

Eichmann arrest 'wrong'

Israel may have been wrong in seizing Adolph Eichmann from Argentina but this was a lesser wrong than letting a war criminal go free. Mr Gideon Hausner, the former Israeli Attorney-General said in Canberra yesterday.

Mr Hausner, in Australia to celebrate the 17th anniversary of Israel's independence, was speaking to the law faculty at the Australian National University.

Mr Hausner was chief prosecutor at the Eichmann trial.

He said Israel may have been wrong in arresting Eichmann in Argentina and violating that country's sovereignty. This was the lesser wrong, however, to letting a Nazi war criminal go free.

In every other respect the Eichmann trial was lawful and proper. The precedent of trying war criminals had been set by the Nuremburg trials, Mr Hausner said.