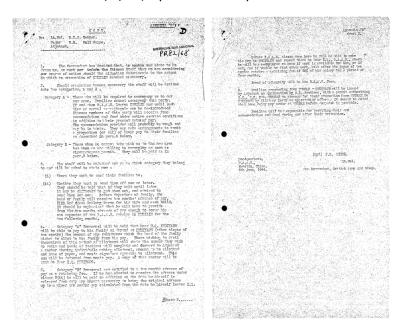
Evacuation of BAAG Headquarters Kweilin 1944

[Editor's note: This is only a small selection of the documents which concern this evacuation operation; further information regarding the evacuation of BAAG HQ Kweilin may be found in Australian War Memorial PR82/068 (Papers of Sir Lindsay Tasman Ride), Series 2 (BAAG HQ Correspondence].

June 1944

A full nominal roll was drawn up of personnel at BAAG HQ at the beginning of June – (see Post 2a of this website).

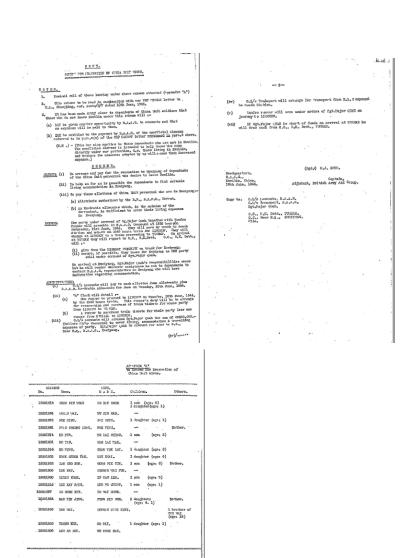
5.6.44 AWM 1/3/25,6 (Chinese staff)



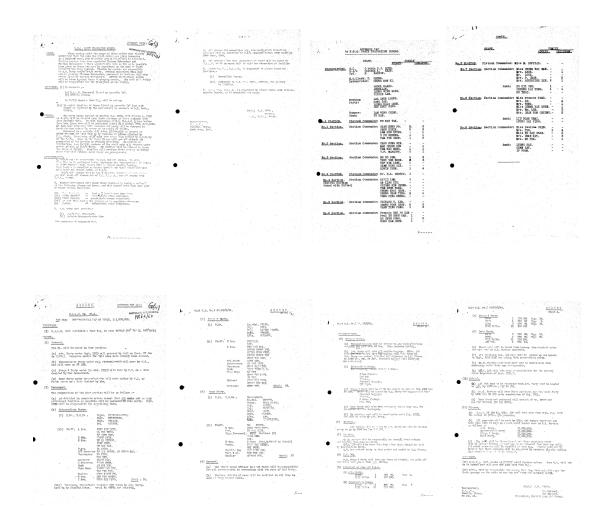
16.6.44 AWM/2 (Families) 1/3/27



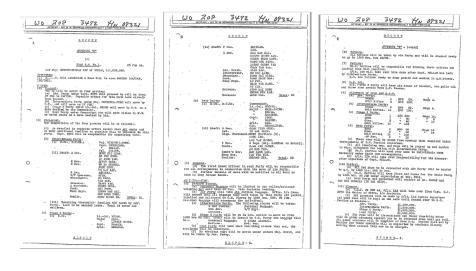
18.6.44 Ride papers (China Unit families)

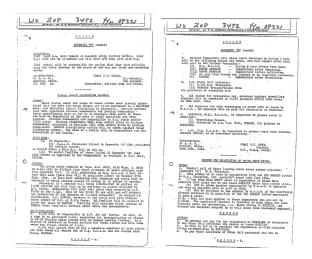


24.6.44 Rear HQ Party Evacuation orders AWM 1/3/31-38



25.6.44 WO 208-3492 Orders and full lists of names





September/October 1944

From LTR Report WO208/4392, p3: "As a result of BAAG reconnaissance observations it was decided that if the enemy should make a successful crossing of the river north of Chuanhsien, at Hwangshaho (26/07N, 111/08E) nothing could save Kweilin. As this seemed most probable, evacuation of the main body of BAAG HQ was decided on the 6th September, and orders were published to that effect on the 7th September 1944."

7.9.44 WO Evacuation order



From LTR Report 1946: "Early in September 1944 the crisis came. The enemy advance from Hengyang was continued in a South-westerly direction towards Lingling (110/35E, 26/13N); even if the enemy's main intention was to strike south from Hengyang to Canton, Lingling would have to be occupied to guard their right flank; a continuation of their advance Southwest of Lingling would reveal immediately the enemy intention of investing Kweilin.

With Lingling occupied, there was a danger that the enemy patrols might make raids in the vicinity of Kweilin. The Commandant decided on the immediate evacuation of H.Q. to Ishan (108/38E, 29/37N).

B.A.A.G. plans were to establish H.Q. back at Ishan to ensure continuity of all the work, and from Ishan to re-establish overland communications with our forward posts as soon as the enemy position clarified.

A small party consisting of the Commandant, 4 officers and 1 O.R. should remain at Kweilin and put their services at the disposal of the Chinese Garrison Commander.

Thus the continued efficient working of the organization was assured, all it records, stores, and archives and transport saved. The intention of the "hard party" was to stay with the Garrison.

(Kweilin H.Q. retained their W/T, and thus up till the last was able to pass back accurate information as to movements of the encircling enemy columns)."

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