

The Mont Blanc Tunnel Disaster: Lessons Learned?

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December 6, 1917

\$1.25

The Inevitable Collision Course

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The Mont Blanc and the Imo Collide

The norwegian ship called the *Imo* was leaving Halifax harbor, and the French *Mont Blanc*, carrying a massive amount of explosives, was heading into the harbor. The ships collided, causing a fire to start on the hull of the *Mont Blanc*. Curious onlookers came from all around came to watch as the ship burned, not understanding the french crew who were trying to warn them about the explosives on board. The people crowded the streets around the harbor, having no idea of the danger that they were in. After twenty minutes of burning, the *Mont Blanc* finally exploded at 9:05 AM.

The Norwegian ship *Imo* after the collision was pushed to the side by the blast. The *Mont Blanc* was completely obliterated.

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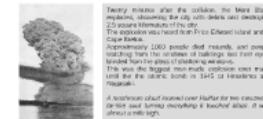
Halifax Shattered by Devastating Blast

The city was flattened 2.5km away, and houses 100km away shook from the shock wave



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Largest Man-Made Explosion Until the dropping of the atomic bomb



Twenty minutes after the collision, the *Mont Blanc* exploded, flattening the city with debris and shattering 25 square kilometers of the city. The explosion was heard from 1000 Kilometers and in Cape Breton. Approximately 1000 people died instantly, and people watching from the window of buildings lost their lives. It was the largest man-made explosion ever made until the atomic bomb in 1945 at Hiroshima and Nagasaki. A steamship about 100km away from the explosion, a 100-ton coal barge, exploded a few hours later, it was visible in the night.

The *Mont Blanc* had 2,700 tonnes of explosives on board, worth over \$3,000,000
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Disaster Gets Worse As a blizzard wrecks Halifax

The final disaster of 1917 came in the form of a blizzard. It hit Halifax on December 17th, 1917, through the weekend. The blizzard was a major disaster, and it was when the last French left the city. The blizzard caused 100 deaths in the city. 1000 people were killed, and 1000 were injured. 1000 people were left homeless. In the blizzard, many people died, and many were injured. The city was hit hard, and the people were suffering. The blizzard was a major disaster, and it was when the last French left the city. The blizzard caused 100 deaths in the city. 1000 people were killed, and 1000 were injured. 1000 people were left homeless.



The aftermath of the disaster in Canada had a major impact on the country. It was a major disaster, and it was when the last French left the city. The blizzard caused 100 deaths in the city. 1000 people were killed, and 1000 were injured. 1000 people were left homeless.

The True Significance of the Explosion

That all of Canada heard

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The Halifax Explosion was the biggest man-made explosion until the atomic bomb. Canadians stood by each other to provide relief for the many people who were affected by the explosion. All of Canada came together to help Halifax, uniting us as a nation. The *Mont Blanc* was carrying supplies for the war, showing that even though the war was in Europe, it was affecting the people back home in more ways than one.

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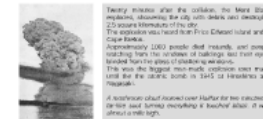
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Disaster Gets Worse

As a blizzard wrecks Halifax

The final disaster of 1917 came in the form of a blizzard. It hit Halifax on December 17th, bringing heavy snow and strong winds. The snow piled up to several feet, making it difficult to move. The blizzard caused 100 deaths and injured 1,000 people. It was the final straw for the city, which was already recovering from the explosion. The blizzard also caused the death of 100 people, including many children. The city was in a state of panic, and the people were desperate for help. The blizzard was a terrible tragedy, and it showed that the city was still recovering from the explosion.



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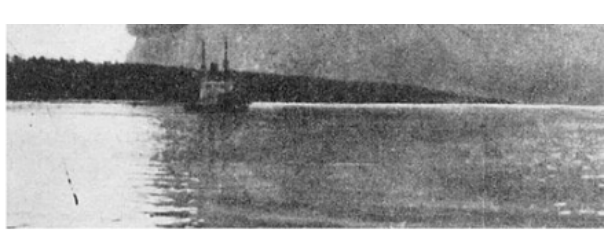
The ships collided, causing a fire to start on the hull of the *Mont Blanc*.

Curious onlookers came from all around to watch as the ship burned, not understanding the french crew who were trying to warn them about the explosives on board.

The people crowded the streets around the harbor, having no idea of the danger that they were in.

After twenty minutes of burning, the *Mont Blanc* finally exploded at 9:05 AM.

The Norwegian ship Imo after the collision was pushed the the side by the blast. The Mont Blanc was completely obliterated.



A mushroom cloud loomed over Halifax for ten minutes, a tar-like soot turning everything it touched black. It was almost a mile high.

The *Mont Blanc* had 2,700 tonnes of explosives on board, worth over \$3,600,000

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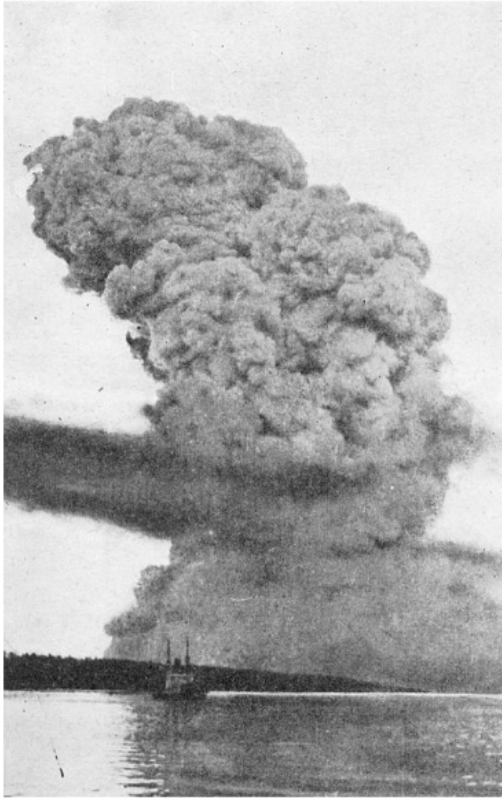
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Largest Man-Made Explosion

Until the dropping of the atomic bomb



Twenty minutes after the collision, the Mont Blanc exploded, showering the city with debris and destroying 2.5 square kilometers of the city.

The explosion was heard from Price Edward Island and in Cape Breton.

Approximately 1000 people died instantly, and people watching from the windows of buildings lost their eyes, blinded from the glass of shattering windows.

This was the biggest man-made explosion ever made until the the atomic bomb in 1945 at Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

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The blast caused a tidal wave to crush down on the city, a fire that spread quickly through the wooden buildings, and a shock wave that blew houses off their foundations.

The effects caused \$35 million in damage costs.

1,900 people were killed, and 9,000 were injured.

6,000 people were left homeless.

To make matters even more devastating, a terrible blizzard crashed through the city the same night, slowing the crucial relief efforts that Halifax so desperately needed.

The aftermath of the blizzard on Campbell Road. Windows were non-existent as far away as Truro, 100km away.



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