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Gallipoli campaign as assessed by some British and Australian participants 1915-39



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Description

This thesis is a cultural history which considers the romantic nature of the portrayal of the Gallipoli campaign. It compares the responses of British and Australian participants of the campaign up to 1939. It suggests that there were distinctive themes which recur throughout the British responses. These themes constitute the 'heroicromantic myth of Gallipoli', the British equivalent of Australia's Anzac legend. Both the myth and legend helped to make the failure at Gallipoli tolerable and elevated the experience above the ignominy of defeat. The way the story was told in Britain contrasts strikingly with the Australian narration of Gallipoli as the foundation myth of the nation. Both forms of the reconstruction of the history of one campaign in the Great War reinforce the view that Gallipoli did not destroy the heroic romance of war stories. The thesis considers participants' assessments in terms of three genres: official, journalists', and individuals'. The focus is upon the nature of their story-telling, their style, tone, emphases and omissions. The thesis covers the following areas: 1) The Dardanelles commission and the attempts of General Sir Ian Hamilton to influence the findings of the first official response to the campaign. 2) The purpose and style of official history, comparing Cecil Aspinall-Oglander's volumes on Gallipoli to James Edmonds' conception of British official history and to 'Charles Bean's Australian official history of Gallipoli. 3) The work of Ellis Ashmead-Bartlett in comparison to the Australian official correspondent at Gallipoli, Charles Bean. These men had contrasting writing styles and attitudes to official control. 4) The variety of personal narratives produced by men who visited the Gallipoli peninsula during the campaign. These include John Masefield's

propagandistic work, the memoirs of chaplains including Ernest Raymond, and of front line soldiers, and unit histories. 5) General Sir Ian Hamilton's attempt to portray the campaign in a romantic light in his Gallipoli Diary.

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And so, clearly, the Gallipoli campaign was not, as often portrayed, simply due to some late arrived-at consideration such as Russia's need for access to the Dardanelles. Indeed, any doubts on this are swept away by Churchill's own accounts of the Gallipoli Campaign's background and unfolding events from 1914. (WC1i & WC1ii). As Churchill records, describing his letter to Prime Minister Asquith of December 31, 1914: "I wanted Gallipoli attacked on the declaration of war." Lord Kitchener .. Began to disembark the whole Australian and New Zealand Force at Suez for the purpose of completing their training and defending the line of the Canal." The Gallipoli campaign. Page 1 – Introduction. The landing at Anzac, April 25, 1915. Each year on Anzac Day, New Zealanders (and Australians) mark the anniversary of the Gallipoli landings of 25 April 1915. On that day, thousands of young men, far from their homes, stormed the beaches on the Gallipoli Peninsula in what is now Turkey. Key dates. 25 April 1915: Gallipoli landings. By the time the campaign ended, more than 130,000 men had died: at least 87,000 Ottoman soldiers and 44,000 Allied soldiers, including more than 8700 Australians. Among the dead were 2779 New Zealanders, about a sixth of all those who had landed on the peninsula. In the wider story of the First World War, the Gallipoli campaign made no large mark. Some features of this site may not work without it. Browse. All of Apollo Communities & Collections Authors Titles Keywords Type This Collection Authors Titles Keywords Type. Statistics. View Usage Statistics. This thesis is a cultural history which considers the romantic nature of the portrayal of the Gallipoli campaign. It compares the responses of British and Australian participants of the campaign up to 1939. It suggests that there were distinctive themes which recur throughout the British responses. These themes constitute the 'heroicromantic myth of Gallipoli', the British equivalent of Australia's Anzac legend. Both the myth and legend helped to make the failure at Gallipoli tolerable and elevated the experience above the ignominy of defeat. This is an order of battle listing the Allied and Ottoman forces involved in the Gallipoli campaign during 1915. Mediterranean Expeditionary Force. Commander-in-Chief: Gen. Sir Ian Hamilton. Chief of the General Staff: Maj-Gen. W. P. Braithwaite. Deputy Adjutant-General: Br-Gen. E. M. Woodward. Deputy Quartermaster-General: Br-Gen. S. H. Winter. 29th Division. Major-General A. G. Hunter-Weston. 86th Brigade: 2nd Battalion, Royal Fusiliers. 1st Battalion, Lancashire Fusiliers. A detailed account of the Gallipoli Campaign in 1915 that includes includes images, quotations and the main facts of the campaign. GCSE Modern World History - First World War. A-level. Last updated: 30th October, 2018. Gallipoli Campaign. Sections. Primary Sources. About 480,000 Allied troops took part in the Gallipoli campaign, including substantial British, French, Senegalese, Australian, New Zealand and Indian troops. The British had 205,000 casualties (43,000 killed). There were more than 33,600 ANZAC losses (over one-third killed) and 47,000 French casualties (5,000 killed). Turkish casualties are estimated at 250,000 (65,000 killed). "The campaign is generally regarded as an example of British drift and tactical ineptitude." (13).