Headline: Taiwan, Mainland UFO Forum Closes in Beijing

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FULL TEXT OF ARTICLE:

1. ["UFOs Galore Across Taiwan Straits"--XINHUA headline]

2. [Text] Shanghai, December 7 (XINHUA)--Nearly 6,000 sightings of unidentified flying objects (UFOs) across the Taiwan Straits have been reported, said experts from the Chinese Mainland and Taiwan here today. Some have defied rational explanation.

3. Wang Changting, chairman of the China UFO Research Organization (CUFO), said that more than 5,000 sightings have been reported from the mainland, and several hundreds in Taiwan.

4. Researchers at a three-day symposium on UFOs, which closed here today, said that some of the sightings cannot be explained by general knowledge or current scientific findings.

5. The meeting was the first of its kind attended both by Taiwan and mainland researchers.

6. They said that people who had seen the UFOs included astronomical observatory workers as well as civil and military pilots.

7. China decided last year to stage a world UFO conference in 1993. The plan fell through because of insufficient preparation.

8. But Wang said that the Cross-Straits meeting was a continuation of the search for life forms from other solar systems—one of the themes of the "1992 International Space Year".

9. About 50 researchers at the symposium discussed the real nature of UFOs, with some of them believing they came from remote galaxies and others saying they were natural phenomena or artificial objects, such as lightning bolts, or balloons or man-made satellites.

10. The first report of a UFO, also known as flying saucers, came from the United States in 1947. It became a widespread topic in