

GOP Chooses Specter For Philadelphia Race

PHILADELPHIA, March 3 (AP)—District Attorney Arlen Specter, who was an associate counsel for the Warren Commission, which investigated the assassination of President Kennedy, today was slated by the Republican organization as its choice for Mayor in the May primary.

The 35-year-old Specter, a former Democrat who switched to the Republican Party in 1965, and won the District Attorney's office, is credited with writing a considerable portion of the Warren Commission's final report.

Specter was chosen by the Party's 54-man selection committee headed by William Devlin, chairman of the Republican City Committee. Devlin said the selection was made without first obtaining the District Attorney's consent.

Specter is the first Jew named as an organization candidate for the office of Mayor of Philadelphia. Bernard Samuel, a major in the 1940s, was half Jewish on his father's side, but reared as a Protestant.

Devlin told newsmen that the move by Republican leaders, who represent a cross section of the city's business, education, labor and race leaders, "was a genuine draft."

Informed of his selection,



Associated Press

ARLEN SPECTER
... seeks mayor spot

Specter said he would make no decision on the bid until sometime after the weekend.

Devlin said he expects Specter to accept, and that the District Attorney will have until noon Feb. 10 to reply.

The deadline for filing nominating petitions is 5 p.m. Tuesday.

The Democrats have not yet selected their candidate, but Mayor James Tate has said he will run for reelection and City Controller Alexander Hemphill recently resigned his post to oppose the Mayor in the primary.