

Sam Dreben, Noted Soldier, El Pasoan, Claimed By Death

Follower Of Madero and Orozco and Volunteer In World War Dies Suddenly In Los Angeles; Distinguished Self Many Times.

HOLLYWOOD, Calif., March 16 (AP).—Fearless Sam Dreben, internationally known for his daredevilries on a score of battle fields; American world war hero and soldier of fortune in a dozen revolutions; filibusterer with Villa and friend of Pershing, will be buried this evening.

Dreben died here Sunday of paralysis after an illness of several months, aged 47. Toward sundown today the Hollywood American Legion post, of which he was a member, will take his body to a cemetery in Burbank, over the hills from here, where taps will sound the close of his colorful career.

Born in Russia, of Jewish parents, Dreben came to the United States as a young man and soon afterwards joined the United States army. He became a first sergeant of infantry, saw service in the Philippines, in China; later participated in a revolution in Nicaragua as a free lance and rounded out his Central American adventures with a term of service under Gen. Lee, Christmas in Honduras.

Mexico knew Dreben as a follower

of Madero in the revolution against Diaz, later as a participant in the revolt against Madero and still later as a free lance with Villa. He quit Villa, however, and when Gen. Pershing led his punitive expedition into Mexico after the Columbus raid he went along as a scout to help find Villa.

Honored By Nations.

When the world war broke out Dreben enlisted and in the last big offensive of 1918 he fought with such outstanding recklessness, resourcefulness and effectiveness that the United States awarded him the Distinguished Service Cross; France decorated him with the Croix de Guerre and Italy also honored him. It is said that near St. Etienne he led a small group of volunteers against a vastly superior German force, capturing four German machine guns, killing 50 of the enemy and taking two prisoners.

Many writers and soldiers of note knew and admired Dreben, and Gen. Pershing once was quoted as referring to him as "the finest soldier and one of the bravest men I ever knew."