

Siege of Adrianople, 29 Oct 1912 to 26 March 1913

This prolonged operation was carried out under 2nd Army. The OB of course varied during the fighting....

- Initial OB on 29 Oct (siege was established) - 3, 8 & 11 ID; the 2 ID was just returning to the Army after its service in western Thrace (see above)
- On 12 Nov the Bulgarians were reinforced by 2nd Serbian Army - Timok I & Dunav II Inf Divs; this made possible the release of 3 Bulgarian ID to 3rd Army for the drive toward Constantinople
- Around the start of 1913, therefore the besieging units were 8 & 11 Bulgarian ID plus an unidentified Cav Bde, Timok I & Dunav II Inf Divs
- Full OB in March is unknown - in the final assault there were 149,224 men - the 3, 4, 8 and 11 Bulgarian ID plus the Serbian Timok Div I; presumably other units were present.

Bulgarian casualties for the entire siege were 18,282 men; half [!] of these were suffered in the final assault, when the losses were 9558 (1591 killed).

Battle of the Chataldza [Cataldza] Lines, 17 November 1912

The Christian advance was checked by the infidels just a few miles N of Constantinople because the Turks occupied a narrow, well-constructed position. After the action both sides dug in here, and the front hardly moved for the rest of the war. Dimitriev was in overall command of 1st and his own 3rd Armies. There were 176,000 men of whom 1482 were killed, 9120 wounded and 1401 missing.

- 3rd Army - 3 & 9 ID at front; 4 & 5 ID stayed in reserve (3 ID was particularly distinguished)
- 1st Army - 1 & 6 ID at front; 10 ID stayed in reserve
- Cav Div - One regt at front; rest stayed in reserve

Action at Merhamli, 26 November 1912

This small fight was of significance because when it was over the trapped Turkish force under Yaver Pasha surrendered, putting an end to the campaign in southern Thrace. Thereafter the Bulgarians controlled the northern shore of the Sea of Marmora and the Gallipoli peninsula. Units were the 2 ID and the Kurdzhali [Kircaali] Detachment [Macedonia-Thrace Volunteer Corps].

[There was an armistice from 5 December 1912 to 30 January 1913 - the peace conference however was unsuccessful.]

Distribution of Troops, 24 Jan 1913

(1st and 3rd Armies together had 145,00 men; 2nd Army had 45,000 Bulgarians plus 28,000 attached Serbs; 4th Army had 25,000 men. Cavalry consisted of 1, 2 & 3 Bulgar