

The battle over Eichmann

The battle over Adolph Eichmann has been joined. It is a battle that rages on more than one front. The conduct of the Argentina Government appears to be little short of pathetic. Here is an administration of doubtful record which has lodged a protest with Israel and is insisting on its "rights" under international law. These rights appear dubious at best and are being pressed in order that Argentina may re-assure herself about her standing in the world. Israel gave her a way out which would have saved face, but this course she has rejected and has gone to the United Nations.

It is unlikely that Israel will hand Eichmann over to Argentina or any authority that might conceivably be designated by the United Nations. In this regard Israel would not be motivated by emotional considerations but by questions of international law.

Israel is competent to try Eichmann and there is no question that the trial will be a scrupulously fair one.

As to the suggestion of Dr. Nahum Goldmann for trial by an international tribunal, this met with a fitting reply by Mr. Ben Gurion who disposed of it in the manner in which it deserved. It is a reflection on Israel's judiciary to suggest that judges of other countries should be invited, even if the presiding judge was to be an Israeli and the proceedings were to take place in Israel.

Dr. Goldmann's observations seem to have stemmed from his well-known difference with Ben Gurion on a wide range of matters and can only be construed as an affront to the Jewish people.

Eichmann must be tried in Israel by a Jewish tribunal.