BEIJING, DECEMBER 8 (XINHUA) -- HIGHLIGHTS OF TODAY'S MAJOR BEIJING-BASED NEWSPAPERS:

PEOPLE'S DAILY (RENHIN RIBAO) (SUBHEAD)

-- CHINESE PREMIER LI PENG HAS PRAISED MAO ZEDONG FOR HIS "CREATIVE WORK IN FORMULATING CHINA'S DIPLOMATIC STRATEGY AND FOREIGN POLICIES."

SPEAKING AT THE OPENING CEREMONY OF A SYMPOSIUM ON RESEARCH INTO MAO'S DIPLOMATIC THINKING YESTERDAY, LI DESCRIBED MAO AS A GREAT STRATEGIST IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY.


THE LINE WILL BE A NEW LINK BETWEEN THE CHINESE CAPITAL AND KOWLOON IN HONG KONG.

CHINA YOUTH DAILY (SUBHEAD)

-- HU JINTAO, A SENIOR OFFICIAL OF THE CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

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ECONOMIC DAILY ((SUBHEAD))

-- OFFICIALS IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC Restructuring have been urged TO KEEP THEIR WORK WELL-COORDINATED DURING THE ONGOING ECONOMIC REFORMS.

-- THE GOVERNMENT HAS VOWED TO DEEPEN REFORMS OF CHINA'S FINANCIAL SYSTEM NEXT YEAR IN A BID TO SET UP A NEW NATIONAL BANKING STRUCTURE.

CHINA DAILY ((SUBHEAD))

-- CHINA'S FOREIGN TRADE GREW BY 16.5 PERCENT IN THE FIRST 11 MONTHS THIS YEAR TO 164.2 BILLION U.S. DOLLARS, WITH ITS DEFICIT HITTING 7.7 BILLION U.S. DOLLARS.

-- EXPORTS DURING THE PERIOD GREW BY 6.2 PERCENT TO 78.25 BILLION U.S. DOLLARS WHILE IMPORTS ROSE 27.8 PERCENT TO 85.95 BILLION U.S. DOLLARS.

-- NEARLY 6,000 SIGHTINGS OF UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECTS (UFOs) ACROSS THE TAIWAN STRAITS HAVE BEEN REPORTED, SAID EXPERTS FROM THE CHINESE MAINLAND AND TAIWAN MEETING IN BEIJING.