

Deputy's Sword Was 'All in Fun'

Santa Barbara

Captain Joel B. Honey, the sheriff's officer who was fired recently after a picture was published showing him carrying a sword and a spiked ball on a chain during last year's student riots at Isla Vista, yesterday claimed the irregular weapons were carried "for levity purposes only."

Honey made the statement in a document filed with the Santa Barbara Civil Service commission asking for a public hearing on the 11 misconduct charges brought against him November 17 by Sheriff John W. Carpenter.

The 34-year-old Honey, who acted as field commander during the major riots in the campus community, said in the statement that the sword and spiked ball displayed were "ancient facsimile items" and were carried "for levity purposes only and not

intended in any manner to be used otherwise."

The statement denied all the charges brought against him and claimed Sheriff Carpenter "knowingly and willfully distorted and misrepresented to the public the circumstances at the time of the taking of the photograph during the April, 1970 riots."

"... Other officers present at the field headquarters, including those who also used said items (the irregular weapons) fully understood, accepted and acknowledged that they were for levity purposes only."

Levity was necessary at the time, the statement said, "to combat stress and tension due to the high numbers of injuries sustained during the rioting."

The picture of Honey armed with the unusual equipment was taken by an unknown sheriff's photographer. There is speculation here that there are unpub-

lished pictures of other officers similarly armed.

Sheriff Carpenter said when he fired Honey that the picture alone was enough to warrant the dismissal.

James T. Lindsey, Honey's counsel, has suggested that his client will give testimony at the Civil Service hearing that could lead to misconduct charges against many other law enforcement officers in connection with the Isla Vista riots.

Lindsey said a hearing could be held within 20 days unless both sides agreed to a continuance.

Our Correspondent