

## World War One - Battles

### Gallipoli

When the First World War began, it was assumed that the Allies naval strength would be a vital aspect of the War. The first few months of the conflict did not show this; however, an Anglo-French task force was deployed in the Mediterranean in early 1915, with the aim of turning this around.

Their plan was to attack Turkey, through the straits of Dardanelles. If they could reach Constantinople, then there was a chance for winning passage to their Russian allies.

A fleet led by Vice Admiral Sackville Carden bombarded the fort to the entrance to the Dardanelles. Progress was slow and 3 battleships were lost. As a result of this, it was decided that the eventual success of the campaign would depend on the land forces, which came as no surprise to the Turks.

On 25<sup>th</sup> April, Australian and New Zealand soldiers joined some British and French troops to land on the Gallipoli Peninsula, however the Turkish were expecting this and were waiting above the beaches. The British and French troops came under severe fire and barely managed to capture the beach. They were unable to go any further due to weakened force.



Q 50473: On 25 April 1915, British, Australian and New Zealand troops landed on a series of beaches around the tip of the Gallipoli Peninsula in support of the Royal Navy's attack on the Dardanelles. Here at V Beach, the British suffered particularly heavy casualties. Dead and wounded can be seen on the boats and by the water's edge, while survivors shelter on the beach.

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Q 70701: The fighting at Gallipoli quickly sank into stalemate and by May 1915 trench warfare had taken hold of the battlefield. After a series of costly attacks, like the Third Battle of Krithia on 4 June shown here, the British government decided to withdraw its troops and the last soldier was evacuated on 9 January 1916.



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