



America's First Clash with Iran: The Tanker War 1987-88

By Lee Allen Zatarain

Casemate Books. Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, America's First Clash with Iran: The Tanker War 1987-88, Lee Allen Zatarain, A fine job of recounting a 20-year-old fight that was no doubt just another round in a continuing struggle. US Naval Institute Proceedings In May 1987 the US frigate Stark, calmly sailing the waters of the Persian Gulf, was suddenly blown apart by an Exocet missile fired from an Iraqi jet fighter. A fifth of the ship's crew was killed and many others horribly burned or wounded. This event jumpstarted one of the most mysterious conflicts in American history: The Tanker War, waged against Iran for control of the Persian Gulf. This quasi-war took place at the climax of the mammoth Iran-Iraq War during the Reagan administration. Losing on the battlefield, Ayatollah Khomeini's Iran had decided to close the Persian Gulf against shipping from Iraq's oil-rich backers, the emirate of Kuwait. The Kuwaitis appealed for help and America sent a fleet to the Gulf, raising the Stars and Stripes over Kuwait's commercial tankers. The result was a free-for-all, as the Iranians laid mines throughout the narrow passage and launched attack boats against both tankers and US warships. The sixth...



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