

ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF
Federal Building
U.S. Courthouse



RENAMING CEREMONY

Hartford, Connecticut
September 14, 1981
12:00 Noon

RONALD REAGAN
President of the United States

GERALD P. CARMEN
Administrator of General Services

ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF, lifelong resident of Connecticut, was born in New Britain and educated in its public schools, graduating from the University of Chicago Law School, cum laude, in 1933. He was admitted to the bar and practiced law in Hartford. He now resides in Cornwall Bridge.

Elected to the General Assembly in 1938, he began a public career unique in the annals of Connecticut and American history: Legislator, Judge, Congressman, Governor, Secretary in the Cabinet of President John F. Kennedy, and three terms as United States Senator until his retirement in 1981.

As Governor of Connecticut, he will be remembered for his leadership in mending the havoc of the floods of 1955, saving lives with his highway safety program, court reform, elimination of county government, government reorganization and efficiency, together with advances in the overall fields of education and health.

As Senator, he was Chairman of the Governmental Affairs Committee, a member of the Finance Committee, Chairman of the Subcommittee on International Trade, a member of the Joint Committee on Taxation, Joint Economic Committee, Senate Ethics Committee, and a member of the United States Delegation to the United Nations and the Multilateral Trade Negotiations in Geneva, Switzerland. He was in the forefront of a responsible Foreign Policy, expanded international trade, government reform and efficiency, improved health services and educational opportunities. His leadership led to the enactment and establishment of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Department of Transportation, the Department of Energy and the Department of Education, and the reform of the Civil Service System.

Senator Ribicoff holds honorary degrees from twenty-eight colleges and universities. He is the author of three books.

Abe Ribicoff is Special Counsel to the law firm of Kaye, Scholer, Fierman, Hays & Handler in their New York and Washington, D.C. offices.

PROGRAM

Prelude Music	102nd Army Band, Connecticut Army National Guard
Master of Ceremonies	LAWRENCE F. BRETТА, Regional Administrator of General Services
Presentation of Colors	National Guard Color Guard The National Anthem
Invocation	RABBI HAROLD S. SILVER, Beth Israel Synagogue, West Hartford, Connecticut
Greetings of the City	THE HONORABLE GEORGE ATHANSON, Mayor of Hartford
Greetings of the State	THE HONORABLE WILLIAM A. O'NEILL, Governor of Connecticut
Remarks	THE HONORABLE JON J. NEWMAN, U.S. Court of Appeals THE HONORABLE CHRISTOPHER J. DODD, U.S. Senator, Connecticut THE HONORABLE LOWELL P. WEICKER, U.S. Senator, Connecticut
Members of Congress	THE HONORABLE LAWRENCE DeNARDIS THE HONORABLE SAMUEL GEJDENSON THE HONORABLE STEWART B. McKINNEY
Introduction of Honored Guest	THE HONORABLE GERALD P. CARMEN, Administrator of General Services
Response	THE HONORABLE ABRAHAM A. RIBICOFF, Former U.S. Senator, Connecticut
Benediction	REVEREND GEORGE DYER, Christ the King Church, Bloomfield, Connecticut
	Ribbon Cutting



Today the Abraham A. Ribicoff Federal Building and U.S. Courthouse is being named for one of Connecticut's foremost citizens. The building was completed and dedicated in 1963 as part of the General Services Administration's efforts to consolidate Federal agencies in one central site.

The building forms a modified "U" with a seven-story rectangular main section and two two-story balancing wings projecting at right angles. The brick exterior is highlighted by marble and granite, conforming with the exterior surface of the Hartford Public Library, across Sheldon Street. The open area between the two wings, facing Main Street, provides a courtyard with flagpole, benches, plantings, and patterned paving.

Housed in the building are employees of the following Federal agencies: Office of Personnel Management, Health and Human Services, Drug Enforcement Administration, Department of Commerce, Veterans Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal District Courts, and Congressional Offices. The General Services Administration maintains and operates the building.