

**The Details:**

December 6, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ dawned clear and sunny in \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. With a population of about 50,000, it was the largest city in Atlantic Canada.

Before darkness fell, more than \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ people would \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, with another \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ to follow.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ more would be injured in the biggest \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ the world had ever seen.

Halifax was booming. It was a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ town in 1917 and World War 1 had been going on for 3 years. Halifax has one natural asset – one of the world’s \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ which made it important for the war effort at home.



It had never been so busy because ships were carrying \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. The twentieth century had brought miracles of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.



The \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ was part of daily life. A \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that moved around the world, door to door in mere hours, was still an amazing accomplishment in 1917.

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ were catching on. They weren't considered basic appliances and not many people had them.

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**The Mont Blanc**

The Mont Blanc left \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ and was heading to Halifax. It flew no flags \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of its \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_: a ship laden( ) with \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ would be a prime \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_for German attack. German attacks on supply ships was very common. Typically ships going across the \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ had a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ of military ships \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ them.

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**The Imo**

*Imo* had no \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ on board. It was heading to New York to collect emergency supplies for \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in war-torn Belgium.

It carried a large sign on its side: "\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_." The sign was supposed to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

German submarines, or \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, from sinking it as a military target.

**The Explosion**

At 9:04:35 the ships collided and the *Mont-Blanc* exploded with a force stronger than any man-made explosion before it.

The steel hull burst sky-high, falling in a blizzard of red-hot, twisted projectiles on Dartmouth and Halifax. Some pieces were tiny; others were huge. Part of the anchor hit the ground more than 4 km away on the far side of Northwest Arm. A gun barrel landed in Dartmouth more than 5 km from the harbour. More than 1500 people were killed outright; hundreds more would die in the hours and days to come. 9000 people, many of whom might have been safe if they hadn't come to watch the fire, were injured by the blast, falling buildings and flying shards of glass.

