

For More Information Contact:
Cindy Workman (402) 280-2969
cworkman@creighton.edu

Nazi War Crimes Prosecutor to Speak at Creighton University

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OMAHA, Neb. – The Creighton University School of Law International Law Lecture will mark the 50th anniversary of the trial of infamous Nazi Adolf Eichmann with a talk by Justice Gabriel Bach, Israeli Supreme Court (ret.), the prosecutor at the war crimes trial of Adolf Eichmann, at 5 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 22 in the auditorium of the Mike and Josie Harper Center at 602 N. 20th Street. Reception to follow.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Eichmann, one of the top-ranking Nazis responsible for the Holocaust was captured in 1960 in Buenos Aires by the Israeli Mossad as part of a covert operation. He was then transported to Israel to be prosecuted in Jerusalem as a war criminal. Justice Bach was appointed to the position of a senior prosecutor for the trial that began in the spring of 1961. He was the lead coordinator for the investigation of Eichmann's crimes, acting as the legal advisor to the police bureau and preparing the case for trial. He served as one of three principal prosecutors during the trial of Eichmann – one of the most significant trials in the annals of criminal justice.

Bach also appeared in dozens of internationally-known criminal and civil cases like the Rohan case (the burning of Al Akza Mosque), major espionage cases, including the Meyer Lansky case, the cases against Rabbi Cahana and Archbishop Capucci, and many cases of importance in constitutional law concerning the occupied areas. He has also presented Israeli interests before foreign courts, tribunals and at international conferences. In March 1982 he was appointed as a Justice of the Israeli Supreme Court, a position he held until 1997, when he reached the mandatory retirement age. He is a colonel in the Israel Army (reserves). He served in the Advocate General's Department for many years, and continues to serve as a Judge of the Army Court of Appeals.

Bach studied law in England, receiving his bachelor of laws degree with honors from University College, London and was admitted to the bar in 1950 at Lincoln's Inn, England. He was born in Germany in 1927, and in 1938, exactly two weeks before the "Night of Broken Glass" (the Kristallnacht), the Bach family moved to Holland. One month before the German invasion of Holland in 1940, they relocated to Jerusalem. He was later told he was the only Jew of his school in Amsterdam to have survived the war.

This International Law Lecture is co-sponsored by the Institute for Holocaust Education, Kutak Rock Foundation, Heartland Holocaust Education Fund of the Jewish Federation of Omaha Foundation, Anti-Defamation League – Plain States Region, the Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of Omaha, Cardozo Society of the Jewish

Federation of Omaha, the Fraser Stryker law firm, the Klutznick Chair in Jewish Civilization at Creighton University, and Marks Clare Richards, LLC.