



AP Wirephoto

This photo of Capt. Honey with sword and spiked-ball-on-chain was taken during the Isla Vista disturbances.

## Sheriff Aide Fired In Santa Barbara

*From Our Correspondent*

### Santa Barbara

Captain Joel B. Honey, the sheriff's officer who acted as field commander during last year's major student riots at Isla Vista,

was fired yesterday on 11 specific charges of misconduct.

One of them was based on a photograph showing Honey attired in an "irregular" uniform, carrying a spiked metal ball on a long chain — a weapon known in medieval times as a morning star — during disturbances in front of the Bank of America the night of April 20, 1970.

The picture, displayed yesterday during a press conference held by Sheriff John W. Carpenter, showed that Honey was also armed with a Spanish sword, which was thrust through his belt.

Carpenter said this picture alone was enough to warrant

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Honey's dismissal.

The 34-year-old Honey has been on accumulated vacation leave from the department since last February. He reportedly was asked to resign on Tuesday but reused.

Dennis Merenbach, attorney for the sheriff's department, said the charges against Honey were compiled after a nine-month investigation of the officer's activities before and during the riots. Many of the complaints came from fellow officers, both in Santa Barbara and in outside counties.

## THREAT

"The counties said they wouldn't respond in a riot situation any more if Honey was anywhere around — either in a command position or anywhere in the field," Merenbach said.

The charges against Honey included slapping handcuffed prisoners across the

face without provocation, firing a multiple volley of tear gas grenades at a young violator of the curfew, and firing tear gas canisters from a shotgun grenade launcher at an individual in a tree and walking off, leaving the man bleeding on the ground.

He is also accused of dropping tear gas canisters from helicopters in violation of Federal Aviation Authority regulations.

## EVIDENCE

Among the other charges was one that Honey instructed a sergeant to "plant" evidence on a narcotics suspect "if we can't get him legally" and that he fired his revolver at the home of another officer in the department.

Honey, a veteran of 12 years in the department, three years as chief of the narcotics division, said he intends to fight the dismissal and will demand a full hearing before the Civil Service Commission.

He said most of the

charges against him were "shallow," and intends to rebut them by subpoenaing "many witnesses."

The slight, nervous Honey has been certified medically as "totally incapacitated" because of ulcers and a back complaint. He said he wants "vindication" before seeking a disability pension.

## PROSECUTION

District Attorney David Minier said he doesn't think it "very probable" Honey will be prosecuted on any of the charges.

"It appears mainly a personnel question at this time," he said.

Merenbach said some of the charges are misdemeanors, now outlawed by the statute of limitations. He added that Honey was given psychiatric examinations by two doctors, but the reports are "confidential." He said they will be given tomorrow to Honey's attorney, James Lindsay.