

La bataille des plaines d'Abraham

13 septembre 1759

Le siège de Québec dure depuis déjà onze semaines lorsque dans la nuit du 12 au 13 septembre 1759, l'armée britannique, commandée par le général James Wolfe, débarque à l'Anse-au-Toulon, escalade la falaise et prend position sur le promontoire, à proximité de la ville. Surpris, le marquis de Montcalm ordonne le déplacement des troupes françaises retranchées à Beauport. Il est environ neuf heures lorsque les deux armées se font face.



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Les forces en présence



Armée française : 4 400

2^e bataillon, Régiment de Béarn
2^e bataillon, Régiment de Guyenne
2^e bataillon, Régiment de Languedoc
2^e bataillon, Régiment de La Sarre
2^e bataillon, Régiment de Royal-Roussillon
Milice de Montréal
Milice de Québec
Milice de Trois-Rivières
Amérindiens

Armée britannique : 4 426

15^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
28^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
35^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
43^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
47^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
48^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
58^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
2^e bataillon, 60^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
3^e bataillon, 60^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
78^e régiment d'infanterie (Foot)
Grenadiers de Louisbourg
Infanterie légère



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ENGLISH ON REVERSE

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The battle of the Plains of Abraham

September 13, 1759

Québec had been under siege for nearly eleven weeks when the British army, led by General James Wolfe, landed at Anse-au-Foulon in the night of September 12 to 13, 1759, scaled the cliff and took position on the headland near the city. Taken by surprise, the Marquis de Montcalm ordered the deployment of French troops entrenched at Beauport. It was approximately nine o'clock when the two armies faced each other.



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Opposing forces



French army: 4,400

Régiment de Béarn, 2nd Battalion
Régiment de Guyenne, 2nd Battalion
Régiment de Languedoc, 2nd Battalion
Régiment de La Sarre, 2nd Battalion
Régiment de Royal-Roussillon, 2nd Battalion
Montréal Militia
Québec Militia
Trois-Rivières Militia
Amerindians

British army: 4,426

15th Regiment of Foot
28th Regiment of Foot
35th Regiment of Foot
43rd Regiment of Foot
47th Regiment of Foot
48th Regiment of Foot
58th Regiment of Foot
60th Regiment of Foot, 2nd Battalion
60th Regiment of Foot, 3rd Battalion
78th Regiment of Foot
Louisbourg Grenadiers
Light Infantry

At about ten o'clock, the Marquis de Montcalm ordered the attack. While advancing, the French lines broke up quickly and fired in a disorderly fashion. The British soldiers remained impassive. When the enemy was about 40 yards away (slightly more than 36 metres), they fired simultaneously. The round of gunfire was devastating. There was such confusion among the French ranks that a number of soldiers retreated to the city. Under heavy fire by the Canadian militia, the British attack was halted, giving the French army an opportunity to seek refuge in the city. Victory fell to the British. General Wolfe and the Marquis de Montcalm died in the confrontation that lasted less than half an hour.



FRANÇAIS AU VERSO

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