



**JEWES HAIL CLINTON'S CHOICE OF GORE, CITING HIS STRONG RECORD ON ISRAEL**

By Cynthia Mann  
States News Service

WASHINGTON, July 9 (JTA) -- Jewish leaders say that installing U.S. Sen. Albert Gore (D-Tenn.) in the No. 2 spot on the Democratic ticket will boost Arkansas Gov. Bill Clinton's bid for the presidency, especially among Jewish voters.

They say Gore, who waged an unsuccessful presidential campaign in 1988, is a known quantity with a proven track record on issues of importance to the Jewish community, including a strong U.S.-Israel relationship.

Gore's strengths, particularly in foreign policy and the environment, are expected to complement Clinton's, and will help deliver Democrats the Southern states that have been traditional Republican strongholds and are rich in electoral votes. Meanwhile, Gore and Clinton's relative youth will bolster their claim that they are the answer to the voters' call for change. Gore is 44 and Clinton is 45.

"It is a great choice for the party and the country," said Sen. Joseph Lieberman (D-Conn.), who described Gore as a close friend. "He is extraordinarily able and principled," said the senator, who himself had been mentioned as a possible running mate.

Lieberman half-jokingly called Gore a "very Jewish candidate." Besides being a strong friend of Israel, he said, there is a "congruence" of views between Gore and Jews on what kind of country this should be, from economic justice to privacy rights.

"He'll be a big plus," said Lewis Roth, spokesman for the National Jewish Democratic Council. "He is a dynamic, Southern moderate who is a (leader) on foreign policy and environmental issues. And from a purely political point of view, he gives Clinton security. He's been through this process and there will be no bombshells.

"He's very pro-Israel and has a terrific record with the community," Roth added.

**'Always Been There For Us'**

"He makes a very strong candidate," said Robert Lifton, president of the American Jewish Congress. "He's young, he's committed to eliminating environmental problems and he's very, very supportive of the U.S.-Israel relationship. He's always been there for us."

"Jews will go to the ballot box (to vote Democratic) with a great comfort level," said a top Jewish organizer who requested anonymity.

Gore has consistently voted for U.S. aid to Israel and was a co-sponsor of the proposal to grant guarantees for \$10 billion in loans sought by Israel. He has close ties to pro-Israel groups in Tennessee and on the national level. He made his first visit to Israel in 1986 on a trip sponsored by the Anti-Defamation League.

Gore found himself in the middle of a storm during the New York state primary in 1988, when, as an underdog, he won the endorsement of then-Mayor Ed Koch over Michael Dukakis, the party's eventual nominee. Koch praised Gore for his commitment to Israel and to American cities.

But Koch came under fire for saying that

Jews would be crazy to vote for the Rev. Jesse Jackson, who was also running in the primary. He was criticized by those who charged that a vote for Gore would weaken Dukakis and translate into a boon for Jackson.

Koch's endorsement backfired on Gore, who dropped out of the race not long after a stinging defeat in New York.

Jackson, meanwhile, has reacted coolly to the Gore selection, saying two moderates make the ticket imbalanced.

Gore was a key organizer of the first National Jewish Leadership Conference on the Environment, held in March, where he made "a major impact," according to Rabbi David Saperstein, director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism and coordinator of the conference.

He also has drawn national notice for a particularly impassioned speech advocating force in the Persian Gulf last year, a stance that placed him at odds with his party's leadership. After the war, he took President Bush to task for abandoning the Kurds.

**Moderate On Security Issues**

Gore learned politics at the knee of his father, former Sen. Albert Gore Sr. He served in the army in Vietnam, was a reporter in Nashville while attending divinity school at night, and first ran for Congress in 1976.

In the House, Gore was thought of as bright and thoughtful, particularly in science and arms control, and in 1984 he ran successfully for a Senate seat after Howard Baker retired.

In the Senate, he has worked primarily on space, science, environmental and defense issues. He is socially liberal but decidedly moderate when it comes to national security.

Clinton hailed Gore as a "leader of great strength, integrity and stature" who "has what it takes to lead this nation from the day we take office."

By all appearances, Clinton may find Gore as much of a soulmate as a running mate. "We won't just be sharing the ticket," he said. "We will be sharing values of hard work, faith and family."

Gore, Clinton said, is "a father who, like me, loves his children" and "shares my hunger to turn this country around." Both, he noted, are married to two of the nation's top advocates for children.

Gore's wife, Mary Elizabeth, better known as "Tipper," is best known for her campaign to get music companies to label records with songs containing offensive lyrics. Hilary Clinton is a prominent attorney and board member of the Children's Defense Fund, a national children's advocacy group.

Gore had rejected the idea of running for the presidency this year, citing family considerations. He is the father of four children.

Now, however, Gore appears ripe for the fall campaign.

"This ticket gives our country the best chance for the change we so desperately need to move forward again," he said.

Gore's presence on the ticket is expected to blunt claims by the Republican campaign that only a Bush-Quayle ticket represents "family values."

## JEWISH DEMOCRATS WILL BACK CLINTON, REPUBLICANS WILL DEFECT, SURVEY SAYS

By Cynthia Mann  
States News Service

WASHINGTON, July 9 (JTA) -- Most Jewish Republicans are poised to defect to independent presidential candidate Ross Perot, while most Jewish Democrats are solidly behind Democrat Bill Clinton, according to a new study commissioned by the National Jewish Democratic Council.

The survey also found Jewish Democrats more concerned with abortion rights than Democrats overall and opposed in greater numbers to the confirmation of Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas.

The study determined that Jewish Democrats are well educated, relatively affluent, largely liberal and deeply concerned about jobs and the economy. It also indicated they vote in disproportionately high numbers. While Jews represent 2.4 percent of the nation's overall population, they accounted for 6 percent of the Democratic voters surveyed in exit polls.

The report represents the first systematic profile of Jewish voters in this election cycle. It measured voting preferences in the presidential contest and in key Senate races, and analyzed priorities and demographics.

Voter Research and Surveys, which conducted the survey, based its data on primary exit polling done more than a month ago. But the study's sponsors claim the data are still meaningful despite the fluidity of the unusual three-way presidential race.

"It is not a final statement," said Steve Gutow, executive director of the NJDC. "But it is a reasonable snapshot of differences between Jewish voters and others."

Gutow said the results help fill the big gaps in information on Jewish participation in the electoral process, though he concedes there were few surprises.

Indeed, "it codifies what we knew intuitively," he said.

The survey underscores President Bush's "stunning unpopularity" in the Jewish community, said Gutow. At the same time it shows the comfort of American Jews with the Democratic Party and its top candidate, Bill Clinton, he said.

### Most Support Since Humphrey

"Clinton is likely to get the highest percentage of any Jewish vote since Hubert Humphrey" in 1968, said Stuart Eizenstat, former domestic policy adviser to the Carter administration and vice chair of the NJDC.

The survey found that in California, 63 percent of Republican Jewish voters would vote for Perot, compared to 46 percent of all Republicans.

In New Jersey, Jewish GOP defectors for Perot numbered 42 percent, 8 percentage points above the general GOP population. Surprisingly, 22 percent of Jewish New Jersey Republicans said they would vote for Clinton, a big leap from the 3 percent of overall Republicans surveyed.

Meanwhile, among California's Jewish Democrats, 65 percent said they would support Clinton, fully 20 percentage points above the state's Democrats overall. Twenty-seven percent said they would defect to Perot, well below the 38 percent by Democrats as a whole.

The same pattern held true in New Jersey.

In Senate races, California's Jewish voters

threw considerably more support than other Democrats to former San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein and U.S. Rep. Barbara Boxer, both Jewish Democrats.

In Pennsylvania, they gave more support than other Democrats to Lynn Yeakel, challenger to Sen. Arlen Specter, a veteran Jewish Republican.

In the Illinois Senate primary, Jews gave slightly less support than did other Democrats to Carol Moseley Braun, who defeated Republican Sen. Alan Dixon.

New York Jewish Democratic voters, asked whom they would support if that state's Senate primary were held that day, favored Attorney General Robert Abrams more heavily than other Democrats did, 47 percent to 31 percent. Their support for former U.S. Rep. Geraldine Ferraro was weaker than overall support, 23 percent to 32 percent, while it was even, at 16 percent, for New York City Comptroller Elizabeth Holtzman.

Jewish Democratic primary voters surveyed said their top concerns were the economy and jobs, health care and education. They were not surveyed about foreign policy.

They also indicated they are far more in favor of abortion rights than other Democrats, with a minimum of a 20-point spread in the states measured.

Ninety-five percent of Jewish Democrats believe Roe vs. Wade, the 1973 ruling that made abortion a constitutional right, should be maintained, compared to 65 percent of all Democrats surveyed.

Jews made up 6 percent of the overall Democratic primary vote, with 25 percent of those Jews identifying themselves as independents.

More than half, 57 percent, described themselves as liberal.

## SAO PAULO UNIVERSITY TO RECEIVE \$10 MILLION FROM ODESSA GROUP

By Victoria Verlichak

BUENOS AIRES, July 9 (JTA) -- The University of Sao Paulo, in Brazil, has been named to inherit some \$10 million from the Nazi organization Odessa, according to a report in the Brazilian newspaper Folha de Sao Paulo.

It is believed that the inheritance consists of a treasure of some 465 lbs. of jewels, rare coins, gold and precious stones, kept for more than 40 years in a vault of the Banco do Brasil in the care of Albert Willi Louis Blume, a Nazi German who died heirless in December 1983.

Blume died reportedly in poverty, and today his tomb is unkempt. It appears that he waited faithfully for the valuables to be claimed by Odessa, but that never happened.

"He lived in misery and was buried as an indigent, but everything leads one to believe that he was a trusted receiver of Odessa's goods," said Ben Abraham, a writer and historian who investigated the Nazis who lived in Brazil.

"Odessa gave refuge to Nazis such as Blume, Josef Mengele and Franz Warner. And the valuables helped the Nazis to corrupt officials and buy false IDs," he said.

According to Brazilian law, fortunes without heirs are meant to go to public institutions. In this case, the recipient is the University of Sao Paulo.

There has been no public mention of the fact that the valuables were stolen from Nazi victims in Europe.

**RABIN SIGNS DEALS WITH 2 PARTIES,  
ENSURING A PARLIAMENTARY MAJORITY**

By David Landau

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Labor Party leader Yitzhak Rabin signed coalition agreements Thursday with the Meretz and Shas parties, giving him a governing majority in the Knesset.

The United Torah Judaism bloc was expected to join the coalition by midday Sunday, and it looked as if Tsomet would climb aboard as well.

In any case, it is now clear that Rabin will be able to present a government to the new Knesset when it convenes for the first time Monday afternoon.

With Meretz and Shas, Labor now has a bare majority of 62 in the 120-seat Knesset. But it can also rely on tacit support from the two Arab parties, which together hold five seats.

Tsomet would give Rabin an additional eight seats, and United Torah Judaism would add four more. If both parties join, Labor will be able to govern by a comfortable 74-seat majority, ensuring no one party can bring down the government.

But Tsomet's chances of joining the coalition shifted from "definite" to only "probable" Thursday, when a major squabble erupted between Rabin and Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan over the Education portfolio.

Eitan told a television interviewer Thursday night that Rabin had specifically told him Tuesday his receiving the post would be "no problem."

But in the end, Meretz pressured Rabin to award the portfolio to its leader, Shulamit Aloni.

Shas is to retain Interior and is expected to hold two deputy ministerships: one in Education and the other in the Economic Planning Ministry.

Formal contacts with United Torah Judaism were set back because of the death Wednesday of the Gerrer rebbe. But the spiritual leader of the party's Degel HaTorah component came out strongly against Aloni holding the Education post, though other party politicians made it clear that this was not to be taken as an ultimatum.

The National Religious Party, meanwhile, reiterated Thursday that it would not join the government because of differences over settlement policy. NRP leaders Zevulun Hammer and Avner Shaki met with Rabin at noon.

Political observers cautioned, nevertheless, that this might not be the party's last word and that even if NRP does not join the coalition now, it may do so further down the road.

The party has been a part of every government since the establishment of the state.

**5 BORDER POLICE SENTENCED TO JAIL  
FOR TORTURING ARAB HOTEL WORKERS**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- Five border policemen have been sentenced to prison terms for torturing a group of Arab hotel workers in Tel Aviv in 1987.

Eli Gabai, 24, of Mazkeret Batya, near Jerusalem, regarded by the court as the ring-leader, was sentenced Wednesday to two years in prison, of which he must serve at least one. The others, all 25, from various towns and villages, were sentenced to eight months' imprisonment and another 10 months on probation.

In addition, each was ordered to pay 1,000 shekels, about \$400, to three of the six Arabs they attacked.

The eight Arabs in question were living in a

ground-floor apartment on Tel Aviv's Hayarkon Street, rented for them by the nearby Concord Hotel, where they worked.

Two days before Independence Day 1987, two of the border policemen searched the apartment and left.

But at about 1 a.m. on Independence Day, they and three others came to the apartment, broke down the door and attacked two of the occupants.

The following night they again forced their way into the apartment, beating the Arabs present on the feet and head with clubs, electric wire and a metal ashtray. Burning cigarettes were also extinguished on their feet.

Passing sentence, Judge Moshe Talgam said: "These are acts which cause me to shudder by the associations they raise, precisely because I am a Jew.

"The punishment that is required, given the defendants' jobs as policemen, sworn to uphold law and order but who acted in accordance with deviant norms, is a normative punishment that will emphasize to them and their fellow man how much opposed their acts are to the basic norms of law, order and fairness."

**SOLDIER DISGUISED AS ARAB  
IS KILLED BY FRIENDLY FIRE**

By Hugh Orgel

TEL AVIV, July 9 (JTA) -- An Israeli undercover soldier disguised as an Arab was shot and killed Wednesday night by so-called friendly fire during an anti-terrorist operation in the Bank village of Barta'a.

The dead soldier, who was identified as Sgt. Eli Isha, 19, of Beersheba, was buried in his hometown Thursday.

The incident was officially described by the Israel Defense Force as an "operational accident, which occurred during the course of a complex operation to apprehend armed and wanted individuals, executed by a small force under cover of darkness."

"During the operation, Sgt. Eli Isha was hit by our own forces and killed," the army said.

A unit of the undercover "Duvdevan" (Cherry) unit, disguised as Arabs, was taking part in an operation to seek out wanted armed terrorists apparently pinpointed by agents of the Shin Bet, Israel's domestic secret service. When they entered the village, they split up into small groups.

During the operation, a member of one group shot and killed Isha, a member of another group, apparently mistaking him for an Arab.

A detailed investigation will be carried out to examine the circumstances of the accident.

The Duvdevan unit is one of two specially trained undercover anti-terrorist units operated by the IDF. It operates in the West Bank, with a companion unit working in the Gaza Strip.

It was established with volunteers shortly after the outbreak of the intifada, and operated under the strictest secrecy until several months ago, when the unit commander allowed Israel Television to film and air an eyewitness report of its activities.

Senior IDF officials protested at the time at the lifting of secrecy and censorship, claiming that disclosure endangered the security of its members. But the IDF and defense establishment said the West Bank and Gaza Strip Palestinian already knew of the units' operations, many from personal encounters with its disguised members.

**LAWMAKER ACCUSES WEAPONS FIRM OF 'DECEPTIVE CAMPAIGN' FOR F-15s**

By Cynthia Mann  
States News Service

WASHINGTON, July 9 (JTA) -- A pro-Israel lawmaker this week attacked the McDonnell Douglas Corp. for waging a "deceptive campaign" to win congressional support for the sale of 72 F-15 advanced fighter aircraft to Saudi Arabia.

The nation's largest defense contractor has mounted an intensive lobbying effort, based on the claim that thwarting the sale would throw tens of thousands in the aerospace industry out of work.

At a news conference Wednesday, Rep. Howard Berman (D-Calif.) called the effort "the most sophisticated, far-reaching campaign" to promote an arms sale he has ever witnessed as a U.S. representative. But he said its central message, that the F-15s would be a virtual jobs program for American workers, is "outrageous" and that the McDonnell Douglas job figures are inaccurate.

"The truth," said Berman, surrounded by representatives of arms control groups, is that "worldwide demilitarization and conversion to a peacetime economy would create far more jobs than (having) the United States continue as the premier arms pusher to the developing world."

"We're talking about a sale that would help destabilize a region where we've just had a war," said the lawmaker, who chairs the House Foreign Affairs subcommittee on international operations. The jobs argument is "a substitute for a meaningful administration policy" on economic conversion, he said.

Inside sources detect few signals that the Bush administration is planning to move forward with the aircraft sale anytime soon, but not because it poses a conflict with its arms policy.

In fact, the administration claims sales of such sophisticated conventional weapons to allies in the region are necessary to help defend themselves against "legitimate security threats."

**\$1.88 Billion Sale Going Through**

Only last month, the administration notified Congress of a \$1.88 billion sale in military support supplies to Saudi Arabia. The sale is proceeding in the absence of formal congressional disapproval.

But members of Congress strongly oppose the F-15 sale, arguing that it would only fuel the arms race in the volatile Middle East region.

"The sale of additional F-15 aircraft to Saudi Arabia is incompatible with any meaningful arms control policy," members of the House of Representatives wrote President Bush in April.

"How will we deal with efforts by Russia and China to arm Iran when we're doing the same thing in the rest of the region?" Berman asked Wednesday.

An F-15 sale would also trigger a confrontation between the administration and Jewish voters concerned about risks to Israel's security, in an election season in which the Jewish vote has become increasingly important.

But Berman this week seemed less focused on the likelihood of a sale than on seizing the McDonnell Douglas campaign as an opportunity to puncture the argument that military programs are jobs generators and to showcase the need for a comprehensive economic conversion policy.

Joining Berman was Greg Bischak, director

of the National Commission for Economic Conversion and Disarmament, who disputed McDonnell Douglas' claims of the jobs at stake in the F-15 sale.

The company has argued that 40,000 aerospace jobs could be saved if the sale goes forward, with an additional 46,000 jobs saved as an indirect byproduct of the sale.

Bischak said the estimate is undercut by McDonnell Douglas' own admission that only 7,000 people work on the F-15 directly for the company at its St. Louis and Tulsa plants.

Using the company's own methodology, he said, "indirect effects total 8,120 jobs, for a total of 15,120 jobs. So what happened to the other 70,880" they have claimed?

Bob O'Brien, director of the company's public relations, defended the numbers and the premise of the jobs argument.

"It's not a scare story; it's a simple fact. We've already started laying people off and will begin to do so at an accelerated pace" if the sale does not go forward, he said Wednesday in a telephone interview.

**BLACK SOUTH AFRICAN CHOIR HOPING TO BRING MUSIC OF ISRAEL TO SOWETO**

By Suzanne Belling

JOHANNESBURG, July 9 (JTA) -- The all-black Johannesburg Adult Choir is hoping to bring the music of Israel to the black township of Soweto.

The choir, comprising teachers, nurses, business people and housewives, has been invited to take part in the 16th Zimriya choral festival, to be held in Israel this month.

Against a background of violence and unrest in South Africa, particularly in the troubled townships, the singers forge friendships, provide recreation and keep people off the streets.

"We forget about politics. We speak one language -- the language of music," Stephen Tau, the choir's secretary, told the Jewish Telegraphic Agency.

The group's repertoire includes songs in the main black languages of South Africa: Xhosa, Zulu, Sotho, Tswana, Shangaan and Venda.

"If possible, we'd like to rehearse the Israeli national anthem (Hatikvah) and one or two songs in Hebrew before we go," said Samuel Magano, the conductor who founded the choir with Ernest Pooe, its president, in 1980.

Although the Johannesburg Adult Choir will perform in concerts and choir sessions, most of the tour will be devoted to workshops "where we can learn from the Israelis and take their music back to the people in Soweto, where we all live," said Tau.

"This will, in turn, bring us closer to the Jewish community of Johannesburg, about which we know very little. We view the venture as a way to establish closer ties."

Lack of funds for 50 airfares has been one obstacle to the choir's tour.

This Tau attributes to the unemployment situation in South Africa. But individuals and organizations, including some from the Jewish community, have responded to appeals for sponsorship.

The visit to Israel by the choir has the approval of the Israeli Embassy in Pretoria, the Israel Government Tourist Office and support from the Transvaal Council of the South African Jewish Board of Deputies.