

It was decided that troops would now be used to capture the Turkish forts. They would attack the west coast of the Gallipoli peninsula, cross overland, and capture the forts from behind. They would use Australian and New Zealand Arms Corps (or ANZACs), who were diverted from Egypt. The landing was a disaster due to poor planning using out-of-date maps. There was no practice in landing on enemy beaches.

The Turks were ready for the landing and mowed down thousands of advancing troops. With a great effort, the soldiers managed to secure a foothold on the beach and dig trenches to protect themselves. A landing further north at Suvla Bay caught the Turks unawares, but when the troops tried to advance, they too came under heavy fire and had to dig in.

SOURCE A

John Masefield, who took part in the landings, describes the scene

From every rifle and machine-gun began a murderous fire upon the ship and boats. There was no question of their missing. Many were killed in the water, many who were wounded, were swept away and drowned. Others, trying to swim in the fierce current, were drowned by the weight of the equipment. But some reached the shore. These instantly doubled out to cut the wire entanglements, and were killed. Only a handful reached cover.

SOURCE B

Soldiers landing at Anzac Cove

