

BRITAIN GOES TO COURT

The first post-war session of the International Court of Justice opens at the Hague. Fifteen of the world's leading jurists are nominated to hear (as the first case) Britain's charge against Albania. An outline of the case is given by the President of the Court, seventy-one-year-old Jose Guerrero of Salvador.

In October, nineteen-forty-six, two British destroyers struck mines when passing through the Corfu Channel. Forty four lives were lost. In charging that the laying of the mines was Albanian responsibility, reliance on the International Court by United Nations is stressed by Sir Hartley Shawcross.

"Your statute is an integral part of their Charter and that Charter itself affirms that the United Nations are determined to establish conditions under which justice and respect to the obligations arising from treaties and other sources of international law can be maintained."

But, taking the cue from United Nations examples in legal procrastination, Albania questions Britain's right to bring the case before the Court without her prior consent. A recess is called and the twisting of the lion's tail goes on in Palestine, Honduras ~~the~~ and the Falklands, while the keeper learns his job at Lake Success.