

Let me repeat that Maryland is proud to have this Coast Guard installation here. And may I say once more that I am honored to be present at this commissioning ceremony.

ADDRESS, MARYLAND STATE POLICE GRADUATION

PIKESVILLE

December 12, 1963

Col. Jarman, Mr. Backhaus, Reverend Mr. Lundberg, distinguished guests and ladies and gentlemen:

These ceremonies today have provided me, as Governor of the State of Maryland, with a most unique opportunity. Not only have I been accorded the delightful privilege of addressing the 70 graduates of this 51st recruit class here at the State Police Academy, but I also have the opportunity of participating in exercises dedicating a new gymnasium and training pool. The more I think about this, the more convinced I become that it was wise idea, indeed, to combine both exercises. We have here a classic illustration of how the State can combine its physical and human resources for the protection and well-being of all its citizens. By providing you with the best instruction available in the field of law enforcement and then furnishing you with the facilities necessary to train for your chosen profession all the citizens of Maryland benefit. It cost the State of Maryland more than \$310,000 to build the new gymnasium and training pool. But if their construction will make your job of saving lives, apprehending criminals and patrolling our highways easier, then it was, indeed, a wise investment.

Apart from the physical facilities which we here are dedicating today, however, let me be the first to point out to you that the State of Maryland has a much greater investment to consider. That investment, of course, is you. You gentlemen are embarking on what I am confident will be long and successful careers in law enforcement. When you receive your diplomas today, each of you will be joining an experienced law enforcement department that has gained nationwide recognition for excellence and proficiency. You will be joining a law enforcement department that performs a great deal more than highway patrol. Some of your colleagues will be expert scuba divers, others will be proficient in aviation, still others will be polygraph operators or members of the K-9 corps. You will encounter experts in the various fields of law enforce-