**September 16, 1777**

**TROOP POSITIONS**

Morning

**BATTLE DETAIL INSET**

2:00 PM

**Troop Positions**

- Brigade / Artillery
  - Continental
  - British
  - Hessian
  - Engagement

**BATTLE OF THE CLOUDS**

**September 16, 1777**

The Battle of the Clouds was fought in Northern Chester County. The battle is named so because it was halted due to a September Hurricane. The battle represented General Washington's second attempt to stop the British approach to Philadelphia through Chester County.

- **Approximate Casualties and Deaths:**
  - 25 Continentals wounded
  - 23 Continentals killed
  - 6 Crown Forces wounded
  - 6 Crown Forces killed
  - The Battle of the Clouds occurred five days after the Battle of Brandywine and four days before the Battle of Paoli
  - The Crown Forces had troop strength close to 18,000 men
  - The Continental Army's troop strength was about 11,000 men
  - This was one of the few battles where George Washington was the commanding general
  - The battle was fought three days before the first Battle of Saratoga in New York

- **After the Battle of Brandywine:**
  - Washington marched to the Great Valley on the Lancaster Road on the 15th of September
  - General Howe remained on the field near Chadd's Ford for four nights after the Battle of Brandywine
  - General Cornwallis camped near the Seven Stars Tavern in Aston after the Battle of Brandywine
  - Both Howe and Cornwallis converged on the Goshen Meetinghouse on the morning of the 16th
  - Washington chose the location of the battle based on a desire to protect both the upper fords of the Schuylkill River leading to Philadelphia, and the military supplies stored near Reading Furnace
  - The first shots of the battle were fired near the Turks Head Tavern in today's West Chester Borough
BATTLE OF THE CLOUDS  
September 16-18, 1777

- 18-year old Jacob Nagle and African American teamster, Ned Hector, helped to haul artillery up and down the Great Valley ridges for Proctor’s Artillery before and after the battle.
- Immediately after the battle, the Continental Army moved to Yellow Springs.
- Two days after the battle, the main army marched to Reading Furnace while General Wayne remained near Yellow Springs.
- The Crown Forces camped on the field of battle and then moved to Tredyffrin Township on the 18th.
- While the British were camped in Tredyffrin General Wayne took his division behind the Paoli Tavern, setting the stage for the Paoli Massacre.
- On the week of September 15th, the Continental Army marched passed the Whitehorse Tavern four separate times.
- The Crown Forces also marched passed the Whitehorse on their way to Tredyffrin.

Philadelphia Campaign Timeline, 1777
- August 25, Howe arrives near Elton, Maryland.
- September 11, Battle of Brandywine.
- September 16, Battle of the Clouds.
- September 20, Battle of Paoli.
- September 26, British occupy Philadelphia.
- October 4, Battle of Germantown.
- December 19, Valley Forge Encampment established.

In addition to George Washington, future founding fathers Alexander Hamilton and James Monroe also fought in the Philadelphia Campaign.
- Three days after the battle, the Continental Congress evacuated Philadelphia to reconvene in Lancaster.