Q.1239 Would you be concerned if your assistant or
right-hand man, so to speak, was living 50 miles
away without your permission?

A.1239 It is impossible that he could have been because
my right-hand assistant would be so closely in
touch with me that it would not happen.

Q.1240 If he had been doing this without your knowledge, --
secretly, so to put it, would you have considered
it proper?

A.1240 If my right-hand assistant had been secretly
living 50 miles away?

Q.1241 Yes?

A.1241 I can't really visualize it happening. I can't
see feasibly how one's right-hand man could live
50 miles away without him knowing it.

Q.1242 And is the situation so unprecedented in your
headquarters that you find it difficult to answer?

A.1242 I find it difficult to answer for the reasons that
I said, that it would not be possible that my
right-hand assistant to live 50 miles away without
my knowledge.

Q.1243 Yes, and therefore in your headquarters this was so
unprecedented as to make it impossible for you to
give an answer?

A.1243 Yes.

Q.1244 Was it customary for the officers on your staff to
live that far away from your headquarters?

A.1244 No.

Q.1245 Do you know of any cases in which it occurred on
your staff?

A.1245 Do you mean from a commanding officer?

Q.1246 Yes.

A.1246 Yes. I did.

Q.1247 I mean from where their daily employment, their
office and assistants were, at the place where their
commander was?

A.1247 Well personally I always, during the latter stages
of this campaign, always lived about 30 miles away
from Field-Marshal Montgomery.

Q.1248 Yes, but I am speaking of living apart from your
subordinates and your own office and the place where
you did your own work?

A.1248 No. I lived quite near there.

Q.1249 Yes?

A.1249 I think it depends on how each headquarters is run.
21 Army Group was run towards the end with the
Commander-in-Chief some distance away from us.

Q.1250 Yes, but you would not take it, I consider, an
efficient arrangement for you yourself to be 50 miles
away from your own subordinate staff?

A.1250 I should very much like to sometimes.