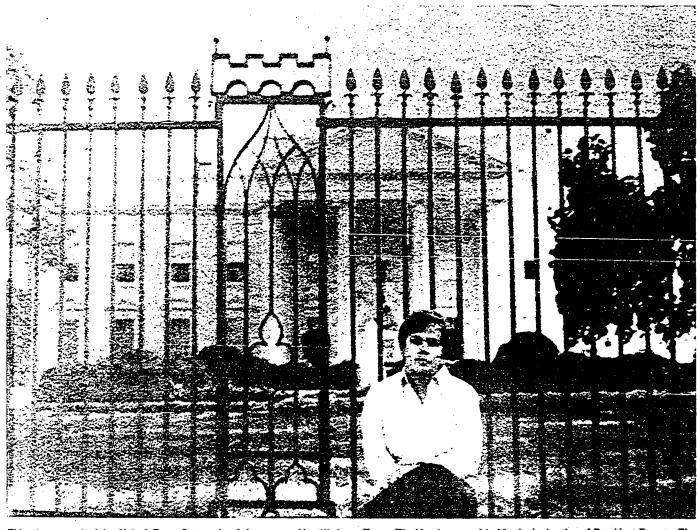
Jodie Foster Tells Of Fear in Learning About Hinckley Tie

JOHN HARRIS; DIANE BROZEK Courant Staff Writers

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ProQuest Historical Newspapers Hartford Courant (1764 - 1984)



This photo acquired by United Press International from an unidentified source shows John W. Hinckley Jr. seated on a ledge in front of the White

House. Hinckley is accused in Monday's shooting of President Reagan. The photo is undated, but believed to have been taken within the last year.

## Jodie Foster Tells Of Fear in Learning About Hinckley Tie.

By JOHN HARRIS and DIANE BROZEK Courant Staff Writers

NEW HAVEN — Actress Jodie Foster did not realize the man charged with trying to assassinate President Reagan was the young man who had been sending her fan letters until her roommate shook her and said, "Remember John W. Hinckley?"

Ten minutes later, her dean at Yale College, where she is a freshman, called and asked her to meet with the FBI, Foster said Wednesday.

And then, several hours after Reagan was shot Monday outside the Washington Hilton, the 18-year-old actress realized she was a key to the fantasies of a man charged with trying to kill the president. NEW HAVEN-- Actress Jodie Fos-

kill the president.

"I was really scared, very scared," she told a small group of reporters invited to Yale's Calhoun College Wednesday. "I have tried to be as clear and precise about this. I must admit I

and precise about this. I must admit I was pretty jumpy yesterday."
Until Monday, 25-year-old John W. Hinckley Jr. was just one of the many male admirers who wrote love letters to Foster, who is best known for her role as a pre-teen prostitute in the film "Taxi Driver."

Foster never met Hinckley and had thrown away most of his letters. Shocked at FBI speculation that Hinckley might have shot Reagan to win her love, she dropped out of sight Tucsday, avoiding reporters who camped out near her dormitory, her dining room and her classes.

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But Wednesday, in the wood-paneled living room of Calhoun College, Foster told reporters she is confident she was not responsible for Hinckley's obsession and that none of his letters implied he would do anything violent or foretold Monday's attack in which

Reagan and three others were wound-

Law enforcement officials searching Hinckley's Washington hotel room found an unmailed letter to Foster. Justice Department sources said the letter described his plans to shoot Rea-gan and said, "I'm going to do it for

you."
The sources said investigators believe Hinckley was "infatuated with Foster and wanted to do something that would attract her attention."
Some authorities believe Hinckley was acting out part of "Taxi Driver," in which a character played by actor Robert De Niro plots to kill a political candidate to prove his love.
Foster said Wednesday she received letters from Hinckley in September and March. She threw out the first letters, but gave the latest ones to a col-

and March. She threw out the first letters, but gave the latest ones to a college administrator because they were more frequent and more persistent than normal fan mail.

Yale gave the letters to campus police, who turned them over to the FBI, Foster said. The FBI called her to its New Haven office Monday night and Tuesday and cautioned her against releasing details of the letters or saying how they were delivered.

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Foster said Wednesday she was not aware that Hinckley was in New Haven in early March. There have been some reports he was in the city last

month.

She also told reporters that the press conference would be their only chance to talk with her about the Hinckley case. She wants to return to the quiet college life she has made for herself at Yale.

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JODIE FOSTER Threw Away Love Letters



JOHN W. HINCKLEY JR. As a Neo-Nazi in 1978

## Actress 'Scared' by Link To Suspect in Shooting

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"I know it won't cause any major change in my life on campus because I know the people here accept me," she said. "I think the greatest thing about Yale is that people are intelligent enough... to know that I'm one of the boys and that whatever happens it was nothing personal."

The actress brushed off reporters and photographers when she arrived at Yale last fall, telling them she did not want publicity. Her first test, before Monday's shooting, was the off-campus opening last week of "Getting Out," a prison drama in which Foster plays an angry young prostitute who is in jail for killing a cab driver.

In a rare interview, granted after the play's opening night, Foster discussed her role as a pre-teen prostitute in "Taxi Driver."

"You really ought to see it," she told the interviewer. "It's a good movie."

Hinckley underwent psychiatric tests Wednesday despite objections from his new attorney, a partner of Edward Bennett Williams, a prominent criminal lawyer.

The tests were conducted at the Quantico, Va., Marine base, where Hinckley has been kept in isolation since his arrest Monday at the scene of the shooting.

The tests were to determine whether Hinckley, the son of a wealthy Denver oilman, is mentally competent to face trial on charges of attempted murder of the president and assault on a Secret Service agent.