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BOSTON, SEPT. 23 (AP)-A THREAT TO SHOOT SEN. BARRY GOLDWATER WITH A RIFLE WAS REPORTED TO POLICE TODAY, THE EVE OF THE REPUBLICAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE'S APPEARANCE IN BOSTON FOR A MAJOR CAMPAIGN SPEECH.

JAMES HIGGINS, A SUFFOLK COUNTY COORDINATOR IN THE ARIZONA SENATOR'S CAMPAIGN, SAID HE RECEIVED WORD OF THE THREAT FROM A MILDRED SWAN, OF THE BROCKTON GOLDWATER HEADQUARTERS.

HIGGINS SAID SHE WAS INFORMED BY A GEORGE LAWN OF RANDOLPH, THAT HE HAD OVERHEARD A CONVERSATION BETWEEN TWO MEN IN A BROCKTON PARKING LOT. HIGGINS SAID THE REPORT TO HIM QUOTED ONE OF THE TWO MEN AS SAYING HE INTENDED "TO SHOOT GOLDWATER WITH A RIFLE."

LAWN WAS DESCRIBED AS A GOLDWATER VOLUNTEER.

THE CALL WAS TAKEN AT BOSTON POLICE HEADQUARTERS BY SGT. DAVID S. SILVERMAN OF THE DETECTIVE BUREAU WHO TURNED IT OVER TO HIS SUPERIORS. BROCKTON IS ABOUT 28 MILES FROM BOSTON AND RANDOLPH ABOUT 15. CB720PED