

The Planning Department
7th Floor, Barnet House
1255 High Road
London N20 0EJ

17.2.93
12 February 1993

PLANNING GROUP
REC'D 17 FEB 1993
REF'D TO.....
COPY TO.....

Dear Sirs:

Re: Eruv Planning Application

Each signatory to this letter is a survivor of one or more of Nazi Germany's ghettos and concentration camps where we were subjected daily to the most inhuman treatment.

In the context of the application for planning permission for the establishment of the North West London Eruv, we have seen reports of opposition by one or two survivors of the Nazi Holocaust. In a TV interview, one survivor likened the Eruv to a ghetto and the TV presenter stated that to some people the Eruv had "disturbing echoes of Hitler's concentration camps." In our view, this comparison is completely misguided.

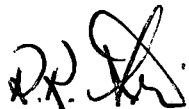
I suspect that the survivors who have previously expressed opposition to the Eruv, through no fault of their own, do not properly understand what an Eruv is. Of course we acknowledge the memories of those survivors. However, as you know from your examination of the plans, the Eruv only involves several short stretches of monofilament line. Since this line is no more similar to a barbed wire enclosure than telegraph wire is, we cannot remotely relate their view of the Eruv to the plans before you.

It is important for you to understand that there is no comparison between an Eruv and a ghetto or concentration camp. The very suggestion of a comparison is deeply insulting.

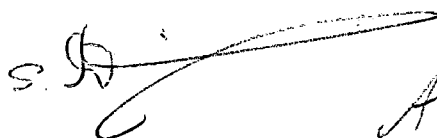
As each of the undersigned knows only too well, the Nazi camps and ghettos were maintained by Hitler and his henchmen to confine people against their will with a view to oppression and ultimate extermination. In our view, an Eruv is an expression of freedom and integration within the wider community. This is what we so desperately aspired to throughout the dark days of our persecution and for which those few of us who survived are profoundly grateful.

We hope that you will recommend to the Planning Committee that planning permission is granted.

Yours truly



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