United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

October 27, 2004

President Ricardo Lagos Escobar La Casa de Moneda Santiago, Chile

Dear President Lagos:

I write to urge your government to resolve the case of the disappearance of Boris Weisfeiler, an American citizen who disappeared while hiking near the border between Chile and Argentina in January 1985. According to documents declassified by the U.S. State Department in 2000, Mr. Weisfeiler may have been alive for some time after his disappearance. The evidence supports the theory that he was arrested by a Chilean military patrol and taken for interrogation to the infamous torture and detention center in Colonia Dignidad under the Pinochet regime.

The circumstances surrounding Mr. Weisfeiler's disappearance have been under investigation in the Chilean courts for years, and I urge your government to take the necessary steps to expedite the resolution of the case. Specifically, I urge your government to provide all available information about Mr. Weisfeiler while he was detained and the circumstances surrounding his death. Mr. Weisfeiler's family has suffered for far too long with the pain of not knowing his fate. Your country deserves great credit for the many impressive steps it has taken to correct the problems of the past, and I hope very much that it will be possible to take this additional step as well.

With respect and appreciation, I know that Mr. Weisfeiler's family would be very grateful.

Sincerely,

Edward M. Kennedy