

Glenn Luther Martin

These two photographs show aviation pioneer Glenn Luther Martin (1886-1955). The first photograph shows Martin with actress Mary Pickford on location for the movie "A Girl of Yesterday". The second image shows Martin at the controls of an airplane. His interest in aviation began at an early age when he assembled and sold box kites for 25 cents to family and friends. In 1917, Martin's vision for air travel prompted him to form the Glenn L. Martin Company. This corporation became one of the leading defense contractors between World War I and the Cold War. He managed the company for nearly forty years until his death on December 5, 1955, at the age of seventy-nine. In 1961, after his death, the company merged with the American-Marietta Corporation to become Martin-Marietta. In 1995, the company merged with the Lockheed Corporation. The newly formed Lockheed Martin Corporation became one of the largest defense contractors in the United States. He lived in Salina, Kansas, for a portion of his childhood.

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