

Augusta Military Academy

Oral History

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March 2, 2002



I believe the year was 1939. I had been at AMA for one year and was 15 years old at the time. My roommate (I can't recall his name, but he'll remember this if he sees my story) and I had girlfriends in Staunton. We arranged to meet one night after lights out on the grassy knoll just up the hill from the barracks.

Well, when the hour came for us to make our move we were ready, as we had stuffed our bunks with clothing and towels, etc. It really looked like we were in them.

We did well, so, out the window we went and up on that grassy knoll. We met the girls and looked at photographs and talked about tomorrow or our next visit.

Back to the barracks we went and back to bed. It was a great evening for a couple of 15 year olds. Suddenly, the door flew open, the light came on and we were standing stiff as a board in front of the "O.D." and one other person.

We were informed that we were under house arrest, I believe is what he said. I just knew we would be sent home and I also knew if that happened, my mom and family would never speak to me again.

But, as it turned out, as I remember, going back 60+ years, we took some "wacks" at the guardhouse and were given a high number of tours around the quadrangle.

It was truly a learning experience and the result for us, was that we were better cadets and better people. So, everything turned out fine. I was back to school the next year and always proud to have been a cadet at AMA.