

REMARKS OF HONORABLE JOHN E. FOGARTY, M.C., 2nd DISTRICT OF  
RHODE ISLAND, AT DEDICATION OF NEW AIR FORCE RECRUITING  
SERVICE QUARTERS, ROOM 206, CUSTOM HOUSE BUILDING, PROVIDENCE,  
RHODE ISLAND, DECEMBER 13, 1956.

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I appreciate the honor extended to me this morning  
in permitting me to represent the people of Rhode Island at  
these ceremonies.

The State of Rhode Island has always had a warm and  
affectionate spot in its heart for the United States Air Force.  
And this is as it should be. As of this moment, there are  
over 5,000 residents of this State actively serving in the  
Air Force. Five thousand of our families have contributed  
members to this proud service and have thus welded strong links  
and intimate attachment to it. I'm told that the record shows  
that on a percentage basis Rhode Island, the smallest state in  
the union, is one of the leading States in supplying personnel  
to this branch of our armed forces. We are justly proud of  
that record.

Much of the credit for this fine achievement should go to the local Recruitment Office. The Providence office, ably headed by Sergeant John Hehir (Hare) under the supervision of Sergeant Paul Bernard, has done an excellent job in personnel procurement. Over the years it has become an active and integral part of our community. It has rightfully earned the respect of those of us who have come in contact with it, and all of its staff deserves to be commended. An indication of the efficiency with which it operates is the fact that this office has exceeded its scheduled objectives in each of the months of this fiscal year to date. Because of such greatly increased activity it lately became necessary for the Service to enlarge its facilities. This they have now done by moving to larger quarters, and it is in connection with this that we are gathered here this morning.

December is a particularly appropriate time for the Recruitment Service to make its move. This month has been

designated as "Women in the Air Force" month by official proclamation of Governor Dennis J. Roberts. It is also the month for the inauguration of a "Little Rhody Flight" for the WAF and the beginning of a recruitment drive for a special fifty man flight which is to leave for active service in January.

As the representative of the people of Rhode Island, it gives me a great deal of pleasure to officially welcome the Air Force Recruiting Service to its new quarters here in the Custom House Building. As such a representative I have been asked to cut the ribbon and formally dedicate this new office. It is my sincere wish - as I am sure it is the wish of all the people of Rhode Island - that in cutting this ribbon we open the way for the enlargement of recruiting activities by this branch of service so dear to all of us in Rhode Island - the United States Air Force. May your future efforts meet with the greatest good fortune.