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## CHINA AND NORTH KOREA: THE UNEASY PARTNERSHIP

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A new phase of strained relationship surfaced when Pyongyang tested a nuclear device in October 2006 forcing Beijing to back the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1718 that imposed sanctions on North Korea. Undeterred by its apparent concurrence with the international punitive measures aimed at North Korea, China for the large part remained opposed to imposition of harsh international sanctions on Pyongyang.

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