



A Cold War Turning Point: Nixon and China, 1969-1972

Chris Tudda

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In February 1972 President Nixon arrived in Beijing for what Chairman Mao Zedong called the "week that changed the world". Using recently declassified sources from American, Chinese, European, and Soviet archives, Chris Tudda's *A Cold War Turning Point* reveals new details about the relationship forged by the Nixon administration and the Chinese government that dramatically altered the trajectory of the Cold War.

Between the years 1969 and 1972, Nixon's national security team actively fostered the US rapprochement with China. Tudda argues that Nixon, in bold opposition to the stance of his predecessors, recognized the mutual benefits of repairing the Sino-US relationship and was determined to establish a partnership with China. In a contested but calculated move, Nixon gradually eased trade and travel restrictions to China. Mao responded in kind, albeit slowly, by releasing prisoners, inviting the US ping-pong team to Beijing, and secretly hosting Secretary of State Henry Kissinger prior to Nixon's momentous visit. *A Cold War Turning Point* is the first book to use the Nixon tapes and Kissinger telephone conversations to illustrate the complexity of early Sino-US relations.

The book is published by Louisiana State University Press.

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