



Olga Horak with the books donated to the Sydney Jewish Museum by her cousin, Dr Thomas Hecht.

## Eichmann transcripts donated to museum

**Shira Sebban**

*THE Trial of Adolf Eichmann* — a nine-volume English translation of the transcripts of the trial of the notorious Nazi war criminal — has been donated to the Sydney Jewish Museum.

Presented by Montreal businessman and philanthropist Dr Thomas Hecht in honour of his cousins, Olga and John Horak, the set includes microfiche copies of the exhibits submitted by the prosecution and defence during the Eichmann trial, which was held in the District Court of Jerusalem in 1961. Also included is Eichmann's appeal against his conviction before Israel's Supreme Court, as well as a copy of Eichmann's statement in German to the Israeli Police.

"At a time when there are doubters, the official record of the Eichmann trial is an important addition to the Sydney Jewish Museum

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library," said museum chief executive officer Rabbi Jeffrey Cohen, who purchased the books during a trip to Israel, on the advice of museum librarian Tinny Lenthén.

A stalwart of the Canadian Jewish community, Dr Hecht is the founder and chairman of the international advisory board of the Begin-Sadat Centre for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University and is also involved in the Montreal Holocaust Centre. Ms Horak — a Holocaust survivor — told the *Australian Jewish News*.

"He visited the Sydney Jewish Museum during a trip to Australia last year, and was so impressed that he asked to be allowed to give a donation, insisting that it be used to purchase books in recognition of the contribution which my husband, John, and I have made to the museum since its inception."

Ms Horak is a volunteer guide at the museum.