

The initial verse is “From the Halls of Montezuma to the Shores of Tripoli.” The Montezuma phrase refers to the Battle of Chapultepec.

“From the Halls of Montezuma...” are a reference to the Chapultepec Castle also known as the *Halls of Montezuma*.

This battle was fought in September 1847, and it was part of the Mexican-American War. These lyrics were written by a Marine officer who had served in Mexico following the war's end.

The Tripoli phrase refers to actions during the First Barbary War (1801 -1805) and the Battle of Derna.