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July 25, 2000

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright Department of State 2201 C Street, NW Washington, DC 20520

Dear Madam Secretary:

I have just finished a very emotional conversation with Olga Weisfeiler. Her brother, Boris, is one of the Americans who, according to the documents released on June thirtieth, was killed in Chile under the Pinochet regime. Ms. Weisfeiler is dissatisfied with the information she has received to date and I share her dissatisfaction.

She has hired an attorney in Chile, Mr. Hernan Fernandes, to pursue this matter. Most important, Ms. Weisfeiler believes that there is a possibility that her brother is still alive and still in prison. Obviously, if there is even the slightest possibility of this being the case, our government should be doing everything possible to find this out and, if he is still alive, to press for his immediate release.

In any case, Ms. Weisfeiler is entitled to more information than she has now received. For example, she was told in the release of documents of an anonymous letter in 1997 reporting that her brother had been killed. She has also been told that she cannot see a copy of this letter. I find it hard to understand why we would withhold an anonymous letter from her in this case.

I therefore write to ask that all possible documents be released to Ms. Weisfeiler and that, in addition, the fullest possible cooperation be given by our Embassy in Chile to Mr. Fernandes. I have instructed Ms. Weisfeiler to let Mr. Fernandes know that I will be eager to assist him if he encounters any obstacles in getting the information he needs. I hope that this will not be necessary, and that you will instruct the American Embassy personnel in Chile to do everything possible to accommodate Mr. Fernandes in his requests. In addition to that, Ms. Weisfeiler believes that if her brother is still alive, he is being held in the Colonia Dignidad Prison.

Barry Frank

BARNEY FRANK Member of Congress