

Building Renamed in Ribicoff's Honor

The Hartford Courant (1923-1992); Sep 15, 1981; ProQuest Historical Newspapers: Hartford Courant
pg. B2A



Henry A. Kissinger, former U.S. secretary of state, obliges autograph-seekers while in Hartford for a ceremony at which the federal building at 450 Main St. was renamed in



COURANT PHOTOS BY TONY BACEWICZ

honor of former Gov. and U.S. Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff. At right, Ribicoff, who retired this year, speaks. City, state and federal officials attended the ceremony.

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Politicians, judges and passersby paid tribute to former Sen. Abraham A. Ribicoff Monday during a ceremony in which the federal building at 450 Main St. was renamed in his honor.

The 71-year-old former judge, governor, and congressman heard words of praise from Gov. O'Neill, Mayor Athanson and U.S. Sens. Christopher J. Dodd, D-Conn., his successor, and Lowell P. Weicker, R-Conn., his Senate colleague for eight years.

It was Weicker who introduced the bill naming the building in honor of Ribicoff, who retired from the Senate this year.

"When it comes time to sing Abe Ribicoff's praises," Weicker said in a prepared statement read to the audience, "the chorus will never lack for voices."

Jon O. Newman, a 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals judge who was special counsel to Ribicoff when he was

governor and an aide in Washington, said naming the federal building for the state's senior Democratic statesman is "permanent evidence of the American dream."

Among those attending the ceremony were former Secretary of State Henry A. Kissinger and members of the state's congressional delegation.

The federal building houses Hartford's U.S. District Court and the local offices of several federal agencies.