COLONEL DE HORA, ADVENTURER, DIES

As Soldier of Fortune and a Mining Engineer Had a Thrilling Career.

SHANGHAIED IN HIS YOUTH

Reported to Have Seized a Warship and Steamer—A Police
Chief in South Africa.

Colonel Manuel Herrera de Hora, soldier of fortune and mining engineer, died in New York Hospital yesterday of a heart attack in his eighty-fifth year. According to friends, he had led a vigorous life on the high seas and in the gold fields of the world.

Probably the most adventurous

episode in his career was, according to an old magazine clipping, which was verified in part by two intimates, his seizure in 1872 of the Peruvian battleship Huascar in the South Seas, with which he held up a British tramp steamer. Later he had to fight a losing battle with H. M. S. Shah.

The same article told of his discovery of the "famous Magellan treasure"—two millions in a sunken

Spanish galleon, spoil promptly confiscated by the Argentine Government. Neither the New International Encyclopedia nor books on treasure trove record information of the Magellan treasure.

The two intimates who gave much of the biographical data concerning Mr. Hora are H. E. Owen,

a mining promoter, and John T. Breunich, assistant to the secretary of the American Institute of Mining and Metallurgical Engineers, in which Mr. Hora was a member of the senior honor roll, having belonged to the institute for twenty-five years. Mr. Hora's only close relative, his wife, Irene, could not be reached. She is in New York Hospital, suffering from a nervous breakdown.

Both Mr. Owen and Mr. Breunich said that, with the exception of the incidents already related, practically all their information had come from Mr. Hora's lips.

According to the story told by

Mr. Owen, verified in general by Mr. Breunich, Mr. Hora was born in Taleo, Calif., on Oct. 13, 1849.

His father was a descendant of a Spanish adventurer who had settled

in what is now California in 1600; his mother was Lady Melville of Scotland. He received his education at a Jesuit school in California and the University of California.

When only 14, while visiting San Francisco, he was shanghaied. After leaving the sea, he turned to college and eventually became a mining engineer.

He started mining in California with his father, going from there to the gold mines of New Zealand and South Africa. In Rhodesia he

broke out, he was made chief of the force policing neutral territory. After the war he went to England and received the offer of a Colonelcy in the British Legion of Frontiersmen. As Mr. Hora was averse to the surrender of his American citizenship he was designated instead an honorary Colonel. Later he was a Colonel on the staff

was employed by Cecil Rhodes as an engineer. When the Boer War

of a Governor of Montana. For a while Colonel Hora was in South American gold fields. Subse-

quently he became general agent for the Thomson-Houston Electric Company in La Platte, Argentina, introducing there, according to Mr. Owen, the telephone and the electric light

tric light.

In 1926 Colonel Hora went to the Island of Euboea, Greece, to operate the Mourtia Mines. On his return to America he became an engineering consultant. He resided at 106 East Seventeenth Street. He was a thirty-second degree Mason.

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