

WAR DEPARTMENT

THE ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE

WASHINGTON

IN REPLY
REFER TO AG 055.5 (2-2-35) Exec.

MDD/ID -156-

February 11, 1935.

- Miss Ida M. Tarbell,
120 East Nineteenth Street,
New York, N. Y.

Dear Madam:

I have for response your letter of February 2, in which you request to be furnished with the Department's estimates of the cost of the Spanish American War, classified in such a manner as to show the amounts spent for food and clothing, as well as for weapons and ammunition for both the Army and the Navy.

The records of the War Department afford authentic information relative to the United States military establishment only. The Navy Department, this city, is the sole source of authoritative data relating to the activities of the naval establishment.

No attempt has ever been made in the War Department to classify the expenditures of this Department during the period of the war with Spain, in the manner desired by you. Detailed statistics, however, relating to all War Department appropriations and expenditures are published each year in the financial statements printed as an appendix to the Annual Report of the Secretary of War to the President. These statements are classified to show amounts allotted to and payments made by the various War Department offices, bureaus, and branches during the fiscal year ended June 30, for the year concerned. In addition to the annual financial statements referred to, the reports of the Secretary of War for 1898, 1899, 1900 and 1901, respectively, contain statements relating to the expenditure of the War Department's allotment of the \$50,000,000 national defense fund authorized by the Act of Congress, March 9, 1898. Copies of these reports are no longer available for distribution by the War Department, but should be accessible in any large library.

Regarding the total monetary cost of the war with Spain, the Treasury Department has informed this office that the expenditures by the United States relating particularly to the war with Spain, including the cost of military and naval operations in the Philippines, have never been separately recorded or compiled as they were paid largely from the annual and miscel-

laneous appropriations made by Congress for the general activities
of the military and naval establishments.

Very truly yours,

James H. McKinstry
Major General,
The Adjutant General.
By.