

Colonel Burks

Born Tulsa, Oklahoma, 27 January 1923.

Graduate of Wynnewood High School, Wynnewood, Oklahoma, and the University of Maryland.

October 1942 enlisted U. S. Army Air Force, served as a S/SGT Gunner/Navigator on B-24 Heavy Bombers in the 7th AAF - flying 40 missions against Japanese targets in the Pacific to include Truk, Iwo Jima and the Bonin Islands in 1944 and 1945.

In October 1948 entered the Army OCS at Fort Riley, Kansas and graduated in April 1949 as a 2LT Field Artillery. In 1950, following completion of the Field Artillery Basic Course at Fort Sill, LT Burks joined the 41st FA Bn at Fort Benning, Ga. Following the North Korean invasion of South Korea in the summer of 1950, LT Burks joined the 5th RCT and the 555th FA Bn as Battalion Communications Officer and later earned a battle field promotion to Captain as Battery Commander in the 555th. In 1952-53 CPT Burks served as Btry CO, Bn S-3 and later Bn XO of the 125th FA Bn, Fort Rucker, Alabama. In the fall of 1953, CPT Burks attended the Army Language School for a six month course in the German language. During the period 1954-57 CPT Burks served as CO, 173d Military Intelligence Platoon in Nuremberg, Germany, returning to Fort Sill as a student in the FA Advanced Course and subsequent assignment to the Staff & Faculty, U. S. Army Artillery and Missile School, Fort Sill. In 1959 CPT Burks was assigned to the Pentagon where he served on the Army staff 1959-61 and, following promotion to major, to the National Military Command System Support Center, 1961-63. In 1963, MAJ Burks attended the 1963-64 Command and General Staff College, graduating in 1964 shortly after his promotion to Lieutenant Colonel. In 1964-65 LTC Burks was assigned to the Eighth U. S. Army Staff in Korea as Chief, Military Intelligence Division, G2, EUSA. Following his return in 1965 LTC Burks was assigned to the Office of the Inspector General, DA. In 1967 he activated and trained the 6th Bn, 8th Arty (175 mm Gun) at Fort Carson, Colorado. During the period 1968-69, he served in successive assignments as CO, 46th Arty Gp, Deputy Post Commander and Post Chief of Staff, Fort Carson, Colorado. In May 1969, following promotion to Colonel, Burks was assigned to duty as the Operations Team Chief, J3, Headquarters MACV Operations Center. Early in 1970 Colonel Burks became Deputy CO XXIV Corps Arty where he served until his return to Fort Riley in May of this year.

*Currently assigned as Deputy Post Commander
Fort Riley, Kansas*