

# The Battle for Gallipoli: 1915-1916

The plan was to mount a British-led naval expedition to bombard and take the Gallipoli Peninsula on the western shore of the Dardanelles. A combined military-naval campaign would then seize Constantinople and force Turkey out of the war, easing pressure on ally Russia

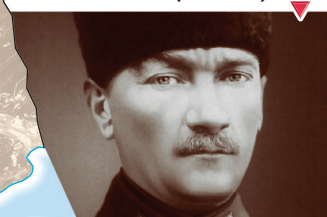


**Feb 19-Mar 18, 1915:** Naval attack abandoned after three battleships sunk and three heavily damaged

**Mar 11:** **General Sir Ian Hamilton** appointed commander of **Mediterranean Expeditionary Force** – British Royal Marines, 29th Division, Australia and New Zealand Army Corps (**ANZAC**) and French Corps – to capture Dardanelles

## OTTOMAN DEFENCE

Six divisions of 5th Army – 84,000 men – under German **General Liman von Sanders** including 19th Division led by **Mustafa Kemal (Ataturk)**



**INNER DEFENCES**  
Dardanelles virtually undefended beyond Nagara Point

**INTERMEDIATE DEFENCES**  
**Feb-Mar naval attempt fails to penetrate Narrows**  
Anti-submarine nets  
Minebelts

	Dead	Injured
Turkey	86,692	164,617
Britain	21,255	52,230
France	14,000	17,000
Australia	8,709	19,441
New Zealand	2,721	4,852
India	1,358	3,421
Canada	49	93

Gallipoli holds special significance for Australia and New Zealand as the first major conflict for the two fledgling nations, while for Turkey it marked the reawakening of nationhood

