By Joanna Stone

This Week marks the twentieth anniversary of President Nixon's initial visit to China. He was invited to the People's Republic of China in a unique atmosphere of mutual goodwill and understanding that has been sustained throughout the twenty-five years since the official establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States and China. The Nixon visit was a milestone in the history of US-China relations, and it has paved the way for significant progress in the bilateral relationship.

The U.S.-China Joint Commission on Commerce and Trade (JCCT) was formally established in 1979 to promote mutual understanding and economic cooperation. The JCCT has been instrumental in setting the agenda for economic and commercial relations between the two countries, and it has played a key role in facilitating the growth of trade and investment between the United States and China.

The JCCT has overseen the implementation of key agreements and initiatives, such as the Strategic Trade Agreement (STA) and the Investment Protection Agreement (IPA), which have helped to establish a framework for business and investment in China. The STA provides for the exchange of technical cooperation and assistance, while the IPA ensures that foreign investors have access to fair and transparent legal processes and that their rights are protected.

The JCCT has also been involved in the negotiation of major trade agreements, such as the China-United States Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) and the China-United States Trade Agreement (USFTA), which were signed in 1984 and 1985, respectively. These agreements have been instrumental in establishing a stable and predictable legal framework for international trade and investment in China.

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