

## **Letters to the Editor**

### **Maligned**

Mr. Platz in his letter in your paper on September 18 displayed a politics devoid of responsibility and integrity, a politics of unprincipled and unbridled opportunism.

He has quoted me out of context and has completely distorted my letter into meaning something that no self-respecting Jew could honestly assent.

What I did say was that we should discuss Eichmann, his heinous crimes, and his most fortunate capture and prospective trial in terms of the moral issues that are involved. Only in insane negation of my responsibility to myself as a Jew and as a humanist would I deny the obvious necessity of bringing him to justice.

However, I did say that Israel's legal claim to jurisdiction was contentious that consequently the legal question should be left to lawyers and not laymen. This question, by the way, is one apart from that of the criminality of Eichmann's heinous and diabolic activities.

Mr. Platz perfectly illustrated my point. His own anxious assertion, not Dr. Robinson's, that "if Israel's courts give her jurisdiction, that is the end of the matter" would be ridiculed in a seminar in International Law. A logical conclusion from his argument is that what Eichmann did was enjoined by the law of the Third Reich, and "that is the end of the matter." But no, domestic law will often violate International Law. It is obvious that Mr. Platz, more urgently than I, is in need of a lawyer's advice on this point.

Fortunately the question of jurisdiction is now an academic issue, since no government looks like challenging Israel's claim before the International Court of Justice.

Surely, Mr. Platz has more worthwhile things with which to occupy himself rather than

to occupy himself rather than malign the Public Relations Committee and myself.

JACOB FAJGENBAUM.