

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

February 12, 2002

The Honorable Andres Bianchi
Chilean Ambassador to the United States
1732 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W.
Washington, DC 20036

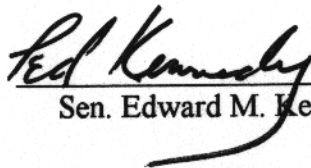
Dear Ambassador Bianchi:

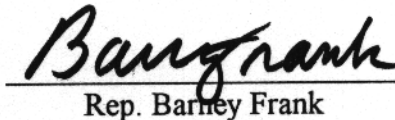
We are writing to urge the government of Chile to place a higher priority on its efforts to resolve the case of Boris Weisfeiler, an American citizen who disappeared in Chile in 1985. Mr. Weisfeiler's sister, a constituent of ours, has worked tirelessly over the years to focus attention on her brother's case. At her request, the Chilean courts agreed to reopen the case two years ago, but little formal action has been taken since then.

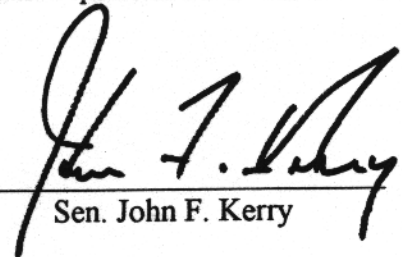
As you know, Mr. Weisfeiler is one of only a small number of American citizens to have disappeared in Chile during the Pinochet period, and his fate is still unknown. There is some evidence to suggest that he may have been alive in Chile well after his disappearance, possibly at the Colonia Dignidad compound. In addition, it is possible that the Chilean Army has additional evidence that could shed light on Mr. Weisfeiler's case, but the relevant documents have not been made available. The assistance of the Chilean government in tracking down this information is essential, and, we believe, entirely consistent with the current atmosphere of close U.S.-Chilean cooperation on a broad range of issues of mutual interest.

We ask that you convey to your government our request that it make available any and all documents that could shed light on Mr. Weisfeiler's disappearance.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. We look forward to your response.


Sen. Edward M. Kennedy


Rep. Barney Frank


Sen. John F. Kerry