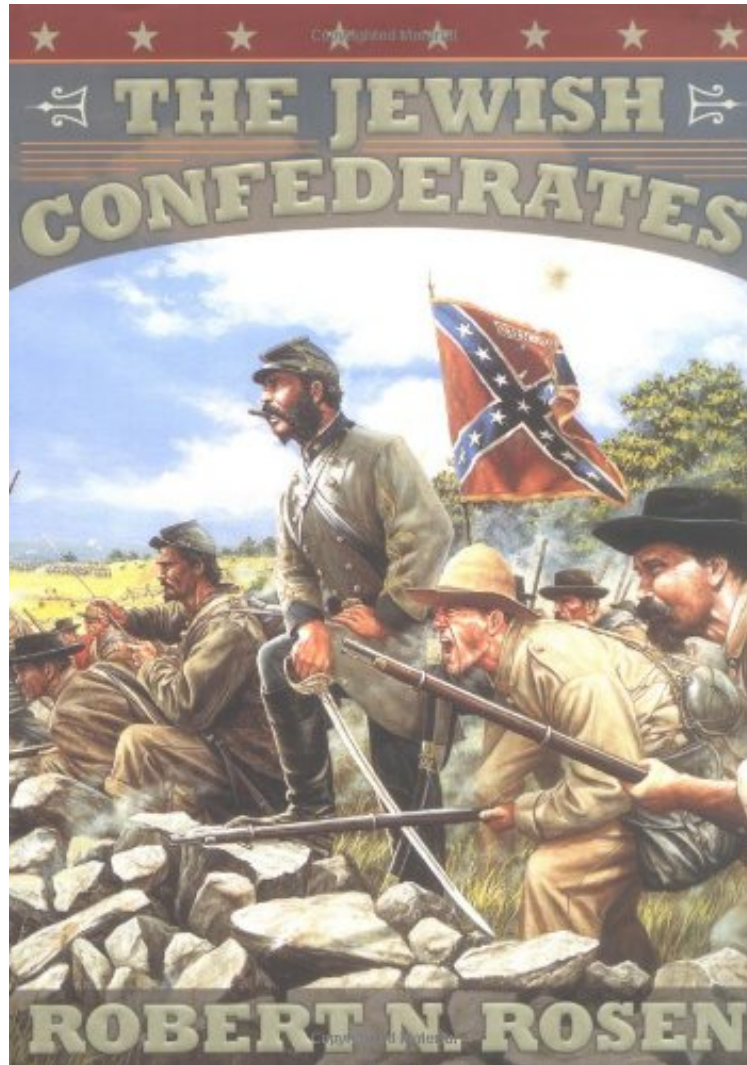


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## The Jewish Confederates (NS)

Robert N Rosen

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**Robert N Rosen : The Jewish Confederates (NS)** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Jewish Confederates (NS):

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Excellent writingBy danny johnsonwell written, exposes a part of the south I knew little about0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Complimentary Must HaveBy Edith ReeseVery interesting and well researched book! A must have!1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. Three StarsBy bubba could have written in 3 chapters

Reveals the breadth of Jewish participation in the American Civil War on the Confederate side. Rosen describes the

Jewish communities in the South and explains their reasons for supporting the South. He relates the experiences of officers, enlisted men, politicians, rabbis and doctors.

From Publishers Weekly While prominent, largely forgotten Jewish leaders such as Confederate Secretary of State Judah Benjamin and Q.M. Gen. Abraham C. Myers are re-examined in Rosen's account of the Jewish confederacy, the real contribution of this book to Civil War scholarship is its thorough look at the contradictions and ironies implied by the title, and the capsule biographical sketches of quite a few of the 2,000 Jewish men who served in the Confederate army and navy. Looking at the total Southern Jewish population of less than 25,000 based mainly in the cities of Memphis, Nashville, Mobile and Shreveport Rosen concludes that, contrary to the commonly held idea of "old" Jewish families being the mainstay of the contingent, the typical Jewish soldier was a recent immigrant who "enlisted to prove he was a man and a worthy citizen" albeit a citizen sometimes subject to prejudices just as virulent as anti-black racism. In addition to tracking the exploits of many soldiers, Rosen also chronicles the trials and tribulations of Jewish civilians behind the lines and the growth of anti-Semitism as the war progressed. This groundbreaking study is liberally illustrated with photographs and maps, and is written clearly and energetically as a trade book, despite its academic stamp and thoroughness. (Oct.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Library Journal A native of Charleston, SC, Rosen (Confederate Charleston: An Illustrated History of the Place and the People During the Civil War) uses his own background and experience to recount the lives of Southern Jews from the 1700s until well after the Civil War. Loyal Southerners, the Jews accepted living in a slaveholding society, and their young men flocked to enlist when war came. The author delves into the lives of a number of prominent individuals and families, among them two U.S. senators, Judah Philip Benjamin of Louisiana and David Levy Yulee of Florida. The experiences of many other enlisted men, officers, nurses, politicians, rabbis, doctors, and businessmen are also chronicled. Rosen also explains why so many Jews chose the South as their home and why they remained loyal to it, arguing that Southern society and the Confederate army and navy may have been more tolerant of Jews than the North. The glossary provides definitions of Judaic terms. Larger public and academic libraries should consider this readable book, as should all libraries with strong Judaic or military collections. D David Alperstein, Queens Borough P.L., Jamaica, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. From Booklist For at least the last seven decades, American Jews have been part of the liberal faction in politics. Of course, many Jews played prominent roles in the civil rights movement. So it is somewhat surprising, even discomfiting, to discover how many southern Jews were ardent supporters of and fighters for the Confederacy. Rosen, born and raised in Charleston, South Carolina, is an attorney and historian. As a Jew, he was intrigued by what seemed to be "Israelites with pharaonic principles," as one southern wag put it. In this intriguing and often puzzling book, Rosen asserts that most southern Jews identified with the dominant southern culture. While few Jews owned slaves, they accepted the "peculiar institution" as an integral part of the larger society that had offered them toleration and freedom. Rosen does not answer the most basic question: How could people who annually, at Passover, are commanded to remember their own bondage be willing to fight to maintain it for others? Still, for Civil War enthusiasts and those interested in ethnic history, this will be a fulfilling read. Jay Freeman Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved