

Olga Weisfeiler

The Honorable Arlen Specter
U.S. Senator
Suite 2031 Federal Building
Pittsburgh, PA 15222

January 24, 2002

Dear Senator Specter:

My name is Olga Weisfeiler. I am the sister of former Professor of Mathematics at Penn State University Boris Weisfeiler who disappeared in Chile while on hiking trip in January 1985. Boris is the one American citizen out of 1100 Chileans who remain disappeared from the repression of the Pinochet military government.

I have contacted you before requesting your assistance in July 2000 after the U.S. Department of State declassified documents regarding Boris' disappearance. I appreciate your attention to the case. I am also following your recent participation in the Free Trade Agreement negotiations that took place in Santiago, Chile. I am hoping for your personal interest and professional involvement in the fate of your constituent and my brother Boris Weisfeiler.

The declassified U.S. Government documents show that Boris was probably kidnapped by a Chilean military patrol. An informant told U.S. Embassy officials that my brother was taken to an enclave in Southern Chile, Colonia Dignidad, which had reported ties to the Chilean secret police. Boris was seen alive in Colonia Dignidad in 1987, more than two years after his disappearance. He has not been heard since. The judicial case has been reopened in the Chilean's Courts for more than two years now but the investigation is barely moving forward. Very frustrating for my family is the fact that there appears to be little or no current interest or involvement of the U.S. Government in pursuing the fate of American citizen. The Chilean's Army officials are still withholding the key information regarding Boris disappearance.

The current negotiations over the Free Trade Pact with Chile affords an excellent opportunity to direct the attention of both the Chilean and the U.S. Governments to this unresolved case of Human Rights and terrorism. I would like to request your assistance to express your concern to the Government of Chile, as well as to alert our own Government that Chile's commitment to solve this case should be a condition for any major trade initiative. U.S. Government should demand a full Army's cooperation with the investigation and the release of the Chilean Army's files in a connection with kidnapping of my brother and holding him in Colonia Dignidad.

There is a very real possibility that my brother Boris is still alive and is living as the prisoner in Colonia Dignidad (see the enclosed article published in Geneva, Switzerland in May 1998).

Thank you in advance for your attention to this request. You may find some additional information regarding ongoing investigation in Chile at <http://weisfeiler.com/boris> If your staff has any questions, I can be reached at olga@weisfeiler.com

I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

Olga Weisfeiler

Enclosure: World News article re: Colonia Dignidad, Chile

cc: Prof. Graham B. Spanier, President of Pennsylvania State University