

Cubans Find They Can't Twist British Lion's Tail

Cay Sal, Bahamas -P- How does the British lion go about ridding his domains of free-lance invaders?

Thirteen conquistadores from Cuba found out first hand Friday on mile square Cay Sal, a Bahamas isle where they planted Cuba's flag and claimed possession on the day before.

A four engined British Heron air transport from Nassau, the Bahamas capital, settled onto the sands. Out jumped Lt. Col. E. J. H. Colchester-Wemyss, commissioner of Bahamas police, and eight heavily armed constables.

Colchester-Wemyss marched up to Cesar Vega, 29, of Havana. He inquired civilly if Vega and his "troops" had proper customs and entry documents. They confessed that they hadn't.

"Depart forthwith!" the colonel barked, pointing seaward.

Vega argued, urging that he and his group of "nationalists"

be arrested and taken to Nassau as prisoners. Wemyss refused, suggesting that if the Vega party needed help in climbing into its boat, help aplenty was at hand.

The constables searched the Cubans, relieving them of their flag, a revolver, ammunition and some cans of movie film. The "invaders" sailed disconsolately away.

Shortly before the colonel and his constables took off, Jose Pardo Llada, Cuban National Revolutionary party candidate for mayor of Havana, arrived by air at Cay Sal and talked with newsmen during a short stay permitted by Wemyss.

Llada said the token invasion was linked to "an official feeling that the Cuban government should make a bid to obtain Cay Sal," which is 55 miles north of Veradero, Cuba, and 200 miles from Nassau.

Llada said direct negotiations would be attempted with Britain.