Churchill had never lost his personal popularity. The crowds that watched him move through the election ritual cheered him as they did in the days of assured power. But his bitter lesson was now 6 years old. Party triumph did not for sure follow his personal success. He had never yet achieved election as a peace time Prime Minister. At 77 he still awaited the people’s full vote of confidence. Once again the result was very close. Only a few seats were won over by the Conservatives but they were enough to change the verdict. Churchill was back in Downing Street.

Extract from BBC obituary of Churchill narrated by Richard Dimbleby