

# Vimy Ridge

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The Battle of Vimy Ridge was a military engagement fought as part of the Battle of Arras, in the Nord-Pas-de-Calais region of France, during the First World War. The main combatants were the Canadian Corps, against the German Sixth Army. The battle, which took place from April 9th to 12th in 1917, was part of the opening phase of the British-led Battle of Arras.





The objective of the Canadian Corps was to take control of the German-held high ground along an escarpment at the northernmost end of the Arras Offensive. This would ensure that the southern flank could advance without suffering German fire. The Canadian Corps captured most of the ridge during the first day of the attack. The town of Thélus fell during the second day of the attack, as did the crest of the ridge once the Canadian Corps overcame considerable German

resistance. The final objective, a fortified knoll located outside the town of Givenchy-en-Gohelle, fell to the Canadian Corps on April 12th 1917. The German forces then retreated to the Oppy–Méricourt line.

In conclusion, this battle was successful due to planning, technical achievement, and extensive training. The battle was the first occasion when all four divisions of the Canadian Expeditionary Force participated in a battle together and thus became a Canadian nationalistic symbol of achievement and sacrifice. A 250 acres portion of the former battleground serves as a preserved memorial park and site of the Canadian National Vimy Memorial.

"The Battle of Vimy Ridge, 9-12 April 1917." WarMuseum.ca. N.p., n.d. Web. 07 Nov. 2014.

"Vimy Ridge." The Canadian Encyclopedia. N.p., n.d. Web. 07 Nov. 2014.

"The Battle of Vimy Ridge." Veterans Affairs Canada. N.p., n.d. Web. 09 Nov. 2014.