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**ABOUT THE CRIMEAN WAR IN LOWER DANUBE (1853-1854)**

(Summary)

At the Vienna Archives some not-known until now reports from the Austrian consuls at Russe and Vidin are kept, that refer to the events concerning both waterside of Danube and hinterland, especially the right bank (the Bulgarian one) at the time of the so called .First period, of the war, or The positional war.. The documents reveal the efficiency and the strength of the Turkish army, the activities of their leading generals, the picture of the bloody engagements, the victims and misery of the local population. All these taken into consideration, shows that this overture, of the big Crimean war wasn't bloodless and unoffending as some authors claim. For the duration of one year it turned the fertile lands along the lower riverside in a devastated battle-field. This war became the source of famine, mortal diseases and destruction of the earlier thriving trade-life along the river. Repeatedly the belligerent powers leveled their powers and possibilities without anyone taking the winning flag. At the same time the Great Powers fought to obtain and divide the zones of economical and cultural influence around the Lower Danube basin.