

Records of the National Council for United States-China Trade 1973-1983

Primary sources chronicle the formation of NCUSCT and its role in commerce

Date Range: 1973-1983

Content: 73,923 pages

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Although trade between the United States and China had resumed in June 1971 after a 22-year hiatus, the impetus for a trade council came from President Nixon's visit to China in 1972. A joint communiqué issued in Shanghai stated, "Both sides view bilateral trade as another area from which mutual benefit can be derived, and agreed that economic relations based on equality and mutual benefit are in the interest of the people of the two countries." The National Council became the facilitator for the United States.

The White House and the Departments of State and Commerce granted support for the formation of the National Council for United States-China Trade (NCUSCT). Secretary Frederick B. Dent recruited 20 American business leaders to serve as an executive committee, which first met on March 22, 1973, to undertake formation of the Council. By July 1982, membership had grown to about 400 companies.

As a resource for the study of international business and politics, *Records of the National Council for United States-China Trade 1973-1983* offers scholars a comprehensive view of trade relations by providing access to annual reports, brochures and publications on regulations and legislation.

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Records of the National Council for United States-China Trade 1973-1983

This collection consists of NCUSCT records arranged into two sub-groups.

National Council Administrative Files

The administrative files are most directly related to the activities of the Council's president and vice president and their support staff. They relate to administrative matters such as organizing the office; setting policy, goals and objectives for the Council; making arrangements and compiling materials for the board and general membership meetings; and communicating with member companies.

Sub-Series Descriptions

- Board of Directors Meetings, 1973-78
- Annual Meetings, 1973-77
- General Correspondence, 1973-78
- Associations, Councils, Societies, Committees, 1973-76
- Government Agencies, 1973-77
- State Files, 1973-77
- Cables, 1974-78
- Subject File, 1973-83
- Office Reading File, 1973-77
- Staff Files, 1973-74

Business Advisory Services Department

The Importers Steering Committee, formed in 1974, was followed by the formation of importer committees based on product areas to parallel the Chinese foreign trade corporations. The exporter committees, based on industrial sectors, were formed in 1976. These committees were involved in market research, technical exchanges and promotion of trade in their sectors.

Sub-Series Descriptions

- Importer Committees, 1973-80
- Delegations, 1973-81
- Trade Fairs, 1973-81
- Subject File, 1973-80
- Staff Chronological Files, 1978-80
- Exporter Committees, 1975-81

