Louisiana: Our History, Our Home



Workbook Skills

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Na	meDate
Se	ction 2
C	onflict with the Chickasaw
Dir	ections: Read the account of a battle between the French and the Chickasaw and answer the questions that follow.
son am [Ind tim ver sav	De Bienville, Governor of this Province, being determined to destroy the Chickasaw march[ed] toward them he time ago from New Orleans He dispatched orders to Major Pierre D'Artaguett, the commanding Officer ong the Illinois [band of Indians], to join the French the first of April, and to muster [assemble] together as many dians] as he could get. Major D'Artaguett [moved so quickly] that he arrived at the rendezvous before the e prescribed; and instead of waiting the coming of [Governor] Bienville, he went to attack the Chickasaws, trusting y much to the bravery of the Illinois, who nevertheless abandoned him at the first fire of the people of [the] Chickaws [So] he had no more than 150 men left, both French and Indians, to withstand 800; Therefore the battle not last long; he was quickly defeated and killed with all the other officers and 48 French[men]. (Excerpt of a letter dated April 30, 1736, and published in the New England Weekly Journal)
1.	What was Governor Bienville's military objective in this battle?
2.	Why were Bienville's and D'Artaguett's forces unable to rendezvous (to meet at an agreed time and place)?
3.	Which tribe had allied with the French for the battle with the Chickasaw?
4.	According to this account, what did the Illinois band do when they were first fired upon?
5.	After the Illinois band left, how badly outnumbered were D'Artaguett's forces?
6.	What was the outcome of the battle?
7.	What type of source is the letter excerpt?
8.	When this letter excerpt is published in a journal account of the battle, what type of source is it?

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