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Cuban Lands MIG In U. S. For Asylum

Korean War Type
Soviet-Built Plane
Under Heavy Guard

HOMESTEAD AIR FORCE BASE, Fla. (UPI)—A MIG-17 jet fighter with a hammer and sickle stamped on its gunsight and a Cuban flag emblazoned on its tail was under heavy guard today while authorities questioned the man who flew it from Cuba.

The Soviet-built jet landed at this sprawling home of long-range SAC bombers and sleek fighters yesterday after it was sighted on radar scopes 90 miles east of Key West.

Pilot Unidentified

The pilot, an unidentified Cuban, promptly asked asylum and got it.

"Any plane that comes in with his wheels down is allowed to land," said one Air Force veteran on the Homestead runway. "If he comes in with his landing gear up, he will be shot down."

The MIG-17, of the type which dealt trouble to U. S. fighters during the Korean War, touched down near President Nixon's plane—Air Force One—which was waiting to carry the Chief Executive back to Washington.

President Nearby

The President, who had spent the week end at Key Biscayne about 40 miles away, was informed of the incident yesterday afternoon.

But he did not let it interfere with a banquet celebration with his old friend, C. B. (Bert) Gelboe.