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March 17, 2006

The Honorable Michelle Bachelet
President of Chile
Palacio de La Moneda
Santiago, Chile 6772208

To President Michelle Bachelet:

I am writing to urge your government to expand its focus on the case of Boris Weisfeiler, the American citizen who, as you know, disappeared in Chile in 1985. I represent in the United States Congress the community where Professor Weisfeiler's surviving relatives live, and my staff and I have had the opportunity to discuss the case with them on a number of occasions. As with any relative facing a tragic situation of this kind, their only goal is to learn the details of their family member's fate.

I appreciate your having yourself met in the past with Professor Weisfeiler's relatives to discuss his case, and I am hopeful that your personal appreciation of the importance of the case and your understanding of their position will help bring about a more thorough investigation into the matter. In particular, I urge you to arrange for the release of any pertinent information or documents that may have a bearing on the case. As you know, there is strong evidence suggesting that Professor Weisfeiler's disappearance may be linked in some way to the activities of Colonia Dignidad, and it would be important to include relevant material regarding Colonia Dignidad in any documents that are made available to investigators. Furthermore, there has been valuable cooperation on this case between Chilean and American officials, and I would urge you to ensure that these contacts continue to take place.

Finally, returning to Professor Weisfeiler's relatives, his sister and niece are traveling to Chile for ten days beginning on March 25 to continue their work on the case. You may already be aware that, through the U.S. Embassy in Chile, they are seeking an opportunity to meet with you. I would be very appreciative if you would agree to set aside some time to meet with them.

Thank you for your attention to these matters, and I wish you the best of luck in your new position.


BARNEY FRANK