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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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Box No.</th>
<th>Contents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 1      | “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]  
“Between Siestas” - Photographs [photocopies]  
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]  
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]  
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]  
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]  
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] |