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The Relief of Berlin

By Geoffrey De Salis

Melrose Books. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, The Relief of Berlin, Geoffrey De Salis, At the end of the Second World War, Berlin was occupied by units of the four victorious powers, and, accordingly, divided into four separate administration areas. The city itself was an island surrounded by large numbers of Soviet troops and entirely dependent on their goodwill to allow in supply columns from West Germany. In 1946, the Russians were flooding occupied Germany with newly printed Reichsmarks with the intention of creating massive inflation, thus destabilising the whole country in an effort to foster the spread of the communist doctrine. To counter this, the Allies, without Soviet approval, abolished the Reichsmark and replaced it with a new currency, the Deutschemark. This had the effect of stabilising the currency which led to future prosperity. The Soviets were furious that at one stroke their influence had been destroyed and in reprisal, in June 1946, cut off all means of land access to Berlin with the intention of starving its two million inhabitants, thus forcing the Allies to withdraw from the city. However, the other occupying forces refused to be intimidated and for ten months managed to supply the city...



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