Secret Service finds little humor in ad

A joke advertisement, seeking volunteers to assassinate President-elect Ronald Reagan, may land some U. of Massachusetts-Amherst students in trouble.

The advertisement was placed in the student newspaper, the Daily Collegian, before the election. It noted that a hit squad was being formed, with Reagan as its target, and sought volunteers. The ad was originally signed "J. Carter," but the newspaper deleted that signature in keeping with its policy of not running last names in classified ads. "The people in our business office did

that," says Daily Collegian News Editor Richard Nagle. "They are the only ones who go over the ads."

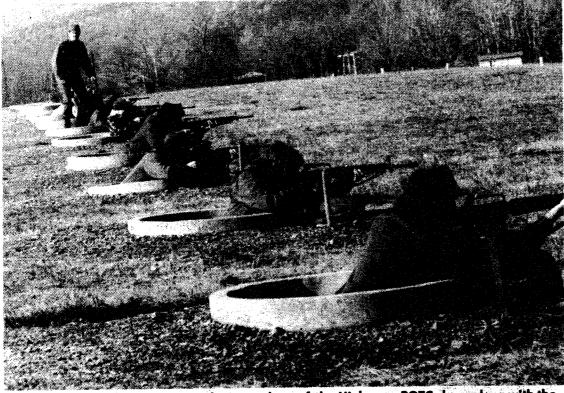
Without the signature, the ad's humorous intention was less obvious, Nagle admits. It was taken seriously enough that the Secret Service and an Assistant U.S. Attorney in Springfield, Mass., investigated the ad and its origins. That investigation included a subpoena of Daily Collegian advertising records, according to

an Associated Press account.

The subpoena was issued to Robert Stein, editor-in-chief of

the newspaper. Stein was unavailable for comment, but Nagle says he believes the records were turned over in accordance with the subpoena. Stein had refused other Secret Service telephone requests for information about who placed the ads "because it is the policy of our paper to respect the confidentiality of our advertisers," he told the AP.

Secret Service officials say they are trying to determine if the ad broke federal laws protecting the president-elect from assassination threats.



On a recent weekend in November, members of the Highacres ROTC class, along with the Schuylkill Haven class, participated in a joint training mission to Fort Indiantown Gap. While at the National Guard base, the class members were taught how to fire the Army's M-16 rifle. Shown here are the cadets (Hazleton in foreground) demonstrating the skills which they learned. (Photo by Bob Kiefer)

They're saying on campus...

Campus newspapers reacted sharply to the recent election of Ronald Reagan as President:

...the victory for the new conservatism and 'the return to sound policies' as the Syracuse Post-Standard called it, may prove detrimental to the poor, the elderly, women and students.

'Reagan's promise to 'get government off your back' may spell doom for the minimum wage, social programs and regulations that protect the public from exploitation by business.

"...Reagan's desire to return to simpler times by reducing government spending is an impossibility. Our society has grown more complex in the last 50 years. Small businesses are being swallowed up by multinational corporations. And in order to control a large multinational which is constantly marketing new products, you need large regulatory agencies to protect the public '

- Editorial by Monica Roman in the Syracuse U. Daily Orange.

"I hope he dies in office. I really don't like it." - George Washington U. freshman Adam Frix, quoted in the Hatchet.

"The 1980 presidential election will be remembered as the night the cream of American politics rose to the top and turned rancid upon contact with the light of day."

 Opinion page statement in U. of California-Berkley Daily Californian.

"...Simply put, Reagan has four years to stop inflation, increase employment, solve the nation's energy problems and improve foreign relations. He has his most important role upcoming in this term. If he has not achieved relative success, he will have to do the best acting job of his life to retain the presidency.

"...Reagan deserves the same kind of opportunity Carter received, but nothing more."

- Editorial in the Ball State U. Daily News.

"The Reagan administration should resist conservative pressure to implement divisive, reactionary policies against imagined foes. It is the host of real problems, economic and otherwise, that constitutes the greatest threat to this nation's internal security."

Editorial by Randy Scholfield in the U. of Iowa Daily lowan.

