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February 13, 1991

Ms. Kathryn Stevens, Officer
Chile Desk
United States Department of State
Foggy Bottom
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Ms. Stevens,

I read with great interest an article that appeared in the New York Times on February 3 concerning the Chilean government's decision to end Colonia Dignidad, the Neo-Nazi German colony in the Andean foothills 250 mile south of Santiago headed by Paul Schaeffer. I had been in communication with your office in August concerning my brother, Boris Weisfeiler. Boris had immigrated to the United States from the Soviet Union in 1975 and had been a professor of mathematics at Pennsylvania State University since 1976. My brother was an avid hiker and explorer, and in January 1985 took a trip to South America to hike in the Andes. He disappeared in the vicinity of Colonia Dignidad during that trip, and nothing has been heard about him since. Two weeks later, however, agents of the regional police reported finding his backpack near the Nuble River. I have written to the Commission Nacional Verdad y Reconciliacion in Chile about this last November, and to Amnesty International a year earlier, all to no avail. However, I have remained optimistic that my brother might still be alive, and that he might have been taken by the Colony because of his mathematical expertise. Whether his being Jewish was also a relevant factor one can only speculate. I was very hopeful upon seeing the recent article in the Times that with the break up of the colony, investigators from the Chilean government or from some international organization might be able to obtain further information about my brother, and it is for this reason that I am writing to you. As you can well understand, I would greatly appreciate any help I can get. I am enclosing copies of my previous correspondence and articles about this colony and my brother that have appeared in the press.

Many thanks for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Olga Weisfeiler

cc: Amnesty International, Commission Nacional Verdad y Reconciliacion (Chile)