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BUCKNER, SIMON BOLIVAR:
Papers, ca. 1908-17 and 1941-45
(Photocopies)
Accessions 92-16 and 92-16/1

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Linear feet shelf space occupied: -1
Approximate number of pages: 450
Approximate number of items: 4

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BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE

- July 18, 1886 Born, Munfordville, Kentucky
- 1902-04 Attended Virginia Military Institute
- 1904-08 Attended the United States Military Academy (graduate)
- 1908-17 Served with Army infantry units in Texas, the Philippines, Kentucky, Texas again, Washington, D.C., and a second tour of duty in the Philippines
- 1917-18 Signal Corps, Aviation Section (Training), Kelly Field, Texas
- 1919-23 Instructor, USMA
- 1920 Promoted to major (permanent)
- 1924 Graduated from Infantry School, Ft. Benning, Georgia
- 1925 Graduated from Command & General Staff School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas
- 1925-28 Instructor, Command and General Staff School
- 1929 Graduated from Army War College
- 1929-32 Instructor, Army War College
- 1932-33 Instructor, USMA
- 1932 Promoted to lieutenant colonel (permanent)
- 1933-36 Commandant of Cadets, USMA
- 1936-37 23rd Infantry, Ft. Sam Houston, Texas
- 1937 Promoted to colonel (permanent)
- 1937-38 66th Infantry, Ft. George Meade, Maryland
- 1938-39 Civilian Conservation Corps, Alabama
- October 1939 Appointed Chief of Staff, 6th Infantry Division
- July 1940 Appointed Commander, Alaska Defense Force

October 1940 Promoted to brigadier general (temporary)

1941-44 Commander, Alaska Defense Command (redesignated Alaska Department in 1943)

August 1941 Promoted to major general (temporary)

May 1943 Promoted to lieutenant general (temporary)

June 1944 Appointed Commander, Tenth Army, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii

March-June 1945 Commanded Tenth Army during Okinawa Campaign

June 18, 1945 Killed in Action, Okinawa

CONTAINER LIST

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	<p>“Between Siestas” (1)-(4) [undated 190-page draft manuscript of travelogue/memoir written by Buckner concerning his tours of duty in the Philippines between 1908 and 1917]</p> <p>“Between Siestas” - Photographs [photocopies]</p> <p>Black Notebook [ca. August - September 1941] [brief notes on military construction in Alaska; Buckner’s travels to Kodiak, other Alaska locations; his observations on nature in Alaska]</p> <p>Diary 1944 (1) [January 1 - July 4, 1944] [inspection of base construction, Alaska; social life, including USO shows; Alaskan politics; hunting, observations on nature; John McCloy, Robert Patterson; leaves Alaska June 8 and arrives in Honolulu June 21; Chester A. Nimitz]</p> <p>Diary 1944 (2) [July 5 - December 31, 1944] [Smith Board of Inquiry; Army-Navy infighting; mention of postwar unification of services; Buckner visits several recaptured Pacific Islands including extended inspection of Kwajalein where he observes refugee and POW camps, comments on Japanese atrocities; also visits Tinian, Saipan, Guam; FDR visits Hawaii, July 27 - 29; discussion about the “project” (Buckner’s diary codeword for invasion of Okinawa); Nimitz, Spruance, Turner, Bob Hope, Betty Hutton mentioned; Buckner’s usual naturalist observations]</p> <p>Diary 1945 (1) [January 1 - April 5, 1945] [comments on Battle of Leyte Gulf; command and force structure for invasion; visits New Caledonia, Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Guam; General Hodge, XXIV Corps and fighting with MacArthur over release of Corps to Okinawa force; Japanese atrocities in Philippines; conference including Wedemeyer, Hurley, Bill Donovan who wants to send OSS “representatives” onto Okinawa with invasion force; kamikaze raids as task force approaches Okinawa]</p> <p>Diary 1945 (2) [April 6 - June 17, 1945] [April 7 Buckner goes ashore as land forces commander; detailed notes on progress of campaign; dealing with subordinate generals including Shepherd and Geiger; maneuvering of forces; description of major battles, including Conical Hill and Sugarloaf; notes on dealing with Okinawan civilians, including refugee problems, employing civilians in harvests and other projects; comments on future strategic and political importance of a U.S. presence on Okinawa]</p>