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*Serbia and the 1898 Spanish-American War  
Summary*

During the first months of 1898, Serbia followed attentively the worsening of the crisis in Spanish-American relations, but without making public statements. When the war broke out between Spain and the USA in April 1898, both parties officially informed Serbia. Spain did it through the Serbian Embassy in Paris and the USA through the American Ambassador for Greece, Romania and Serbia. American ambassador Rockhill arrived in person from Athens to Belgrade and requested by a note the neutrality of Serbia. Serbia's response was drafted under the model of the reply that the Swiss government gave to the American embassy in Bern, containing a provision on strict observance of neutrality. The Spanish-American war received great publicity in Serbia. The Serbian press covered the developments in maritime battlefields almost on a daily basis, often carrying articles from leading European papers. The attention of Serbian official circles and the general public, with regards to this war, also focused on reactions in other states and peace initiatives from abroad. Since in August, 1898, American Ambassador Rockhill informed the Serbian Prime Minister that preliminaries of the peace had been established, Serbia's interest in that war gradually subsided.