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By GREG MacGREGOR special to The New York Times.

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But Message to Taiwanese
Says Peaceful Means
Will Achieve Task

By GREG MacGREGOR

Special to The New York Times.

TAIPEI, Taiwan, Oct. 25— President Chiang Kai-shek took advantage of a Taiwan holiday today to reassure the Chinese Nationalists that it was still their "sacred duty" to return to the mainland.

But he did temper his message by cautioning against too much optimism and predicted a "long drawn-out" struggle.

His words were part of a message that he delivered to mark the thirteenth anniversary

of Taiwan's return to Chinese sovereignty after nearly half a century of Japanese occupation.

President Chiang reemphasized that recovery of the mainland must be accomplished through the three principles set forth by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, leader of the revolution that overthrew the Ching dynasty, the last of the Manchu houses that ruled China. Generalissimo Chiang inherited the leadership of Dr. Sun's Kuomintang.

The three principles as formulated by Dr. Sun were: nationalism, democracy and social well-being.

President Chiang called on the people of Taiwan in his message to continue their reconstruction and to set an even better example of what could be attained by Chinese endeavor. His idea, he said, is to set a shining example for the enslaved Chinese on the mainland to compare with Communist tyranny.

In the words of the General-

issimo, the people of Taiwan were urged to continue their efforts "to solidly cooperate with the Government, vigorously undertake reconstruction jobs in order to reach the ideals contained in the three principles, and lay the firm foundation to the rejuvenation of the Chinese people."

This work would also "strengthen the confidence of our mainland compatriots in their aspirations for regaining freedom," he added.

"While the military forces and civilians on the front line are resisting the enemy heroically, the people in the rear should adhere strictly to a life of war, be austere, conquer difficulties and root out their frivolous and luxurious habits," the chief of state said. "Governments of all levels should redouble their spirit, raise their efficiency and establish a political environment of frugality, exactness and seriousness."

The President said that a

clear-cut victory in the defense of Quemoy not only protected the security of Taiwan but also renewed the hope for the people enslaved on the mainland.

"We must be tenacious and patient," he counseled. "We must be united. We must be all-out in our preparations for a long-drawn-out fight in order not to fail our mainland compatriots, who have great hopes in the people of Taiwan."

Confidence Voiced

The Generalissimo said he was still confident that the mainland would eventually be restored to free China. He added:

"Today the Communists on the mainland have as their avowed objective the destruction of human nature, ethics, family history and culture. They have plunged our mainland compatriots into a state worse than living in fire and water. The sufferings and privations are much worse than in pre-restoration Taiwan."

Meanwhile, it was disclosed

that Nike-Hercules guided missiles on Taiwan have been operational for twenty-four hours. The announcement was made by Maj. Gen. L. L. Doan, commander of United States forces here.

"By operational," the general said, "I mean the battalion is ready to launch a missile or missiles to destroy aircraft attacking the Taipei area."