

067/07



5-January 1941

10, Downing Street,  
Whitehall,

Sir,

I am honoured by Your Majesty's most gracious letter. The kindness with which Your Majesty & the Queen have treated me since I became Prime Lord & still more since I became Prime Minister have been a continuous source of strength & encouragement during the vicissitudes of this fierce struggle for life. I have already served Your Majesty's Father, a Grandfather for a good many years as a Minister of the Crown, & my father & Grandfather served Queen Victoria; but Your Majesty's treatment of me has

been intimate & generous to a degree  
that I had never deemed possible.

Indeed Sir we have passed through  
hazards & rocks as trying and as  
uncertain as any in the long history  
of the English monarchy, & we see  
them stretch before us a long, forbidding  
road. I have greatly been cheered by  
our worthy humours in poor old  
cosmopolitan Buckingham Palace, &  
to feel that in Your Majesty's & Her  
Queen these flourish the spirit that will  
never be daunted by peril, nor  
winded by unrelenting toil. This  
has had drawn the Throne & the people

more closely together than was ever  
before recorded, & Your Majesty are more  
loved by all classes & conditions  
than any of the previous of the past.  
I can indeed proud that it did have  
fallen to my lot & duty to stand at  
Your Majesty's side as First Minister  
in such a climax of the British  
story, & it is at without good &  
sure hope and confidence in the  
future that I sign myself 'on  
Baird's day', while the gallant  
Australians are gathering another event  
throned Italian prisoners,

Your Majesty's faithful & devoted  
servant & subject

Herbert. Churchill