



*Fire! Fire! Fire! Despite blank cartridges, both Canadians and Americans took the historic replay of the 1775 Plains of Abraham skirmish seriously. Drummer boys and wounded soldiers all played their parts.*



**Quebec revisited for U.S. centennial**

American troops in the colourful uniforms of the Revolutionary War closed in against the defenders of Quebec on the historic Plains of Abraham on October 5, 1975. The smoke and cries of battle had all the earmarks of the serious encounter that took place there some 200 years ago – but the 1975 clash was all nostalgia and fun.

The replay of hostilities that both commemorated an actual event and helped launch international celebrations of the bicentennial of the American Revolution, was the result of two years of planning by the United States Arnold Expedition Historical Society

of Gardiner, Maine and Canada's Department of National Defence.

This time, instead of the original 100 men from Maine and 1,000 from Massachusetts in the invading forces of Colonel Benedict Arnold and General Richard Montgomery, some 700 Americans represented the two armies, while another 60 Americans joined 140 Canadians to portray the British force in a replay that ended much more amicably than the historic encounter.

The Arnold Society organized American participation in three separate armies for the mock skirmish – "Colonel Arnold's army" which marched through New York State to Quebec; "General Montgomery's", which marched through New York State

to Montreal (held in the original battle by the Americans) and on to Quebec City; as well as arranging for the participation of the 60 Americans that helped make up the "British defence".

In the enactment, Colonel Thornton McGlamery, a retired U.S. army commander, led the expedition through Maine, while Tom Nolan, a sales manager, led the Montgomery force. The "British force" was led by Vic Suthren, art curator at the Canadian War Museum, complete with white wig and walking stick.

**Original route followed**

The trek, which began September 20 in Cambridge, Mass., followed the