

The Assassin Kit

by James Collins

The receptionist was very smart and alert. She had transferred in from one of the manufacturing facilities and was on her way up to being an executive secretary. The telephone call was unusual. The person on the other end indicated they were unable to order their desired product as no one was answering the phone. The receptionist asked, "What was the name of the product you wished to purchase." He replied, "The assassin kit."

In all her years of the company the receptionist had never heard of this product and wanted to help the potential customer. She asked him where he had seen the product advertised and he answered, "Soldier of Fortune magazine." This was not a magazine that our company placed ads in. She then asked, "Could you please tell us the month of publication for that magazine and the page, if you have it, so that we can notify marketing and we will then get back to you and let you know the availability of that product.

He replied, "I have it right here. It was in the November issue on page 56."

She said, "Thank you very much."

The receptionist then obtained the customer's phone number and his name and promised that someone would call him back. Then she notified her manager and related this unusual phone call. The manager in turn, repeated the information to the general manager who immediately sent someone out to a local store to purchase the magazine. They returned about an hour later. There on the identified page was an ad for an assassin kit listing the company phone number and the extension for the library. This immediately identified the employee who placed the ad and was illegally using the company's phones for advertising. The kit, according to the ad, consisted of a suitcase shaped briefcase with a hole drilled for a bore mounted laser. Further, it had a trigger mechanism and the mountings for various types of pistols. The ad was specific that no pistol was included but that the person who purchased the kit could install their own gun. Needless to say the employee was fired within the hour; receptionists were notified to refer all calls for such a product and for that extension to the security department. No assassin kits were ever manufactured or sold by the company. The employee never received any type of recommendation.

THE END