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Freeing the Baltic

By Geoffrey Bennett

Birlinn General. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Freeing the Baltic, Geoffrey Bennett, In 1919 the Baltic was in ferment. The Red Army struggled to take over the nascent Baltic states; Finland was in revolt; German armies rampaged through Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania. As White armies marched on revolutionary Petrograd, the new governments of the Baltic states appealed desperately to the Allies for assistance. Into this anarchy sailed a small British flotilla of light cruisers and destroyers. Opposing them were three Russian battleships and a host of lighter vessels. Rear Admiral Sir Walter Cowan was given no clear instructions from the British Admiralty as to what he was expected to achieve, and, as negotiations continued through the armistice, he effectively had to make his own policy. He succeeded to devastating effect. Despite having only a tiny force, he succeeded in improvizing one of most daring raids ever staged by the British navy - an attack which penetrated into the heart of impregnable Kronstadt and sank two Russian battleships. He outmanoeuvred the Germans and the Whites in a game of cat and mouse, raid and counter raid which left Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania free and which formed the basis of a...

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