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File [1]
As Delivered
12/4/74

Darius Jhabvala

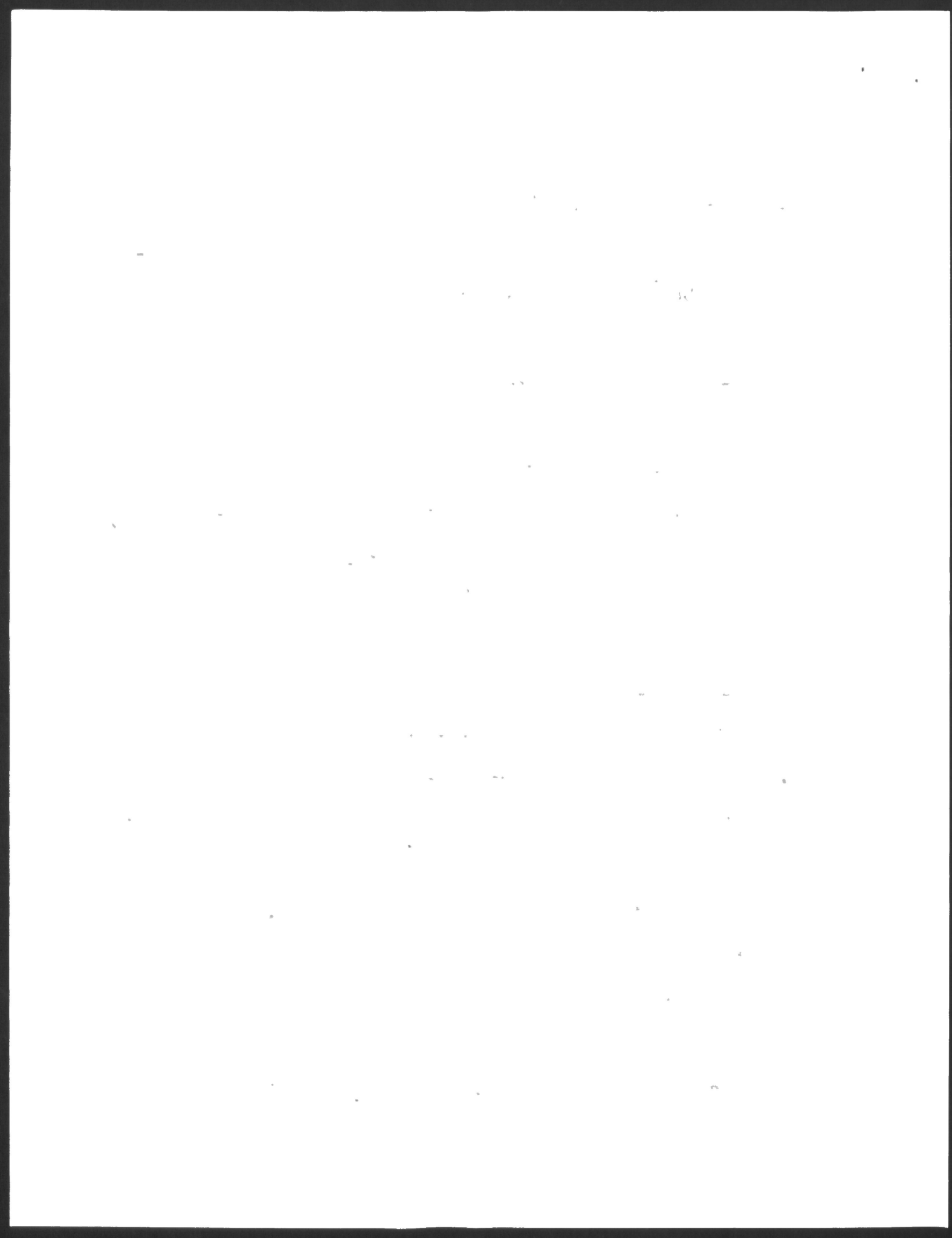
- It was my privilege to know Darius. I read his writings with constant respect, and I knew him well as a traveling companion. There were other occasions when we exchanged views.
- One such exchange was at the correspondents' Christmas party last year. You will remember that Darius proposed to me that, since I tend to put on weight during diplomatic negotiations, the press, instead of asking for my penetrating analyses of our international problems, should simply weigh me at the conclusion of a given diplomatic effort to see how we were doing.
- Nor shall I forget that very shortly after I came to this Department Darius called those journalists covering State together for a discussion of how best to develop a mutually profitable relationship between the Secretary and the State Department press corps.
- Some have suggested that the true purpose was to discover how best to tutor the new Secretary in the conduct of his office and the development, in him, of an adequate degree of respect for the press.

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Handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is extremely faint and illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be organized into several paragraphs or sections, but the specific words and sentences cannot be discerned.

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- Seriously speaking, I shall always be grateful for Darius' thoughtfulness toward me, his concern for a proper relationship between the press corps and me, and his total dedication to the highest ideals of his profession.
- Others have already spoken of Darius' great warmth and humaneness, his unquestioned competence in his profession and his deep and abiding respect and love for his fellow man. I of course recognized and admired these qualities, both in our relationship while I have been at the State Department and before that when I was at the White House.
- Perhaps I could relate what they meant in our relationship. Some of you who went with me to China last year will recall that when we got to Pakistan before flying to Peking we encountered the usual problem of a shortage of seats on the airplane. The problem was so acute we had to bump the physician who had travelled with us up to that point. Faithful to his obligation to guard the health of those of us going on without him, he sought out the one man to whom he could entrust his mission; he loaded him up with pills and other ministrations, along with instructions on how they were to be used should they be needed as we journeyed on. That man was Darius. While he



maintained his customary high standards of journalistic performance, he carried on for the abandoned physician, passing among his mates, inquiring of their health and seeing what might be administered to help.

-- Then, just last month, my wife and I were deeply touched when Darius told us on the flight from Moscow to New Delhi that he had not been to India, the land of his birth, for 26 years. He told us about the emotional impact his return after so many years had on him, because Darius was really a man of many cultures and loyalties.

-- Darius never lost his love for his homeland, nor his family ties. Indeed, he retained his Indian passport throughout the years of his residence in the U. S. and the all-too-short period here in Washington. He told us he was torn between his deep feeling that perhaps he should return to India to help his people work out their destiny and the equally strong roots he had established here over more than a quarter century.

-- Darius had family ties in India that are especially strong among his people, the Parsees. He told Nancy and me

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that he thought his return to India last month would help him make his final decision about whether to continue his life and work in the United States or whether to dedicate his talents to the land of his birth.

-- We do not know what decision Darius reached together with his lovely wife Serica, *and his children.* But we know we wanted him to

remain with us.

And so now, our lives are made emptier by his absence.

-- We will miss him.

