

Isla Vista's Capt. Honey Is Reinstated

From Our Correspondent

Santa Barbara

Joel B. Honey, dismissed as a sheriff's captain because of misconduct during the Isla Vista student riots in 1970, was ordered reinstated to full rank yesterday after a seven-week hearing by the county Civil Service Commission.

Ten of the dozen charges against the 34-year-old Honey were judged to be false or unproven, commission President George R. Bliss Jr. announced.

These included accusations that Honey, commander of mutual aid police forces during disturbances, advised fellow officers to plant "throwaway" guns on any demonstrators who might be killed and to set fires to cover up incriminating evidence against police.

OFFICERS

Some of the 21 officers called to testify against Honey were "untrustworthy" and one indicated he was "out to get Honey," Bliss said.

The captain, fired by Sheriff John Carpenter last No-

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ember for misconduct at Isla Vista and in the performance of other duties, was awarded \$9400 in back pay.

The unanimous decision of the four-member commission said Honey deserved a written reprimand, however, for firing his service revolver during a party at another officer's home a year before the Isla Vista incidents.

TEAR GAS

The commission also found it true that Honey dropped tear gas canisters from a helicopter on one occasion during the riots, but determined there were no federal aviation regulations against the act.

One of the charges involved a published photograph taken of Honey during the troubles showing him carrying a mace and chain and an antique Spanish sword. The commission found that the captain did

not so arm himself "at high noon" in front of students in the middle of Santa Barbara, but took up the weapons in a spirit of levity at a remote command post "to relieve tension existing at the time."

The picture showed Honey, equipped with the bizarre weapons, on an Isla Vista street.

PRISONERS

Others charges discounted by the commission included one that he struck a handcuffed prisoner and another that he stole drugs from the sheriff's evidenc room.

Honey maintained through the hearing that he was fired by Sheriff Carpenter as a campaign maneuver to gain votes in the University of California at Santa Barbara student community of Isla Vista where the Sheriff was unpopular because of his action against demonstrators and suspected drug users.