

Max Gordon Glenn

<https://hmwilson.archives.org.au/people/max-glenn.html>

April 19, 2026

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1 1944-09-03 Max Glenn to Murray Wilson

IDENTIFIER: 351

TYPE: ephemera

DATE: 1944 September 3 Sunday

DESCRIPTION:

Biography

Max Gordon Glenn was born on 26 June 1920 in New South Wales. He enlisted in the RAAF (service number 403162). He was admitted to the 8th General Hospital Middle East between 6 March and 1730 April 1943.^[1]

He lodged a claim with the Department of Veterans' Affairs in 1977, relating to four injuries he received during the war:

- When the ship 'Tariffa' was torpedoed in March 1944 he was hit on the back by falling timber.
- Aircraft crash in Malta in May 1942 when he crash landed in German bombing raid and hit his head.
- Crash landed on take-off in Cairo (no date).
- Damaged his right leg during bombing raid on ships.

Tariffa was a Norwegian merchant ship of 7,229 tons:^[2]

Tariffa was on a voyage from Suez and Aden to Melbourne with a cargo of, among other things, 8240 tons Phosphate, 1290 tons crude oil, and 500 bags of mail, when she was torpedoed and sunk by U-510 (Eick) on March 7-1944, about 250 n. miles east of Socotra, position 12 48N 58 44E. She had a crew of 47 and also had 101 military personnel from Australia and New Zealand and 1 other passenger on board (under Captain A.I.F. S. R. Dawson).

References

[1] National Archives of Australia. Title GLENN MAX GORDON : Service Number - 403162 : Date of birth - 26 Jun 1920 : Place of birth - BOWRAL NSW : Place of enlistment - SYDNEY : Next of Kin - GLENN JOHN; Series number A9300; Item ID 5253642.

[2] M/S Tariffa, <https://www.warsailors.com/singleships/tariffa.html>

Transcription

406376

F/O/ Wilson W.M.

Gorup 469 RAAF East Sale

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F/O Glenn M.G.

403162

Officers' Mess

RAAF Station

Rathmines¹

3rd Sept.

Dear Murray,

Sorry I haven't replied to your letter before, but the last few weeks up here I have been kept rather busy. They try to cram everything into you in the shortest possible time. They really [?] this you know. When I leave this place & I mean when I should be fit to be captain on any Vessel. It's a very good course but too much theory to it for me. You know they work us until we just about drop if we fly all night they want us for [?] 7.30am next morning or the same morning

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(2)

if that's is the case

Had a letter from Ron & he was waiting on one from you. He seems to be quite happy about his posting & by the way he is going I won't be started before he finishes. Won't I get it when we meet up, he'll be telling me to get some in. We haven't done anything these days you know unless we have them up north, that's what they think here anyway.

I have been off two Sundays since arriving & spent them both in Loronto the local town not a bad spot at all a very pretty place & when summer gets here it will be beautiful.

IU have been grounded for a few days under observa-

¹Wikidata Q7274962: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/RAAF_Base_Rathmines

tion. Strained the muscles of my belly.

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The Doc reckons the case puzzles him, only I reckon [? it] happened by over doing it at P.T. tho' he is heard to tell anything.

Well Murray old son my commission eventually caught up with me & 3 weeks later low & behold am F/O. Good thing, bags of money.

Hear [? Pater] arrived in last night not looking too pelased about his posting.

Alec [? Teal], [? Facius] & [? Pember] are about all you know that are here. [? Hector] just dropped in & is on his way for 7 days leave a lucky man what.

Just decided to crack a bottle. So I will have one for you.

Well Murray remember me to your wife and Judith also to

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the boys down your way for now chumie all the best of luck.

Max