By GEORGE JOHNSON
Writes for the AP

MOUNT OLIVE (AP) — Nidal Qubein, whose family lives about a half mile from the site where Jesus was caught before the crucifixion, is one of three foreign students at Mount Olive Junior College.

Qubein, a freshman at the state's only Free Will Baptist college, lives almost within site of the original Mount of Olives for which Mount Olive College was named.

Qubein, 18, graduated from high school last spring in his hometown of Jerusalem. While in high school he was a writer for three English language newspapers published in Jerusalem. He also was an announcer for a Jerusalem radio station.

Other activities included president and secretary of 22 clubs in high school and a representative of Episcopal youth activities in Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. During the summer months, Qubein was a lecturer for the King Kong group outside Jordan. He returned about Jordan, the Holy Land and Arab heritage.

Fund Qubein, a brother in Wilmington, was partially responsible for Nidal selecting Mount Olive College. Since the family lives near the Mount of Olives, the brother thought it would be appropriate to begin his college education at the school bearing his name.

Qubein has been promised a full scholarship at Duke University in Durham if his grades are good enough at Mount Olive College. He plans to major in business administration.

Asked about his first impressions of the United States, Qubein said the country is quite beautiful and the hospitality is wonderful. He says people respect each other, something not found in every country of the world.

"So far, I am very happy here," he said. "Everyone at the college seems very willing to help me. This is a good reflection on the country."

While this is his first visit to the United States, Qubein already knows much about the country through his association with Americans in Jordan, Lebanon and Syria.

A brother in Wilmington received his B.S. degree from Duke and his master's degree in engineering from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Another brother, Ghazi, received his degree in electrical engineering from Duke and returned to Jordan about two years ago.

Many other relatives attended colleges in the United States where they received degrees as doctors, engineers and administrators. An uncle, Nabil Qubein, is a bishop of the Episcopal Church in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon.

The other foreign students at Mount Olive College this year are Nabil Yamazaki, 18, of Tokyo and Nitya Bunnag, 17, of Bangkok.

Miss Yamazaki graduated last spring from a high school in Madison, Wis. She came South to learn more about the culture, ways of life and thinking of Southerners. She also wanted to attend a small junior college and selected Mount Olive.

Miss Bunnag is the daughter of Lt. Gen. and Mrs. Lamsak Lamsakham of Bangkok. She attended a high school in New York for two years and graduated last spring. She also was looking for a small college in a southern state.

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NIDAL QUBEIN

From Nov. 7, 1966, Durham Sun, found under Nidal Qubein search



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