

# CHIANG JETS, MIG'S CLASH

4 Thunderjets, 4 Red Planes  
In Dog Fight Near Matsus

By SPENCER MOOSA

TAIPEI (Formosa), May 15.  
—(AP)—Nationalist jets  
clashed today for the first time  
with Chinese Communist MIGs,  
taking them on seventy miles  
north of the Matsu Islands, the  
Air Force reported.

There was no mention of  
damage to either side in a dog-  
fight between four Thunderjets  
and four MIG jets.

A communique underscored  
reports of growing Red air  
power in south China nearer  
Formosa.

"The fact that the battle  
area was close to the Mat-  
sus," said the communique,  
"indicates that enemy air  
power has gradually moved  
down south."

## LATER MODELS.

It was the second appear-  
ance this month of MIGs—and  
these may be later models than  
the MIG 15 which fought in  
Korea—near the Matsus, 120  
miles northwest of Formosa.

On May 4, four Nationalist  
propeller planes tangled for  
two minutes with four MIG 15s  
50 miles north of the Matsus.  
No damage was reported in  
that battle either. It was the  
first appearance of MIGs as far  
south as the Matsus and caused  
official concern.

The communique said the  
MIGs which showed up today  
differed from the MIG 15s and  
may have been deadlier, later  
model MIG 17s. Russia is be-  
lieved to have turned over some  
of these to Red China.

## 10 MINUTE FIGHT.

The communique said two  
MIGs flying eastward were en-  
countered by the Thunderjets  
at 2 p. m. over the Taishan Is-  
lands at 21,000 feet.

After a five-minute exchange  
of fire, two other MIGs showed  
up at 18,000 feet and joined the  
dogfight, the communique  
added. It said the entire en-  
gagement lasted ten minutes  
and all Thunderjets returned  
safely.

Reports circulated that the  
Nationalist jets were flying  
cover for warships assigned to  
shell the Taishans, but there  
was no official confirmation.

Far to the south and across  
the strait from Formosa, Com-  
munist gunners in the port of  
Amoy fired four shells at little  
Quemoy. It was the first Red  
shelling in that area since  
May 5.