

ChessZone Magazine

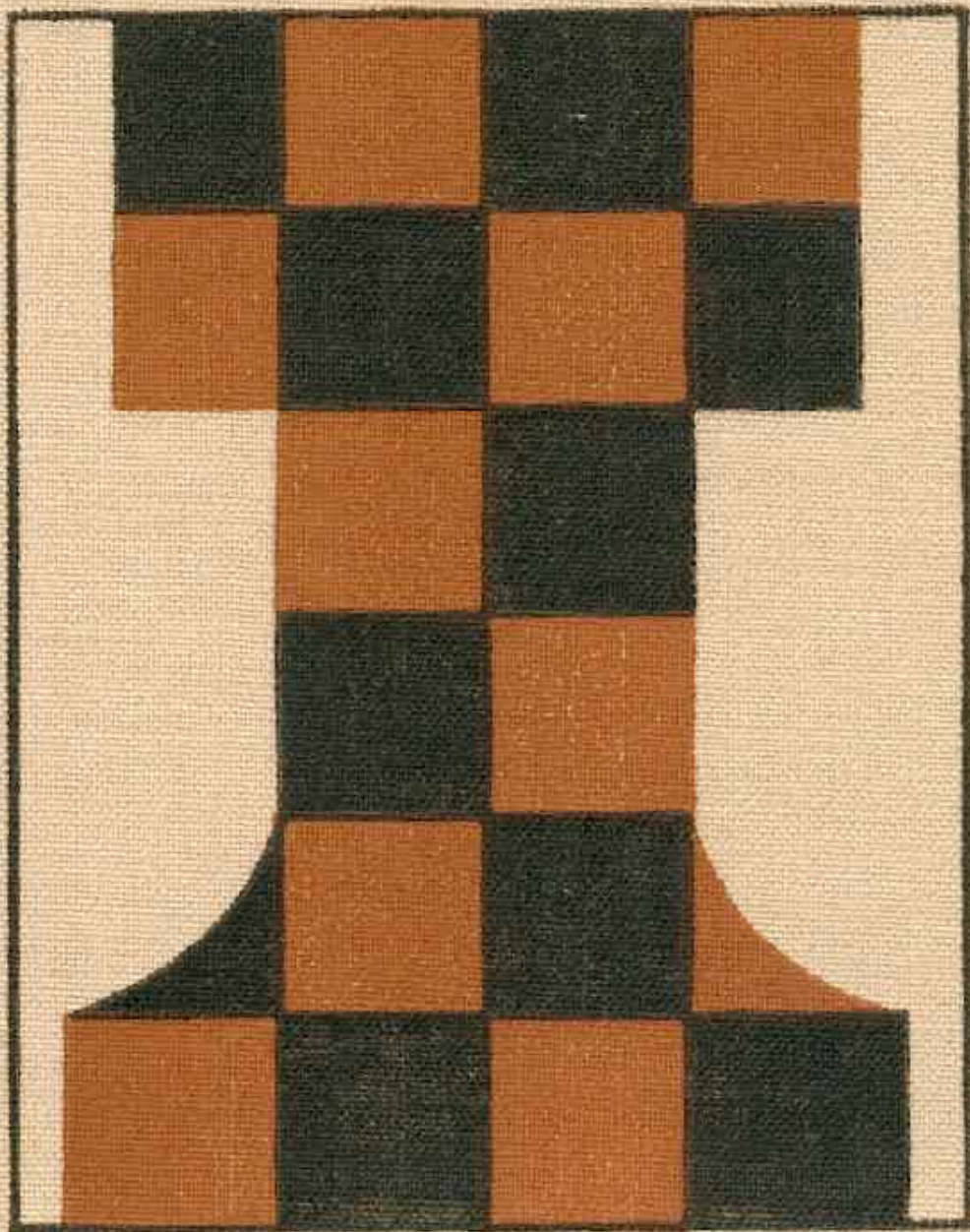


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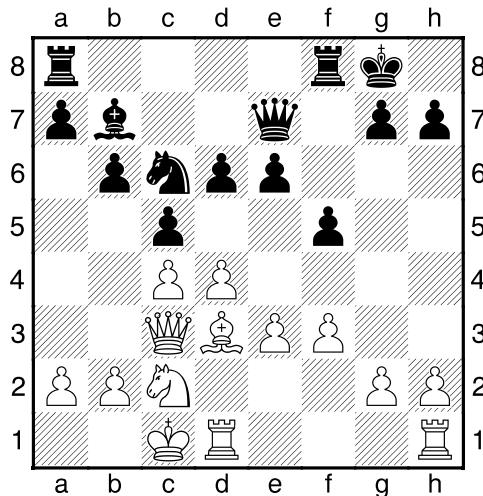
Games

(01) Petrosian, Tigran L (2604) - Vitiugov, Nikita (2709) [E21]

Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (1),
08.02.2011

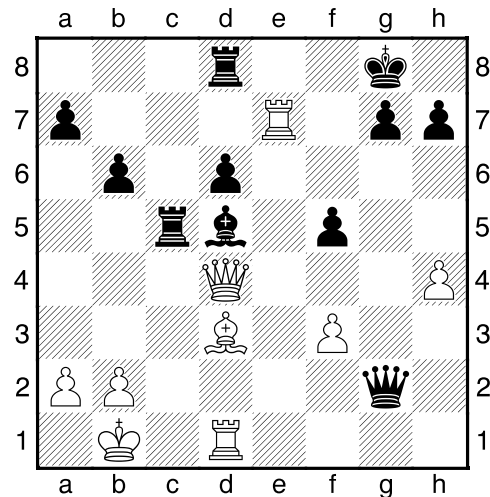
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.d4 Nf6 2.Nf3 e6 3.c4 Bb4+ 4.Nc3 b6 5.Bd2 [Simple, calm move. 5.Bg5 Bb7 6.e3 h6 7.Bh4 g5 8.Bg3 Ne4 met in the game Bologan–Bareev, CZM 03/2010.] **5...Bb7 6.e3 Bxc3** [Even not waiting till a3. Maybe, Vitiugov was embarassed by some lines, such as 6...0-0 7.Bd3 d6 8.0-0 (8.Qc2 Nbd7 9.e4 e5) 8...Nbd7 9.a3 Bxc3 10.Bxc3 Ne4 11.Bxe4 Bxe4 12.Nd2 Bd3 13.Re1 f5 14.Qb3!, but 12...Bb7 13.e4 f5 promises good counterplay.] **7.Bxc3 Ne4 8.Qc2 0-0 9.Bd3 f5 10.0-0 d6 11.Ne1** ♖e4 is gonna be banished. **11...Qe7N** [11...Nd7 12.f3 Nxc3 13.Qxc3 c5 14.Kb1 Qf6 15.Bc2 Rfd8=, Gasztonyi–Bilek, Budapest 1958] **12.f3 Nxc3 13.Qxc3 c5 14.Nc2 Nc6**



Frankly speaking, ♖'s place is rather on d7 (like in previous annotation), than c6 – to not block up the ♖c8. But that's a matter of taste. **15.Be2 Rac8 16.Kb1 Rfd8** [Maybe, was worth to prefer 16...cxd4 17.exd4 (17.Nxd4 Na5♣) 17...d5! with initiative – but now Petrosian changes pawn structure by oneself.] **17.d5! exd5 18.cxd5 Nb4!?** In such intricate manner Black is keeping ♖c8 in game. **19.Nxb4 cxb4 20.Qxb4** [20.Qd4 Rc5♣] **20...Qxe3 21.Bd3** Reminding, that some weaknesses can be found in Black's

camp also. **21...Qg5** [21...Bxd5 loses after 22.Ba6 Rc5 23.Rhe1! (23.Rxd5? Rxd5 24.Bc4 Kh8 25.Bxd5 Qd3+) 23...Qg5 24.Rxd5+–] **22.Rhe1 Rc5 23.h4!** Very energetically played. White is pushing black queen off from active position. **23...Qxg2** [Letting ♖e1 go to e7 – is a doubtful idea. Much reasonable was 23...Qf6 24.Qf4 Bxd5 25.b4! Rc7 26.Qxf5 Qxf5 27.Bxf5 Bf7 with slightly worse end-game.] **24.Re7** [Stronger, than 24.Bxf5 Qxf3 25.Rf1, and Black can be defended in a way 25...Qh5 26.Be6+ Kh8 27.Qf4 Qe8! (27...h6? 28.Qf8+ Rxf8 29.Rxf8+ Kh7 30.Bg8+–)] **24...Bxd5 25.Qd4!**



Now the mortal threat Rg1 is coming. What does Black have to do? **25...Bf7** [Attempt to run 25...Kf8 is pointless, as after 26.Rxa7 all remains in power; only 25...Ra5! allows to continue a fight with mutual chances: 26.a3 (26.Rg1 Bxa2+ 27.Kc1 Rc8+ 28.Bc4+ Rxc4+ 29.Qxc4+ Bxc4 30.Rxg2, and ending is tolerable) 26...Kf8 27.Rg1 (♖a7 is protected already) 27...Ra4! 28.Qxg7+ Qxg7 29.Rexg7 Rxh4 30.Bxf5 with equality.] **26.Rxf7!** [Sound sacrifice, but this is the only appropriate path, because after 26.Rg1 Rd5! 27.Qe3 Rxd3 (27...f4? 28.Rxg2 fxe3 29.Rxf7 Kxf7 30.Bc4 Ke6 31.Rg5+–) 28.Rxg2 Rxe3 29.Rxe3 Rd7 Black is OK.] **26...Kxf7 27.Rg1 Qh2** [27...Rdc8 28.b4!; 27...Qxf3 brings a forced victory for the White:

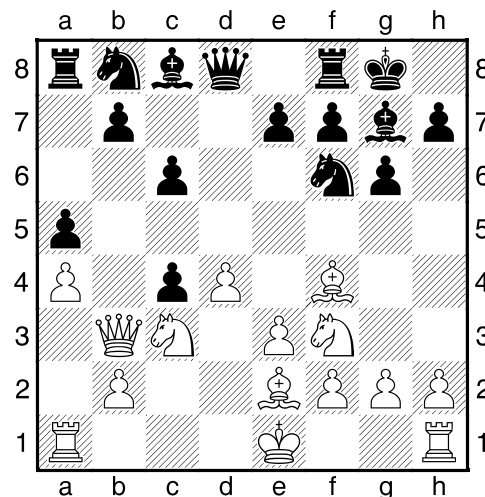
28.Qxg7+ Ke6 29.Re1+ Kd5 30.Qb7+ Rc6
 31.Bb5 Rdc8 32.Rc1 Qe4+ 33.Ka1 Qe8
 (spectacular position, isn't it?) 34.Bc4+ Kd4
 35.Qg7+ with quick mate.] **28.Qxg7+ Ke6**
29.Re1+ Kd5 [29...Re5 doesn't save:
 30.Bxf5+! Kd5 (30...Kxf5 31.Qf7#) 31.Be4+
 Ke6, and White is connecting ♖e1 –
 32.Qh6+ Kd7 33.Qxh7+ Ke6 34.Qg6+ Ke7
 35.Qg7+ Ke6 36.Rg1+–] **30.Rd1** [White
 would have won, if he chooses 30.Qb7+
 Kd4 31.Bxf5 Re5 32.Qg7! with following
 Re4, but it's hard to see everything in such
 mad position.] **30...Kc6** [In point of fact, the
 discovered check threatens with... nothing, so
 Black could easily take 30...Qxh4. As they
 say, the menace is stronger than own ex-
 ecution.] **31.b4!** As provided to be, ♖c5 is
 trapped. **31...Qxh4 32.a3** [32.bxc5 Qb4+
 33.Ka1 dxc5 34.Qf6+ Kc7 35.Qe5+ Kc6
 36.Bb5+ probably is winning too, but Pe-
 trosian decides to exclude check's possi-
 bility.] **32...Rd7 33.Qh8 Rd8 34.Qg7 Rd7**
35.Qg8 Rd8 36.Qf7 Qf4 [36...Rd7 37.Qe8
 Qd8 38.Qxd8 Rxd8 39.bxc5+–] **37.bxc5**
 [37.b5+ Rxb5+ 38.Bxb5+ Kxb5 39.Qd5+
 Ka6 40.Rd4 also good.] **37...Qxf3 38.Qb3!**
Qf2 39.Bb5+ [39.Bb5+ Kc7 40.Qf7+ Kb8
 41.c6+–] **1-0**

(02) Sandipan,Chanda (2641) - Kamsky,Gata (2730) [D15]

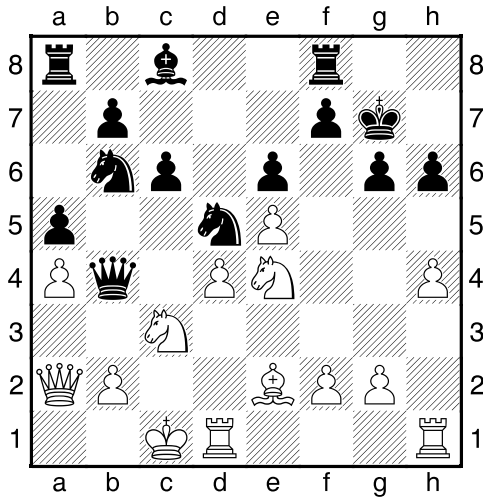
Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (3),
 10.02.2011

[IM Polivanov, A]

1.d4 d5 2.c4 c6 3.Nf3 Nf6 4.Nc3 a6 Che-
 banenko System, main idea of which – to
 conduct b7–b5. But White prevents it. **5.a4**
g6 [Moldavian grandmaster Viorel Bologan
 (who wrote a book about this variation)
 reckons, that plan with fianchetto doesn't
 provide an equal play, so he suggests
 simple 5...e6] **6.Bf4 Bg7 7.e3 0-0 8.Be2**
 [Bologan recommends 8.Qb3! Qa5 9.Qa3,
 but Black may try 9...c5!?, Macieja-
 Dimitrov, Plovdiv 2008] **8...a5** [Instead of
 common 8...c5!?, Kamsky intends to put
 the ♘b8 to b4.] **9.Qb3 dxc4N**



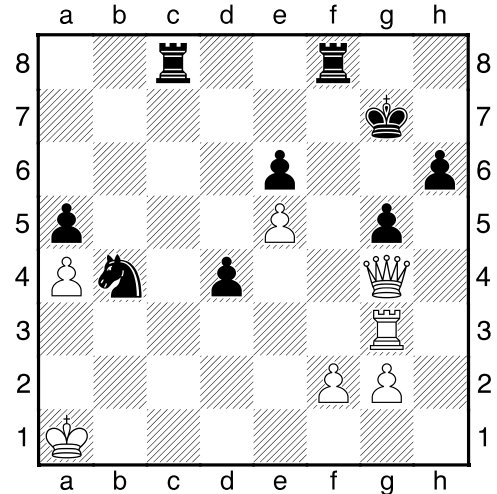
[But now plans are changing – obviously,
 Black didn't want a symmetrical pawn
 structure after 9...Na6 10.cxd5 cxd5]
10.Bxc4 Nh5 Hunting for the white bishop,
 but it has a good place to go. **11.Be5 Nd7**
12.Ng5 e6 [It seems, that 12...Nxe5
 13.dxe5 e6 14.Nf3 (14.f4? Bxe5) leaves
 ♘h5 to the mercy of fate, but 14...b5!
 15.axb5 cxb5 16.Nxb5 Bb7≡ makes things
 not so clear, though this line is dangerous
 anyway.] **13.Bxg7** [13.Nxf7? Rxf7 14.Bxe6
 Nxe5+] **13...Kxg7 14.h4 Qe7** [Realizing,
 that his position is worse, Black aspires to
 queen exchange. 14...Qb6 15.Qxb6 Nxb6
 is also possible, but black ♘ is not sup-
 porting e6–e5 then.] **15.0-0-0** [Such feel-
 ing, that 15.Bxe6! is more perspective:
 15...fxe6 (15...h6 16.Bxd7!± (16.Nxf7 Nc5!)
) 16.Nxe6+ Kh8 17.Nxf8 Nxf8, and if white
 ♗ will advance, it will be bad for Black – so,
 maybe 18.Qa3 is the best.] **15...Qb4**
16.Qa2 [15.Bxe6 now loses its force, whe-
 reas 16.Na2 Qxb3 17.Bxb3 e5 18.Nc3
 exd4 19.Rxd4 Nc5 guarantees a little edge
 for White. But Sandipan declines an ex-
 change.] **16...Nb6 17.Be2 Nf6 18.e4** [It's
 hard to detect any decent compensation in
 case of 18.h5 h6 19.Nf3 Nxh5 20.g4 Nf6
 21.g5 hxg5 22.Nxg5 Bd7] **18...h6 19.e5**
 [After 19.Nf3 c5 Black intercepts an initia-
 tive, that's why White wants to place own
 knight a little bit more active.] **19...Nfd5**
20.Nge4



20...c5! Despite N_e4 , this break-up is good nevertheless. **21.Nxc5** [All variations justify Kamsky's idea: 21.dxc5 Nxc3 22.bxc3 (22.Nxc3 Qxc5) 22...Qxe4 23.cxb6 Qxe5 24.Qd2, and after 24...Bd7! Black has at least draw in a pocket; 21.Nxd5 Nxd5 22.Qc4 isn't dangerous too – (22.Nxc5 b6 23.Ne4 Bd7 \mp) 22...cxd4 23.Rxd4 Bd7 24.Qxb4 axb4 25.b3 b5!]

21...Nxc3 22.bxc3 Qxc3+ 23.Kb1? [23.Qc2, and Black hasn't got any serious reason to reject a draw by means 23...Qa1+ 24.Qb1] **23...Qb4+ 24.Ka1** [24.Qb2 Nxa4] **24...Nd5** It's obvious, that White is left with nothing but many weaknesses, plus super N_d5 ... Things are in a bad way. **25.Rd3?! b6!?** [Maybe, Kamsky saw some difficulties with realization after 25...Nc3 26.Rxc3 Qxc3+ 27.Qb2 Qxb2+ 28.Kxb2, although 28...b6 lets black pieces free. But most likely he was fascinated with idea of queen's sacrifice, which occurs in the game.] **26.Rb1 bxc5 27.Rxb4 Nxb4 28.Qd2** Taking aim at point f6. **28...Ba6!** [Now Black's invention becomes more comprehensible: to keep strong N_b4 together with passed P_d . 28...Nxd3 29.Bxd3 Rd8 looks self-evident, but it gives nothing – 30.Qf4 Rxd4 31.Qf6+ Kg8 32.Bc2! (instead of insufficient 32.Bxg6 fxc6 33.Qxg6+ Kf8 34.Qxh6+ Ke8) 32...h5 33.g4!! Rxc4 (33...hxc4 34.h5 gxc5 35.Qh6+–) 34.Qd8+ Kh7 35.Qe7, and it's worth to reconcile oneself to draw for avoiding 35...Rf4? 36.Bxg6+!] **29.Rg3 Bxe2 30.Qxe2 cxd4 31.h5** White begins to

disturb black king... **31...Rac8** ... but an opponent answered the same. **32.hxc6 fxc6** [Black has at own disposal a "plan B", namely 32...Rc1+ 33.Kb2 Rc2+ 34.Qxc2 Nxc2 35.gxf7+ Kh7! 36.Kxc2 Rxf7 with probable draw. But Kamsky is aspired to victory.] **33.Qg4 g5**

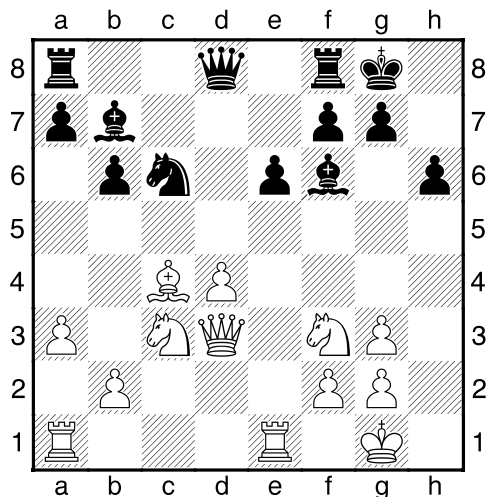


34.Qxe6? Decisive error. [P_f2 could be taken away by means of 34.f4!?, but after 34...Rc6! with coming doubling on "c"-file Black is better; draw can be achieved by exchange of rooks, which would reduce number of king's defenders – 34.Rf3!, for example: 34...d3 35.Qxe6 Rxf3 36.gxf3 (36.Qxc8 Rxf2 37.e6 Nc2+=) 36...Rc1+ 37.Kb2 d2 38.Qe7+ with perpetual.] **34...Rc6!** That's it! As it turned out, P_f2 falls, after which mate threats are imminent. **35.Qe7+ Rf7 36.Rxc6** Realizing, that game is lost, Sandipan tries the last resort. **36...hxc6 37.Qxc6 Rg6 38.Qd8 d3** [Not bad, though 38...Rxc6 39.Qxa5 Rg1+ wins forcedly: 40.Kb2 Rxf2+ 41.Kb3 Rb1+ 42.Kc4 Rc2+] **39.e6 Rxe6 40.Qg5+ Kf8 41.Qxa5 Nc6 42.Qc5+ Ke8 43.Qd5 Re1+** Checking the white king, Black is improving positions of pieces. **44.Kb2 Rb7+ 45.Kc3 Rc1+ 46.Kd2 Rc2+ 47.Ke3 Re7+ 48.Kf4 Rd7 49.Qg8+ Ke7** After couple of checks king will reach square c7, where it will be unattainable – as well as P_d2 . **0-1**

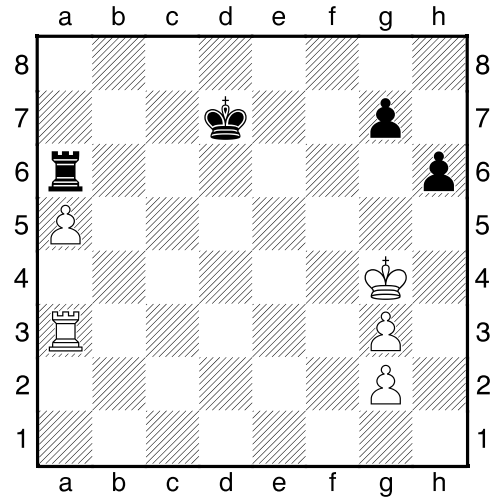
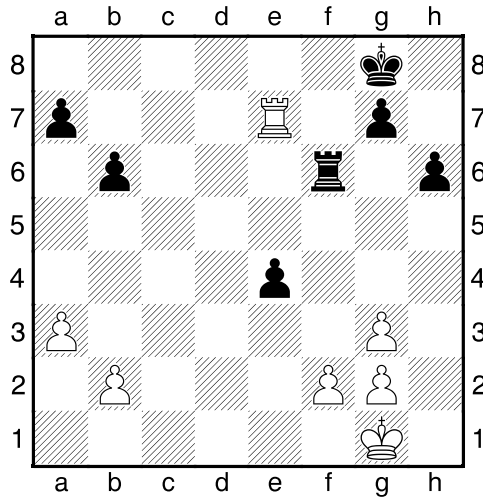
(03) Kobalia, Mihail (2666) - Riazantsev, Alexander (2689) [B13]Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (4),
11.02.2011

[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.exd5 cxd5 4.c4 Nf6 5.Nc3 Nc6 6.Bg5 This system in Panov Attack was approved at the highest level by Botvinnik in 1933, during the match vs Flohr. Ever since it remains one of the main weapons of White. **6...dxc4 7.Bxc4** [Continuation 7.d5!? now relieves a crisis in view of 7...Ne5 (the line 7...Na5 8.b4 cxb3 9.axb3 Bd7! 10.b4 Rc8 is also good) 8.Qd4 h6!] **7...h6** [7...Nxd4 isn't regarded highly: 8.Nf3 Nxf3+ 9.Qxf3 Qc7 10.Bb5+ Bd7 11.0-0±; 7...Qxd4 8.Qxd4 Nxd4 is a totally different story: 9.0-0-0 e5! 10.f4 (in order to shake ♘d4; less stronger 10.Nf3 Nxf3 11.gxf3 Be6) 10...Bg4 11.Nf3 Bxf3 12.gxf3 Rc8!, and Black is holding; with inclusion of moves 7...h6 8. Bh4 this line is even more advantageous for Black (bishop h4 can fall under ♖ on c4), but he doesn't want to force the events and chooses a calm development.] **8.Bh4 e6 9.Nf3 Be7 10.0-0 0-0** This well-known position also may arise from Nimzo Defence and Queen's Gambit. **11.Re1 b6 12.a3** Preparing queen's entrance on d3. **12...Bb7 13.Qd3 Nh5** [I can't understand, why 13...Na5!? 14.Ba2 Bxf3 15.Qxf3 (15.gxf3!?) 15...Qxd4 still hasn't occur in any game – that's line seems critical! 13...Nh5 also consists some idea – ♘ would be very strong on f4, but White won't let it.] **14.Bg3 Nhg3 15.hxg3 Bf6**

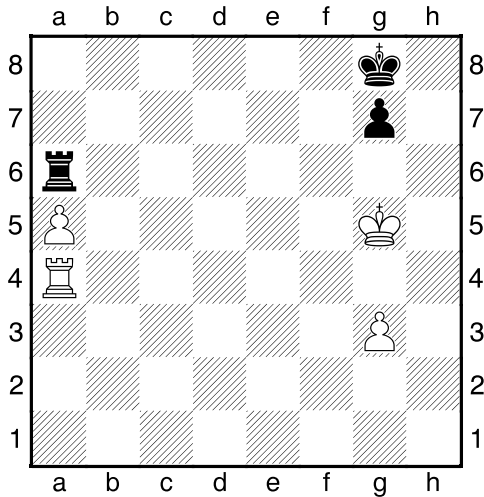


16.d5!N [This is the best move in given position, so it's even strange, that it is a new one. As practice has shown, after 16.Rad1 Ne7 Black obtains good game owing to square's d5 control (for example – Ivanchuk–Van Wely, Monaco 2002). So it's the most appropriate time for d4–d5 advancement.] **16...exd5** [16...Na5 17.dxe6 Qxd3 18.exf7+ Rxf7 19.Bxd3 Bxc3 20.bxc3 Bxf3 21.gxf3 Rxf3 22.Be4; 16...Bxc3 17.dxc6!] **17.Nxd5 Kh8** [Of course, main test of 16.d5 is 17...Bxb2 18.Rad1 – now White combines threats like Bb5 or queen's departure from "d"-file with check ideas. Black can reply in three ways: 18...Bf6 – maybe, the best; **a**) 18...Rc8 19.Ba6! Bxa6 20.Qxa6, and there is no defence from Ne7; **b**) 18...Kh8 (leaving from checks) 19.Ba2! g6?! 20.Qc2 Bg7 21.Ne7 Qxe7 (21...Qc7 22.Nh4!+–) 22.Rxe7 Nxe7 23.Qc7+–; 19.Qf5 Bb2 20.Qf4 with initiative(20.Ba2!?)] **18.Rad1 Nd4?!** [Black still was able to take 18...Bxb2 like in previous annotation, but he decided to undertake an exchange action. Unfortunately, Kobalia has a strong reply.] **19.Ne5!** [In case of 19.Nxd4 Bxd5 20.Nb5 Bxc4 21.Qxc4 Qc8 White's edge could be evaporated, now it's gonna increase.] **19...Bxe5** [19...Bxd5 20.Qxd4 Bxc4 21.Qxc4± x f7] **20.Rxe5 Nc6 21.Ree1 Qd6 22.Ba2** [Maybe, 22.Bb3! is even more accurate, because of 22...Rae8 23.Rxe8 Rxe8 24.Bc2 g6? 25.Qc3+ Ne5 26.Nc7+– – with bishop on b1 this variation doesn't exist.] **22...Rae8 23.Bb1 Rxe1+ 24.Rxe1 f5** [24...g6 25.Qc3+ f6 26.Nf4+–] **25.Nf4!** [Better, than 25.Ne7 Nd4] **25...Qxd3** [Now 25...Nd4 is met by 26.Re6] **26.Ng6+ Kg8 27.Bxd3** [Draw after 27.Ba2+!? Rf7 (27...Kh7 28.Nxf8+ Kh8 29.Ng6+) 28.Re8+ Kh7 29.Bxf7 Qd1+ 30.Kh2 Qh5+ 31.Kg1 Qxg6 32.Bg8+ Kh8 33.Bf7+ could be funny, but Kobalia has more ambitious goals than that.] **27...Rf6 28.Ne7+** Now White gains some material. **28...Nxe7 29.Rxe7 Be4** Surely, Black is looking for salvation in the most "drawish" endings – the rook ones. **30.Bxe4** [30.Bc4+ Kf8 31.Rxa7 Rc6 32.b3 b5! with some counterplay.] **30...fxe4**



31.Rxa7 Of course, White takes just this ♖, in order to create a passed one. **31...Rc6** **32.Rb7 Rc1+** **33.Kh2 Rc2** **34.Rxb6 Rxf2** Pawn pair "a+b" – is just a temporary event, because one of them should be taken away for ♗e4. **35.a4 Kf7** **36.Rb3!** [36.b4? e3 would be erroneous (as ♖b6 doesn't have a square e6 anymore), so White already has to jump off to draw: 37.Kg1 Ra2 38.Kf1 Rxa4 39.Ke2; 36.a5 is also prematurely: 36...Rf5! 37.a6 e3 38.Rb4 (38.a7 e2 39.a8Q?? Rh5+ 40.Kg1 e1Q#) 38...Ra5 39.Re4 Rxa6 40.Rxe3 Ra1=] **36...e3** **37.Rxe3 Rxb2** **38.Ra3 Rb6** **39.a5 Ra6** Resulting endgame can be considered as very hard for Black. The main idea of defence in such situations – trying to block the passer "a" by king to let ♖a6 free. But king flank will be helpless then, and if White king will manage to reach g6 square, pawns g7 and h6 are doomed. **40.Kh3 Ke6** **41.Kg4 Kd7** **42.Kh5 Ke7** **43.Kg4 Kd7**

Similar ending appeared in the game Hernandez–Inkiiov in 1984. White won confidently, though he had pawns g+h, instead of doubled "g". But this fact could serve even as advantage in view of g4–g5 possibility. **44.Kf5 Rf6+** **45.Ke5 Re6+** **46.Kd5 Ra6** **47.g4! Kc7?!** [Maybe, this is the only moment, where Riazantsev could hamper White's plans – 47...g5!? At any case, straightforward 48.Kc5 Kc7 49.Kb5 Re6 50.a6 Kb8! gives a little, because black rook has escaped.] **48.g5 Rg6** [48...hgx5 49.Ke5 Kb7 50.Kf5 g4 51.Kxg4 Rg6+ 52.Kf3 Ka6 53.g4 with next plan: Kg3–h4 and in suitable moment – Rf3–f7, attacking ♗g7.] **49.Rg3 Ra6** **50.Rc3+! Kd7** **51.Ra3 hxg5** [Now on 51...Rg6 simple 52.a6 wins.] **52.Ke5 g4** **53.g3 Ke7** **54.Kf5 Kf7** Instead of running to ♗a5, black king decides to oppose to the white one. **55.Kxg4 Kg6** **56.Kf4 Kf6** **57.Ra4** But in view of zugzwang it's obliged to step back. **57...Kf7** **58.Kf5 Kf8** **59.Kg5 Kg8**



60.Ra1! Excellent idea! Rook switches to the 5th rank, wherefrom it will restrict black king (or check him from the side), so his white colleague will be able to go freely to ♖a5. **60...Kf7 61.Rf1+ Ke7 62.Rf5 Rc6 63.g4 Rc4 64.Rf4 Rc6 65.Rb4 Kf7** [65...Rc5+ 66.Kg6 Rxa5 67.Kxg7 with easy transition to the winning Lucena position.] **66.Rb7+ Kg8 67.Rb5** [67.Rb6! wins quicker – 67...Rc4 (67...Rc5+ 68.Kg6) 68.a6 Ra4 69.Kh5 Kh7 70.g5 Ra5 71.Rc6, and zugzwang on the board.] **67...Kf7 68.Kf5 Rf6+** [Black can't pursue king f5: 68...Ke7 69.Rb7+ Kf8 70.Rb6 Rc5+ 71.Ke6!+-] **69.Ke4 Rc6 70.Kd4 Rc1 71.Re5** Now king f7 is cut off, so the rest is quite easy. **71...Ra1 72.g5 Kg6 73.Kc4 Kh5** Last Black's hope – to take ♖g5, but it's safely protected by ♜. **74.Kb5 Kg4 75.a6 Kf4 76.Rc5 g6 77.Kb6** With threat of overlap Ra5. **77...Rb1+ 78.Rb5 Re1 79.a7 Re8 80.Ra5 Rd8 81.Kc6 Re8 82.a8Q 1-0**

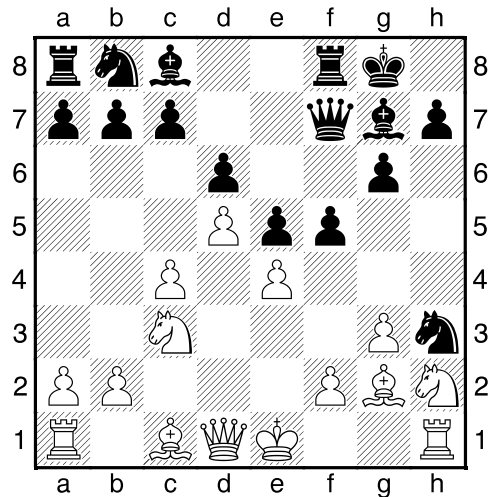
(04) Parligras, Mircea (2594) - Nevednichy, Vladislav (2536) [E90]

ch-ROU Men Sarata Monteoru ROU (9.2), 12.02.2011

[IM Polivanov, A]

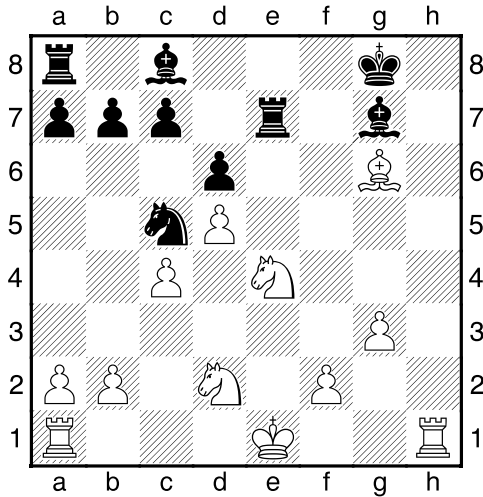
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 d6 3.Nf3 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 0-0 6.h3 This direction is known as Krasenkow System. Its main idea – to hinder an advancement f7–f5 by g2–g4. **6...e5 7.d5 Nh5** That's why, while g4 hasn't been played yet, Black puts own ♘ to h5, with firm intention to play f5 all the same. **8.Nh2** [Of course, 8.g4? is pointless now in view

of 8...Nf4; line 8.g3 f5 9.exf5 gxf5 10.Ng5 Nf6 11.Bg2 was recommended by Jan Markos in his book "Beat the KID". But 8.Nh2 is the most principal.] **8...Qe8** [8...f5 is bad, because after 9.exf5 Black can't take on f5 by pawn (and by piece too), so Nevednichy has protected ♘h5. But White is attacking it again.] **9.Be2 Nf4 10.Bf3 f5** Black finally conducted f7–f5, but now there will be some problems with ♘f4. **11.g3 Nxh3 12.Bg2 Qf7!?**



"A relatively new idea found by correspondence players several years ago" (c) Krasenkow **13.Qf3!** [This invention is based on 13.Bxh3 fxe4 14.Ng4 Bxg4 15.Qxg4 Qxf2+ 16.Kd1 Qd4+ 17.Bd2 (17.Ke1 Qf2+ 18.Kd1 1/2, Gundavaa–Shimanov, Aeroflot B 2011) 17...e3 18.Qxd4 (18.Ne4 Na6! (18...exd2? 19.Qe6+ Kh8 20.Bg2)) 18...exd4, and Black is even better.] **13...fxe4 14.Nxe4** [14.Qxf7+ Rxf7 15.Be3 Nf4! 16.gxf4 exf4 17.Bd2 f3 18.Bf1 Bf5, Jakovenko–Mamedov, Aeroflot A 2011] **14...h6N** [After this novelty White will have a stable edge. Though, it's stronger than 14...Bf5? 15.Bxh3 Bxh3 16.Qxf7+ Rxf7 17.Ng5±, Rahman–Manik, Chennai 2010; 14...Na6 15.Qxf7+ Rxf7 16.Nf1 Nb4 17.Bxh3 Bxh3 18.Rxh3 Nc2+ is regarded as critical line, but lately an improvement was demonstrated here: 19.Ke2! Nxa1 20.Ne3 h5 21.Rh1 Bh6 22.Ng2! Bg7 23.Kd3 b5 24.b3±, Grigoryan–Petrosian, Yerevan 2011] **15.Qxf7+ Rxf7 16.Nf1 Ng5 17.Bxg5 hxg5 18.Nxg5 Re7 19.Be4** Hold–

ing of point e4 – is the key in such positions. **19...Na6** [Pawn could be saved by 19...Bf6, but after 20.Ne6! White prevails. So Black is going to sacrifice ♖g6, but to open the bishop g7 instead.] **20.Bxg6 e4 21.Nxe4 Nc5 22.Nfd2**



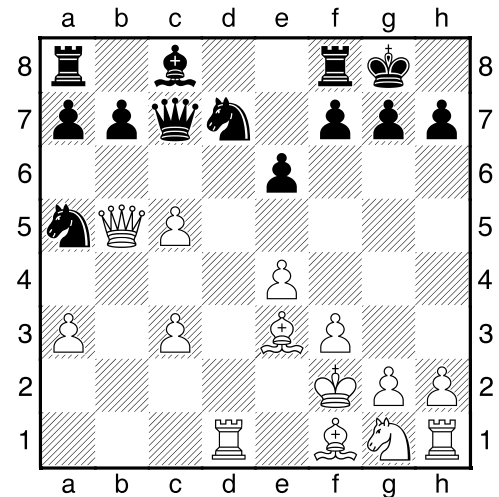
22...b5?! [Too desperate. It was necessary to be satisfied with 22...Bxb2 23.Rb1 Bd4 24.Kf1 b6, even if compensation for the ♗, of course, is scanty.] **23.cxb5 Rb8 24.a4 Bxb2** [24...a6 25.Kf1 Nxe4 26.Nxe4 axb5 27.axb5 Rxb5 28.Ra8+–] **25.Ra2 Bd4 26.Kf1** Two clear pawns up – White should embody this advantage in one point without special difficulties. **26...Bb7 27.Rh5 Rf8 28.f4 Nd3?!** [28...Rg7 was lesser of the evils, although after 29.Bf5 Bxd5 30.Bh7+ Rxb7 31.Rxd5 position's evaluation still the same.] **29.Nf3** Bishop d5 has no good place to go, and Black ought to give a piece away. **29...Nxf4 30.gxf4 Rxf4 31.Ra3 Rg7 32.Rg5 Bb2 33.Rd3 a6 34.Kg2 axb5 35.axb5 Kf8 36.Ned2** [36.Kg3 Bc1 37.Rc3 Rxe4 38.Rxc1] **36...Bf6 37.Rg3 Rb4 38.Ne4 Rb2+ 39.Kf1 Rb1+ 40.Ke2 Re7 41.Nh2** [Such feeling, that this is type error – I think, 41.Nfd2! has been played in fact, because differently 41...Rb2+ would have come.] **41...Rxb5 42.Rdf3 Re5 43.Rxf6+ Ke7 44.Bf5** [One more proof in 41.Nfd2 benefit – otherwise why not 44.Bf5 Rxe4+ ?!] **1-0**

(05) Timofeev, Artyom (2681) - Sjogrov, Sanan (2626) [E25]

Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (6), 13.02.2011

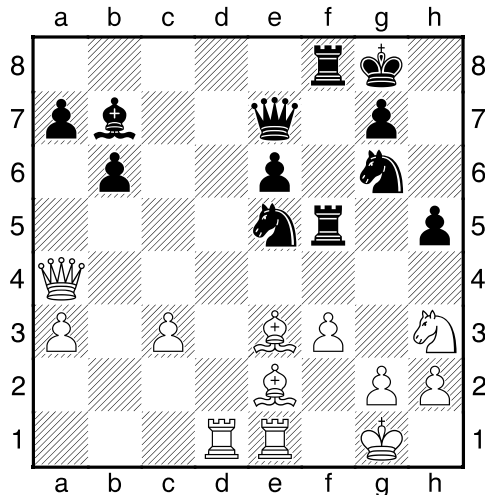
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.c4 e6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.f3 d5 5.a3 Bxc3+ 6.bxc3 c5 7.cxd5 Nxd5 8.dxc5 Qa5 9.e4 Nf6 [9...Ne7 10.Be3 0-0 11.Qb3 Qc7 – Anand–Wang Hao, CZM 02/2011; 9...Nf6 is more direct approach, aimed against ♗c5.] **10.Be3 0-0 11.Kf2** [Earlier White has tried to achieve advantage by means of 11.Qb3 Nfd7 12.a4 Qc7 13.Qa3 b6 14.a5, but latest finding 14...Bb7!, Shirov–Kramnik, Grand Slam 2010, seems to be an antidote for that.] **11...Nfd7 12.Rb1 Rd8** Restoring Nxc5 threat. **13.Qb3 Qc7** [To avoid queen's swap 13...Nxc5 14.Qb4 Qxb4 15.cxb4±] **14.Rd1!** Now ♖d8 should return home. **14...Rf8 15.Qb4 Nc6 16.Qa4 Na5 17.Qb5**



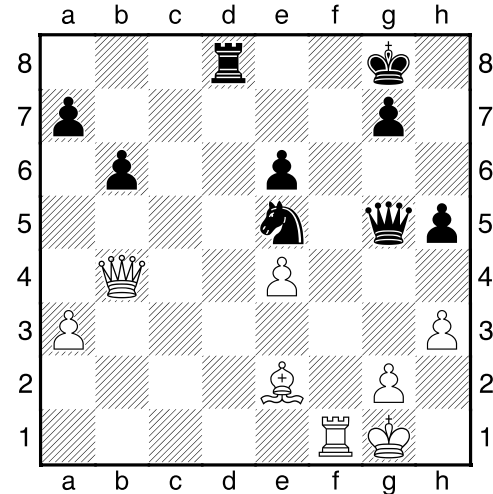
17...Ne5!N [White's intention was to provoke 17...a6, like in the following game: 18.Qb4 Nc6 19.Qa4 Na5 20.Nh3 Nxc5 21.Qb4 b6 (21...Nd7? 22.Rxd7 Bxd7 23.Bb6+–) 22.Rb1 Nd7 23.Bxb6 Nxb6 24.Qxb6 Qxc3 25.Be2 with essential edge, Ulibin–Tischbierek, Biel 2004. Black's novelty is quite concrete – to open "f"-file after f5, so Ng4+ could become a threat.] **18.Bf4** Postponement for one move. **18...Nac6 19.Nh3 f5 20.exf5 Rxf5 21.Qa4?** [Queen's returning to the center – good idea, but it's should be realized by 21.Qe2!, and if 21...Qe7, then 22.g4 Qxc5+

23.Qe3 Qxe3+ 24.Kxe3 with better ending.] **21...Qe7 22.Qe4 Qxc5+ 23.Be3** [23.Qe3 Qxe3+ 24.Kxe3 Nf7! is fraught with serious problems for pawn a3 and c3.] **23...Qe7** [There is nothing wrong with 23...Qxa3, but Sjugirov, obviously, decided not to be distracted for such "small fries".] **24.Be2 h5 25.Nf4 b6 26.Rhe1** [26.Ng6 Nxc6 27.Qxc6 Bb7 28.Qd7 Qxd7 29.Rxd7 Ne5! 30.Rxb7 Ng4+ leads to the approximately equal endgame.] **26...Bb7 27.Kg1 Raf8** TImofeev has finally completed a development, but his position is quite unpleasant – black pieces are very aggressive. **28.Nh3** Intending f4+Ng5. **28...Ng6!** Knight liberates square e5 for own brother, and heading to h4 at the same time. **29.Qa4 Nce5**

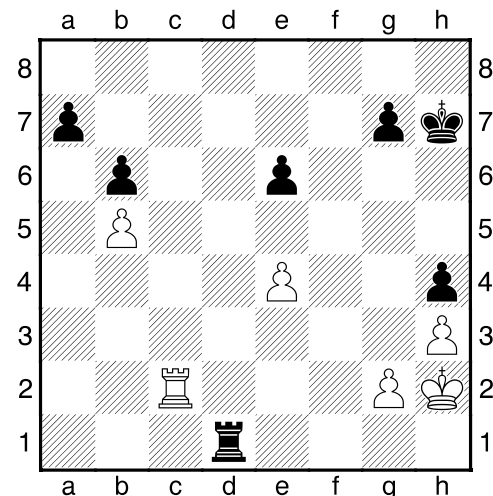


30.Rd4?! [Greed is punishable – 30.Qxa7 Nh4 31.Qxb6 Nxc6 32.Bc5 Qf7!, and Black wins: 33.Bxf8 Nxf3+ 34.Bxf3 Nxe1 35.Rxe1 Qg6+ 36.Kf1 Bxf3 37.Qxe6+ Qxe6 38.Rxe6 Bd5+; but 30.Bf2! was a clever prophylactic move, taking point h4 away.] **30...Bc6?** [30...Bxf3! 31.gxf3 Rxf3 32.Bg5 (32.Bf1 Rxf3) 32...Qc5!-+] **31.Qb4 Qf6 32.Nf2 Ne7?!** [Black misses against a sacrifice on f3, but this time with another piece: 32...Nxf3+ 33.Bxf3 (33.gxf3 Ne5+) 33...Bxf3 34.gxf3 Ne5 35.f4 Nf3+ 36.Kf1 e5→] **33.Ne4 Bxe4 34.Rxe4?** [Apparently, White haven't found 34.fxe4 Ng4 (34...Rf2 35.Rdd1!) 35.Qb1!, and all three results are possible(35.exf5? Qh4-+)] **34...Nd5** Now ♖c3 will be lost, as well as White's

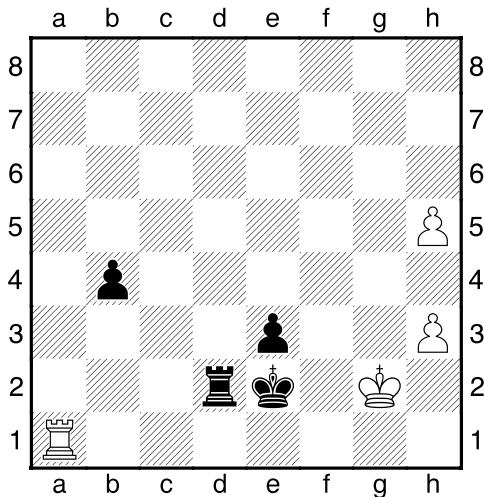
position in overall. **35.Qd4 Nxc3 36.h3** [36.Qxc3 Nxf3+] **36...Rd8 37.Qb4 Nxe4** [There was a good attack after 37...Nxe2+ 38.Rxe2 Qg6, for example: 39.f4 Nf3+ 40.Kf2 h4!-+; but Sjugirov prefers to obtain a "technical" position.] **38.fxe4 Rg5 39.Rf1 Qg6 40.Bxg5 Qxg5**



41.Qb3 Kh7 42.Rf2 [42.Qxe6 Qe3+ 43.Rf2 Rf8] **42...Rd6** Of course, extra ♖ and strong ♘ should be told upon. **43.a4 h4 44.Kh2 Rc6** With ♜ on c1, Black is gonna create mate threats. **45.Bb5 Rc1 46.Bf1 Nc4 47.Qb5 Qxb5** The most simple decision – without queens White will have no chances for some wild perpetual or something like that. **48.axb5 Ne3 49.Bd3 Rd1 50.Bc2** [50.Be2 Rd2] **50...Re1 51.Bd3 Rd1 52.Bc2 Nxc2 53.Rxc2**



53...Rb1 [Perhaps, more accurate was **53...Rd4** **54.Ra2** (**54.e5 Rd5**) **54...Rxe4** **55.Rxa7 Re5** **56.Ra4 Rxb5** **57.Rxh4+ Kg6** with further **Rb1**, **b5-b4...**] **54.Ra2 Rxb5** **55.Rxa7 Kg6** This plan also leads to the winning, because $\Delta e4$ is at death's door. **56.Rb7 e5** **57.Rd7 Rb4** **58.Kg1 Rb2!** Preventing white king's activation. **59.Rd6+ Kg5** **60.Re6 Kf4** **61.Rg6 Kxe4** **62.Rxg7 Kd3** So, Black has already two passed pawns. The truth, White is also forming the one. **63.g3 e4** There is no reason to waste a time by **63...hxg3**. **64.gxh4 e3** **65.Rd7+** Otherwise **Rb1+** and **e2**. **65...Ke2** **66.h5 Rd2!** [Good idea – rook with a tempo switches to d6, wherefrom it will be hamper $\Delta h5$. After **66...Rb5** **67.h6 Rh5** **68.h7 b5** **69.Kg2 b4** **70.Kg3 b3** **71.Kg4** White can manage to achieve draw.] **67.Ra7 Rd6** **68.Kg2** [**68.Ra2+ Kf3-+**] **68...b5** **69.Ra2+ Rd2** **70.Ra1 b4**



71.Rb1 [**71.h6 Rd7** (though queen ending after **71...Kd3+** **72.Kg3 e2** **73.h7 Rd1** **74.Rxd1+ exd1Q** **75.h8Q** also seems lost for White) **72.Rb1 Rb7** with victory in all lines: **73.h4 a)** **73.h7 Rxh7** **74.Rxb4 Rg7+** **75.Kh2 Kf3-+;** **b)** **73.Rb2+ Kd3!** (**73...Kd1** **74.h7 Rxh7** **75.Rxb4=**); **73...Kd2** **74.h7 Rxh7** **75.Rxb4 e2** **76.Rb2+ Kd3** **77.Rb3+ Kc2** **78.Re3 Kd2-+]** **71...Kd3+** **72.Kg3 Kc3** **73.Re1 e2** **74.Kf2** [And here **74.h6** fails: **74...Rd3+** **75.Kg2 Re3** **76.h7 Re8-+]** **74...b3** **75.h6 Rd6** **76.h7 Rh6** **77.Rxe2 b2** **78.Re3+ Kc2** **79.Re2+** [It seems, that Black is in time to a tee: **79.Re6!?** **Rxh7!**

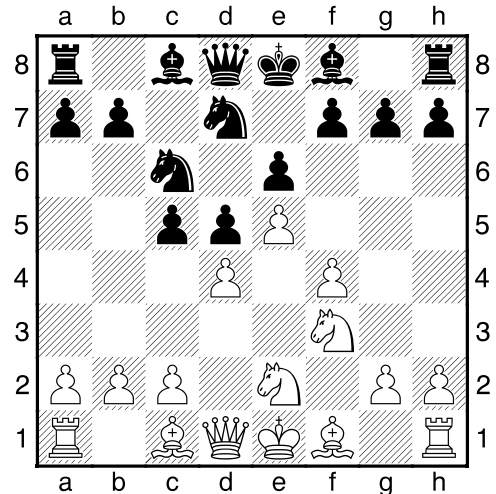
80.Rc6+ Kb3 **81.Rb6+ Ka2** **82.Kg3** (**82.Ra6+ Kb1** **83.Kg3 Rb7-+**) **82...b1Q** **83.Rxb1 Kxb1** **84.h4 Kc2** **85.Kg4 Kd3** **86.h5 Ke4** **87.Kg5 Rg7+!** **88.Kf6 Ra7** **89.h6 Kf4** **90.Kg6 Ra6+** **91.Kg7 Kg5** **92.h7 Ra7+** **93.Kg8 Kg6** **94.h8N+ Kf6-+]** **79...Kb3** **80.Re1 Rxh7** **81.Kg3 Rc7** **82.h4 Rc4!** Like in a book – white king is cut off through 4th line, so $\Delta h4$ won't promote. **83.h5 Ka2** **84.Kg2 0-1**

(06) Kamsky,Gata (2730) - Ding,Liren (2628) [C11]

Aerflot Open A Moscow RUS (6), 13.02.2011

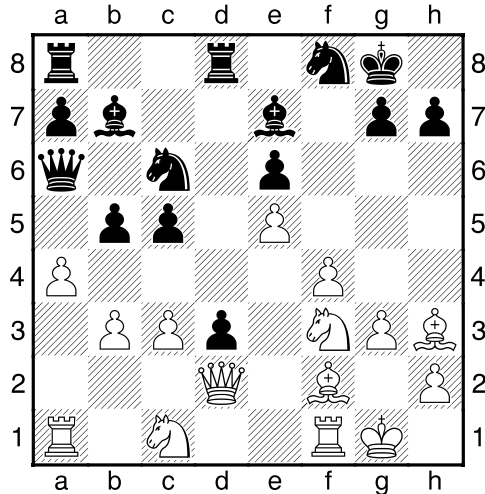
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 e6 **2.d4 d5** **3.Nc3 Nf6** **4.e5 Nfd7** **5.f4 c5** **6.Nf3 Nc6** **7.Ne2!?**

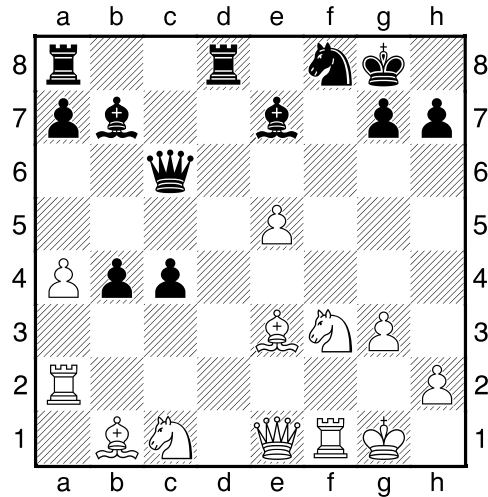


[Quite unexpected move in comparison with usual **7.Be3**. White wants to strengthen a center with **c2-c3**.] **7...Be7** **8.c3 0-0** [After **8...Qb6** **9.g3** the position from C05 line would have arisen – **3.Nd2 Nf6** **4.e5 Nfd7** **5.f4** and so on. Now, using absence of queen **b6**, White develops a bishop.] **9.Be3 f6** **10.g3 Qb6N** Nevertheless. **11.Qd2 fxe5** **12.dxe5 Rd8** **13.Bh3** It seems, that Black is gonna respond by **Nf8**, **Bd7-e8...** But he is not! **13...d4!** Excellent illustration to the Igor Zaitsev's book "Attack in the strong point". **14.Bf2** [**14.Bxe6+** is pointless due **14...Kh8** with coming **Ndxe5**; of course, **14.cxd4 cxd4** **15.Nfxd4** is critical: **15...Ndx5!** (much stronger, than **15...Bb4** **16.Nc3 Ndx5**

17.0-0-0! Nc4 18.Nxc6±) 16.fxe5 Nxd4 17.Bxd4 Bb4, and Black isn't worse (at least).] 14...d3 Now ♖d3 will be a nail, tough to pull out. 15.Nc1 Nf8 16.b3 Preventing c5-c4 possibility, but Black is intending to conduct it anyway. 16...Qa6 17.a4 b5 18.0-0 Bb7



19.Ra2?! [19.axb5 is not so harmful – 19...Qxa1 20.bxc6 (20.Na2 Qxf1+ 21.Bxf1 Na5) 20...Bxc6 21.Na2 Qxf1+ 22.Bxf1 Bxf3 23.Nc1 Be4, and ♖d3 is still alive: 24.Nxd3?! Rxd3! 25.Bxd3 Rd8♯; 19.Bg2! was the strongest – now queen sacrifice will not succeed (♘f3 is protected now), so Black has to choose 19...b4 20.c4 with better redaction for White, because bishop g2 is more useful, than ♖a2.] 19...b4 20.c4 Na5 21.Be3 Nxc4! A resonant sacrifice, but Black simply has no choice – otherwise f5 with strong attack or Ne1, tumping ♖d3. 22.bxc4 Qxc4 23.f5 Trying to bring bishop h3 to life. 23...exf5 24.Bxf5 Qd5 [24...Be4, clinging to ♖d3, seems quite logical, but maybe Ding was not pleased with White's initiative after 25.Nh4 g6 (25...Bxh4 26.Rf4!) 26.Bxe4 Qxe4 27.Qf2] 25.Bxd3?! [Perhaps, course on simplification, which is taken by 25.Qxd3 was the most reasonable decision – 25...Qxf3 26.Rxf3 Rxd3 27.Nxd3 Bxf3 28.Bxc5 Bxc5+ 29.Nxc5 with roughly equal position.] 25...c4 26.Bb1 Qc6 Despite an extra material, white pieces have nowhere to go, and bishop b7 has no antipode. 27.Qe1?



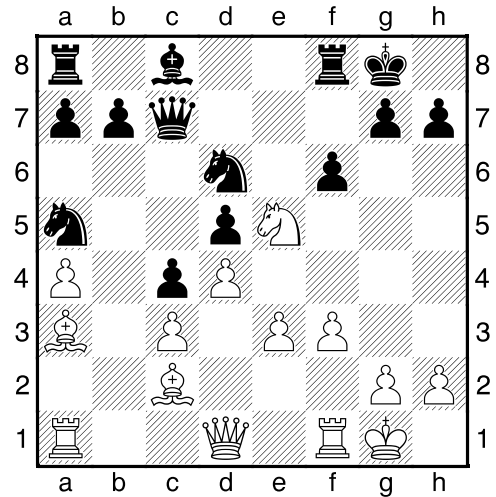
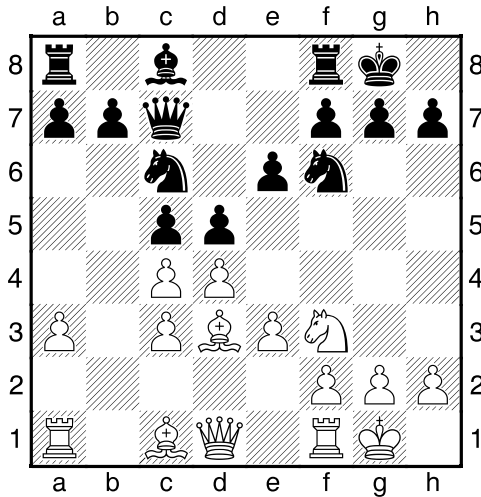
[27.Qg2!, being opposed to bishop b7, was a couple times better than that: 27...Ng6 28.Raf2 Bc5 29.Bxc5 Qxc5 30.Ne2±, counting on 30...Nxe5? 31.Bxh7+! Kh8 32.Be4!+-] 27...Ng6! [More accurate, than 27...Nd7 28.Bd4] 28.Raf2?! [Giving away an important ♖, although 28.Bxg6 Qxg6 is also gloomy.] 28...Nxe5 29.Ne2 [29.Bd4 Rxd4 30.Qxe5 Bc5 31.Qf5 g6 32.Qf7+!? Kh8!+-] 29...Rd3! Now all the white pieces are tied up. 30.Ned4 Qd5 31.Bxd3 [31.Nf5 Bf8] 31...Nxd3 32.Qd2 Nxf2 33.Rxf2 Rf8 34.h4 c3! [≤34...Bc5 35.Nc2] 35.Qd3 Bc5 c3-c2 is threatening. 36.Bf4 Rd8 37.Be5 Re8! 38.Bf4 Re1+ 39.Rf1 [39.Kh2 Bxd4-+] 39...Qxf3 40.Qxf3 Bxd4+ [40...Bxd4+ 41.Kh2 Bxf3 42.Rxe1 b3, and black passers are unstoppable.] 0-1

(07) Vuckovic,Bojan (2623) - Movse- sian,Sergei (2721) [E58]

Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (7), 14.02.2011

[IM Polivanov, A]

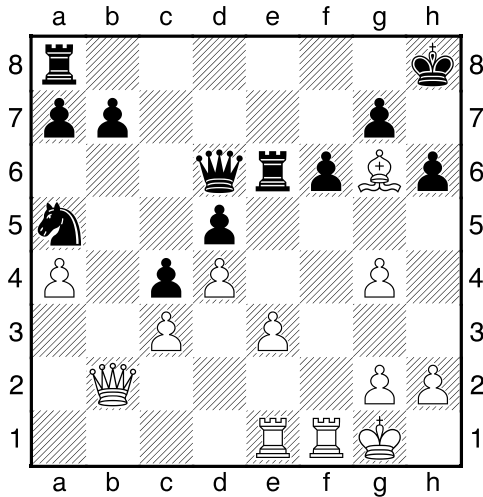
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 [Rubinstein System in Nimzo Defence can be regarded as classical one, but lately it however yields in popularity to 4.Qc2] 4...d5 5.Nf3 0-0 6.Bd3 c5 7.0-0 Nc6 8.a3 Bxc3 [Funny opening transposition – after 8...cxd4 9.exd4 dxc4 10.Bxc4 Be7 11.Bg5 b6 12.Qd3 Bb7 13.Rfe1 h6 14.Bh4 the same position emerges, as in the game Kobalia–Vuckovic from this issue.] 9.bxc3 Qc7



[9...dxc4 10.Bxc4 Qc7 with e6–e5 advancement – is the main path here. Black keeps this possibility, but has something else in mind.] **10.Bb2 Na5 11.cxd5 exd5** In such way Black has opened own bishop c8. Now Bg4 is threatening, so White has to react. **12.Ne5** Using drawbacks of move 10...Na5. Besides, now White is able to proceed to f3+e4 plan. **12...c4** Such "blocking" activity is something common in these positions; moreover, Nb3 could come in handy. **13.Bc2 Ne4** Discoverer of this move is Belarussian grandmaster Aleksandrov. Its idea quite simple – drive ♗e5 away by means of f6. **14.f3** [14.Qh5 g6!] **14...Nd6 15.a4 f6** [Attempt to swap white-squared bishops – 15...Bf5 – was earnestly refuted in the next game: 16.e4! dxe4 17.Ba3 (for that purpose 15.a4 was made) 17...f6 18.fxe4 fxe5 19.exf5 exd4 20.Qxd4 Rfd8 21.f6+–, Aronian–Shomoev, RUS–chT 2006] **16.Ba3!**

[After 16.Ng4 Bxg4 17.fxg4 Rae8 with coming Ne4 only Black can fight for an advantage.] **16...Rd8?!** [16...fxe5 is risky: 17.dxe5 Nf7 18.Bxf8 Kxf8 19.f4→, and white pawns can destroy all and everything; the fate of the line 12.Ne5 depends of 16...Re8! : 17.Ng4 – perhaps, the strongest; **a)** 17.f4 Ne4 18.Bxe4 dxe4 19.Qh5 Be6 20.f5 Bf7 21.Ng6!/? Nb3! (21...Rad8?! 22.Rf4 h6 23.Rg4→, Kovacs–Solomon, Budapest 2009) 22.Rf4 (22.Ra2 Qa5) 22...Qxf4 23.exf4 Nxa1, and draw will be a success for White; **b)** 17.Bxd6 Qxd6 18.f4 fxe5 (18...g6?! 19.Nxg6 hxg6 20.Bxg6 Rxe3 21.Qh5 Qe7 (21...Re7 22.Rf3 Rg7 23.Rg3+–) 22.Qxd5+ Kg7 23.Qh5!±, Vazquez–Petkov, Spain 2008) 19.Bxh7+ Kh8 20.Qh5 Bg4! 21.Qxg4 Kxh7, and Black has all the chances to strike off an attack; 17...Bxg4 18.fxg4 Nf7!y(18...Ne4 19.Bxe4 Rxe4 20.g5! fxg5 21.Ra2 g4 22.Raf2 h6 23.Rf8+ Rxf8 24.Rxf8+ Kh7 25.Qf1 Qd7 26.Rf7 Qe6 27.Bf8+–, Peralta–Graf, Neckar 2009)] **17.Ng4 Re8?N** Now the position from foregoing annotation has arisen, but with extra tempo for the White. Is it logical? Nope. [Worth to choose 17...Bxg4 18.fxg4 Nb3, but here things are not simple too: 19.Ra2 Re8 (19...Qe7 20.Qf3 Qe6, Vitiugov–Grischuk, RUS–ch 2007) 20.g5! f5 (20...fxg5 21.Qh5 Ne4 22.Bxe4 dxe4 23.Raf2+–) 21.Bxf5 Nxf5 22.Rxf5 Qd7 23.Qf3 Qxa4 24.g6! Rad8 (24...hxg6 25.Qxd5+ Kh7 26.Rf3+–) 25.Bf8!! with victory in all variations, Timofeev–Brkic, Bihac 2010] **18.Qb1!** This tem-

po is spent on a good deed. **18...h6** **19.Bh7+** Such intermediate check is almost always useful. **19...Kh8 20.Bg6 Re7** Otherwise Nf2 and e4. **21.Qb4!** Excellent move, which underlines clumsiness of black pieces and allows ♖a1 to go on e1. **21...Rd7** [21...Re6 22.Qc5 Qxc5 23.dxc5 Ne8 24.Rad1 Nc7 25.e4+–] **22.Qb2** [22.Ne5!? was also interesting: 22...Rd8 23.Qc5 (not 23.Qxd6 Rxd6 24.Bxd6 Qb6) 23...Nc6 (23...Qxc5 24.dxc5 fxe5 25.cxd6+–) 24.Nxc6 Qxc6 25.e4 with huge advantage.] **22...Re7 23.Rae1** Now ♘g4 wants again to skip off to f2, that's why it should be taken. **23...Bxg4 24.fxg4 Re6** The same story – ♘d6 aspires to e4, so... **25.Bxd6 Qxd6**



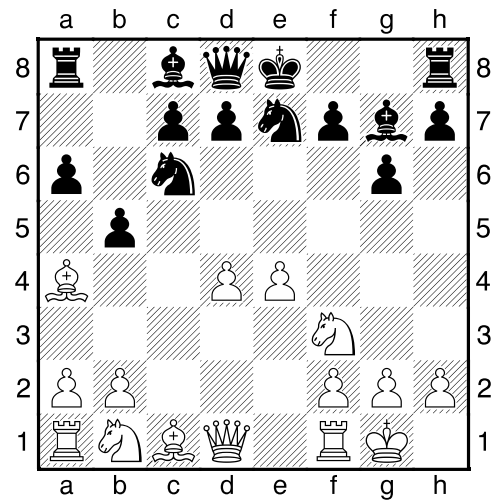
26.Bb1 [Simple and good, putting a battery through the diagonal b1-h7. 26.g5!? fxg5 (26...hxg5 27.Qe2+–) 27.Bf7 Re7 28.Qb5 Nb3 29.Qxd5 Qxd5 30.Bxd5 secures an advantage too, but maybe Vuckovic didn't want to exchange the queens so early.] **26...Rg8** **27.Qc2 g6 28.e4** Finally White manages to fulfill own central idea in this system. **28...Rge8 29.Qd2 Kg7 30.exd5 Qxd5** [Such feeling, that Movsesian underestimated next White's move, differently he would have chosen 30...Rxe1 31.Rxe1 Rxe1+ 32.Qxe1 Qxd5, though after 33.h4! Black is very vulnerable.] **31.Qf4! Qd7?** [Losing at once. Only 31...Qc6 allows to keep going.] **32.Bxg6! Kxg6 33.Qf5+ Kg7 34.d5 1-0**

(08) Sjugirov, Sanan (2626) - Vachier Lagrave, Maxime (2715) [C70]

Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (8), 15.02.2011

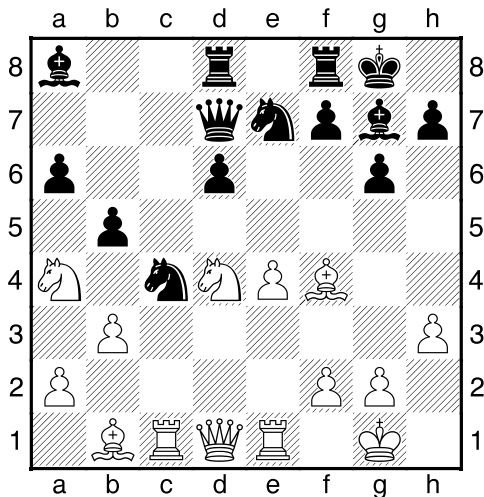
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Nge7 Steinitz Variation – Black is preparing a fianchetto for bishop f8. Recently this system has moved from dust to 2700+ chess owing to Aronian's efforts. **5.0-0 g6 6.c3 Bg7 7.d4 exd4** [Center has to be conceded: 7...d6?! 8.d5 b5 9.Bc2 (9.dxc6?! bxa4 10.Qxa4 0-0 Δ Qe8 is worse) 9...Na5 10.a4 Bd7 11.Na3±] **8.cxd4 b5**



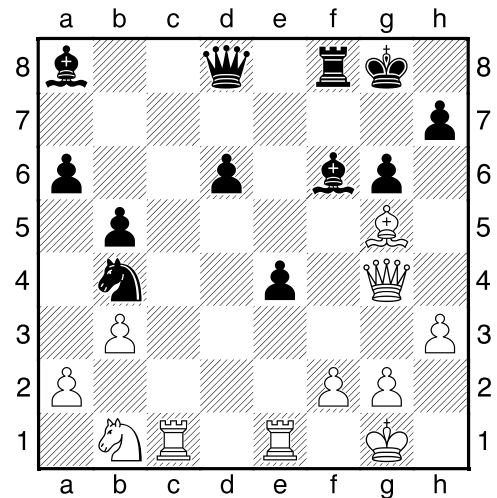
9.Bb3 [Another interesting option – 9.d5!? : 9...Na5 (9...bxa4 10.dxc6 Nxc6 11.Bg5 f6 12.Bf4!) 10.Bc2 0-0 (10...d6 11.Bd2!?f, Iordachescu–Sofronie, Romania 2005) 11.a4 b4 12.d6! cxd6 (in case of 12...Nec6 13.Bg5 Qe8 14.dxc7 Bxb2 15.Nbd2 White is more perspective), and now Black should be oriented on roughly equal endgame, emerged after 13.Qxd6 Nec6 14.Bg5 Qe8 15.Bf6 Qe6 16.Qxe6 dxe6] **9...0-0 10.h3** This move is not necessary, unless Bg4 is not threatening. [Worth to examine 10.d5 Na5 11.Bd2!? Nxb3 (11...Bxb2? 12.Bxa5 Bxa1 13.Nc3 Bxc3 14.Bxc3 d6 15.Bf6→) 12.Qxb3 d6 13.Bc3 c5! 14.dxc6 Be6, Erenburg–Gofstein, Ashdod 2004, and Black eventually managed to make a draw; 10.Nc3 is best parried by 10...Na5! (not 10...d6 11.Nd5!) 11.Bc2 d6 12.h3 c5 with good play, as indicated grandmaster Alexei Kuzmin in his review of

this system in chess magazine "64" 01/2010.] **10...d6 11.Nc3 Bb7?! [It's difficult to think out something else, than mentioned 11...Na5 12.Bc2 c5, making bishop g7 "longer".] 12.Bf4 Qd7N [Now 12...Na5 13.Bc2 c5 is connected with dubious exchange's sacrifice: 14.dxc5 dxc5 15.Qxd8 Raxd8 16.Bc7, and even 16...Nc4 17.Bxd8 Rxd8 18.Rad1 Re8 is not enough – 19.Rd7 Bc6 20.Rc7! Nxb2 21.Nd5±] 13.Rc1 Na5 14.Bc2 Rad8 [Black is finally ready for c7–c5. Attempt 14...Nc4 15.b3 f5!? is the witty one, but White is still keeping an edge after 16.bxc4 fxe4 17.Bxe4 Bxe4 18.Nxe4 Rxf4 19.Re1 bxc4 20.Qe2] 15.Re1 c5 16.Bb1?! [There was a good opportunity to win "d"-file by means of 16.dxc5 dxc5 17.Qxd7 Rxd7 18.Rcd1, though exact 18...Rxd1 (18...Rfd8? 19.Bc7) 19.Rxd1 Re8! probably allows keep one's balance: 20.Bd6 Nc4 21.Bxc5 Nxb2 22.Rd7 Bc8=] 16...cxd4 [Immediate 16...Nc4 won't do due 17.dxc5 dxc5 18.Qxd7 Rxd7 19.Na4! Rc8 20.Rxc4 bxc4 21.Nb6; that's why pawns c5 and d4 are swapped before this, but Na4 is still possible.] 17.Nxd4 Nc4 18.Na4 [18.b3 Na3, and bishop b1 can say "goodbye".] 18...Ba8 ♖c4 can't step back in view of Na4–b6, so bishop makes room for the queen d7. 19.b3**



19...Qa7! [19...Na3 leads almost to the forcing draw – 20.Nb6 Qa7 21.Nxa8 Bxd4 22.Rc7 Bxf2+ 23.Kf1 Qd4 24.Qxd4 Bxd4 25.Rxe7 Nxb1 26.Rxb1 Rxa8 27.Bxd6=, but Vachier is looking for the victory.]

20.Nf3 Na3 21.Nc3 Nxb1 22.Nxb1 f5!? Brave move, which implies some sacrifice, but it's best what Black had here – big diagonals should be open for the bishops. **23.Ng5 fxe4** [There is no turning back: 23...Qd7 24.exf5 Rxf5 25.Ne6±] **24.Ne6 Nd5** [Another version of "donation" also looks promising: 24...Rxf4 25.Nxf4 Bh6! 26.Ne6 e3 27.Rc2 Re8♞] **25.Be3** [25.Nxf8? Nxf4-+] **25...Qe7 26.Nxd8 Qxd8 27.Qg4** [27.Bd4? Bxd4 28.Qxd4 Nf4-+] **27...Nb4 28.Bg5 Bf6?**



[Cruel mistake, although White's reply is not so easy to foresee. 28...Qe8!, and game continues "on three results" with a draw as the quite probable outcome, like in variation 29.Rc7 Bd4 30.Re7 Bxf2+ 31.Kh1 Qc8 32.Bf6! Qxg4 33.Rg7+ Kh8 34.Rf7+=] **29.Qe6+ Kg7 30.Rc8!!** Brilliant. With a temporary sacrifice of rook, White lures black king out. **30...Qxc8 31.Bxf6+ Kh6 32.Qe7 Rxf6** [32...Rg8 33.Bg5+ Kh5 34.g4+] **33.Qxf6 Nd3 34.Rf1!** Protecting ♕f2 to prevent any ideas like Qf5. **34...Qf5** Nevertheless. **35.Qh4+** [35.Qxd6 is stronger, but in time-trouble situation lines kinda 35...Nf4 (35...e3 36.fxe3 Qe4 37.Rf3+-) 36.Nc3 Qg5 37.Qf8+ Kh5 38.g3 are uneasy to dare on.] **35...Kg7 36.Qe7+ Kh6 37.Qh4+** Sjugirov gains some seconds. **37...Kg7 38.Qd8 Qf8 39.Qd7+ Kh6 40.Nc3 Nf4** b4 with Nf4–e2–g3 checks is threatening... **41.Qg4 Bb7 42.Ne2 Nd3 43.Qd7 Bd5 44.Nc3 Nc5 45.Qc7 Ba8 46.Nd1!** Black was so im-

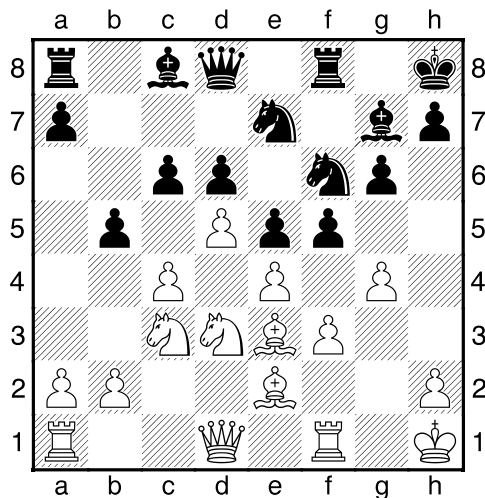
pressed with idea Ne3-g4, so he decides to resign immediately. 1-0

(09) Le Quang,Liem (2664) - Cheparinov,Ivan (2665) [E99]

Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (8), 15.02.2011

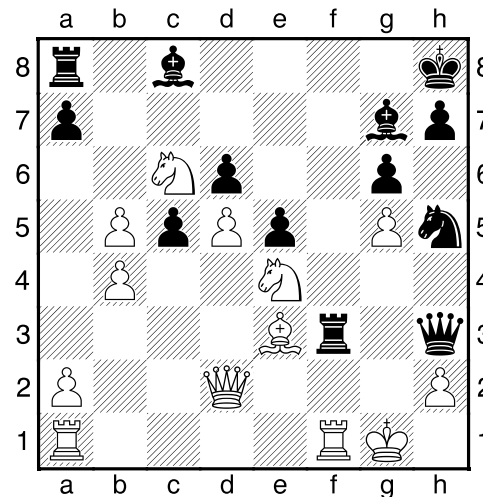
[IM Polivanov, A]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 Bg7 [White chooses this order of moves, if one wants to avoid Grunfeld Defence – now on 3...d5 comes 4.Qa4+!? Bd7 5.Qb3 dxc4 6.Qxc4] **4.e4 d6 5.d4 0-0 6.Be2 e5 7.0-0** [Draw in this game would be quite convenient for Le Quang, but to his credit he hasn't resorted to 7.dxe5 dxe5 8.Qxd8 Rxd8] **7...Nc6 8.d5 Ne7 9.Ne1 Nd7 10.f3 f5 11.g4!?** Curious continuation, called upon to strangle Black's hypothetical attack on kingside – f4, g5, h5, g4... **11...Nf6** [11...f4?! 12.h4, and right flank is sealed.] **12.Nd3 c6** Preparing to the actions in center. **13.Be3 Kh8 14.Kh1 b5!?**



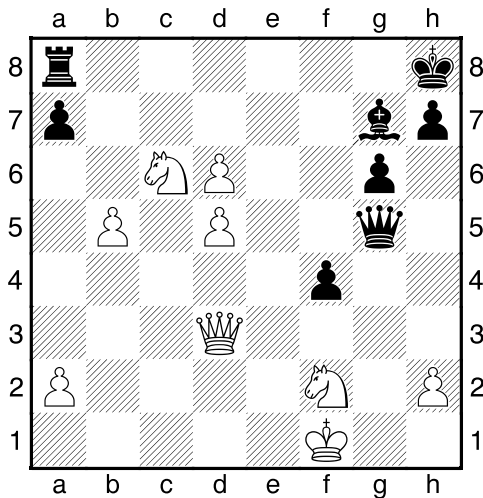
"Black is doing his best to destroy his opponent's centre" (c) GM Jan Markos, "Beat the KID", 2008. **15.g5** [15.dxc6 bxc4 16.Nb4 Rb8 – now there is no taking on c4 with check (thanks to Kh8); 15.Nb4! seems the most critical – 15...cxd5 (15...c5?! 16.Nc6 Nxc6 17.dxc6± – "The hole on d5 is very annoying" (c) Markos) 16.cxd5 Bd7 17.g5 Ne8 18.Nxb5, and if 18...Qa5, then 19.Nc6! Nxc6 20.dxc6 Bxc6 21.Nxd6 – Black has to prove his compensation for a ♖.] **15...Nh5 16.Nb4** [16.c5 gives not much:

16...fxe4 17.fxe4 Rxf1+ 18.Bxf1 cxd5 19.Nxb5 dxc5 (19...dxe4 20.Nxd6!) 20.Bxc5 Be6=; 16.cxb5 cxd5 17.exd5 f4 18.Bf2 looks dangerous after 18...Nf5, but 19.Rg1! refutes any threats, and White still with extra pawn.] **16...c5!N** [Black was doing good in 16...bxc4 17.dxc6 a5 18.c7 Qxc7 19.Nbd5 Nxd5 20.Nxd5 Qd8!↗, Sharafiev–Turutin, Voronezh 2010, but 17.Nxc6 Nxc6 18.dxc6 f4 19.Bf2 leaves more questions.] **17.Nc6 Qd7** It turns out, that 15.g5 opens square h3, and black queen is heading that way. **18.cxb5** [18.Nxe7 Qxe7 19.Nxb5 f4 20.Bf2 a6! 21.Nc3 Qxg5↗] **18...fxe4 19.Nxe4 Nf5 20.Qd2 Nd4!** [Cheparinov has rejected an allusion to draw, connected with 20...Nhg3+ 21.hxg3 Nxc3+ 22.Kg1 Qh3 23.Nxd6 Qh1+ 24.Kf2 Qh4= – he needed a victory desperately.] **21.b4** Very logical – White develops an initiative on the queen-side, using ♘d4. **21...Qh3 22.Kg1** This is quite reasonable too – king avoids two eventual checks, from g3 and f3 (in case of full exchange on it). **22...Nxf3+ 23.Bxf3 Rxf3**



24.Rae1?! [Apparently, White hasn't calculated properly complications after 24.Rxf3 Qxf3 25.Nxd6 Bh3 26.Qf2 Qg4+ 27.Kh1 Rf8 28.Nxe5! (≤28.Rg1 Rxf2 29.Rxg4 Rxa2 30.Rg1 cxb4) 28...Rxf2 29.Nxg4 Bxg4 30.Bxf2 Bxa1 31.bxc5 – three ♖ are stronger than a piece.] **24...Bg4 25.bxc5** Struggle has achieved own apogee – whose strategy will prevail?

25...Rxf1+ 26.Rxf1 Bf3 27.Rxf3 [This is necessary want: 27.Nxd6 Rf8 28.Rf2 Nf4+ with inevitable Qg4 & Be2.] **27...Qxf3 28.Nf2** [Black is fabulously winning in variation 28.Nxd6 Rf8 29.Qe1 Qg4+ 30.Kh1 Rf4!! 31.Bxf4 Qf3+ 32.Kg1 Nxf4+] **28...Qf5** Keeping in mind check from b1. **29.cxd6 Nf4 30.Bxf4?** [After that Quang's position will be almost impossible to defend. Cool-headed 30.h4! Rf8 31.Kh2! repulses a primary attack – White has clear plan a4–a5..., so Black should hurry to invent something.] **30...exf4 31.Qd3 Qxg5+ 32.Kf1**



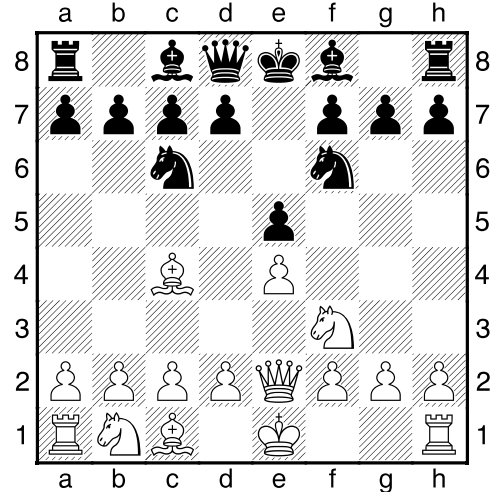
♕d6 is ready to move forward, but... **32...f3!** Black is engaging ♖a8 in this manner, deciding fate of the game. **33.Qxf3** [33.d7 Qg2+ 34.Ke1 Qg1+ 35.Qf1 Bc3+] **33...Rf8 34.Qd3** [34.Qe4 Qd2] **34...Qf4 35.Qg3 Qc4+ 36.Kg1 Qxd5 37.a4 Bd4** Ridding of last obstacles. **38.Nxd4 Qxd4 39.a5** Trying to form a passed ♖, but Cheparinov got all under control. **39...Rf6 40.b6 axb6 41.a6 Kg7!** [41...Qa1+? would be a premature decision – 42.Kg2 Qxa6 43.Qe5 Qa8+ 44.Ne4, and Black ought to find a draw after 44...Kg8] **42.a7 Qa1+ 43.Kg2 Qxa7 44.Qe5** Now ♖f6 is protected, so Black can make an useful move. **44...Qd7 45.Ne4 Qg4+** [45...Qg4+ 46.Kh1 (46.Ng3 Qe6) 46...Qf3+ 47.Kg1 Qf1#] **0-1**

(10) Hector,Jonny (2592) - Smith,Axel (2445) [C55]

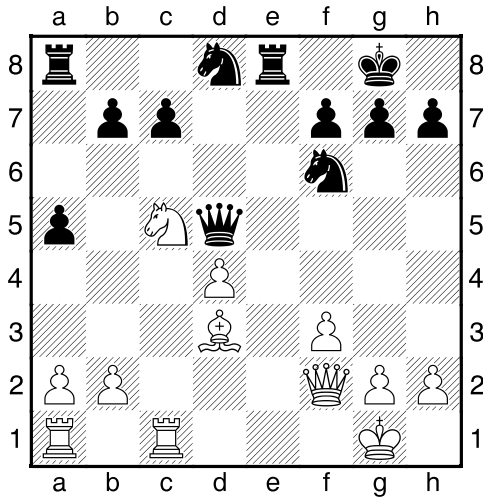
TCh–SWE Elitserien 2010-11 Sweden SWE (8), 19.02.2011

[IM Polivanov, A]

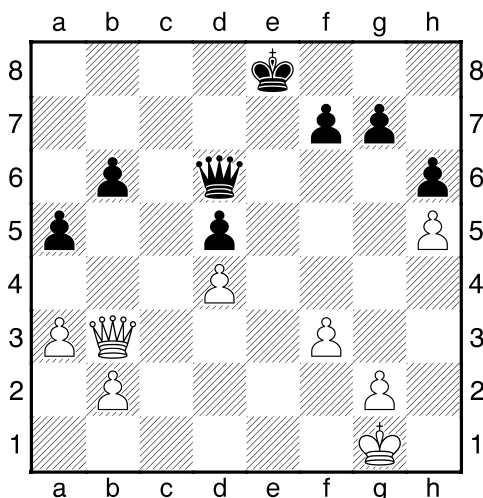
1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bc4 Nf6 4.Qe2!?



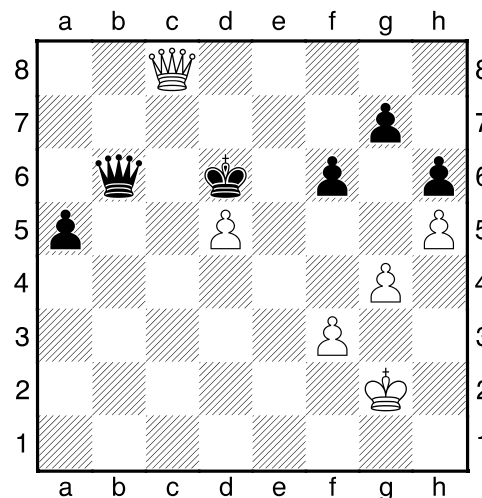
Variation from XIX century. Nowadays it sometimes used by venerable chessplayers Barua and Mantovani. **4...Be7** [4...Bc5 also good, as 5.Ng5? doesn't work – 5...Nd4! (5...0-0? 6.Nxf7 Rxf7 7.Bxf7+ Kxf7 8.Qc4+ d5 9.Qxc5 Nxe4 10.Qe3±) 6.Bxf7+ Kf8 7.Qc4 Qe7+] **5.d4 d5!N** [The strongest move in current situation. 5...exd4 won't do because of 6.e5, and there is no standard answer d7–d5; earlier met 5...d6 6.d5 with better game for White.] **6.Bb5** [6.exd5 Nxd4 7.Nxd4 exd4i] **6...Nxe4** [6...exd4 7.Nxd4 Bd7 8.Bxc6 bxc6 9.e5 Ne4 appears more cheerful, but now will be almost symmetrical structure.] **7.Nxe5 Bd7 8.f3** [8.Nxd7? Nxd4 9.Nf6+ Kf8 10.Nd7+ Kg8 11.Qd3 c6 12.Qxd4 Qxd7 13.Be2 Bc5→] **8...Nf6** [8...Nxe5 9.fxe4 Nc6 10.c3] **9.Nxd7 Qxd7 10.0-0 0-0 11.c3 Rfe8 12.Qf2 Bd6 13.Nd2 a6?!** [Here 13...Qf5!?! was interesting, taking square d3 under control.] **14.Bd3 Bf4?!** Also dubious operation – now ♘d2 goes to c5. **15.Nb3 Bxc1 16.Rfxc1! Nd8** [On 16...b6 one may suggest 17.a4 (that's why ♖ stayed at a1!) 17...a5 18.Bb5] **17.Nc5 Qc6 18.c4 a5 19.cxd5 Qxd5**



[Probably, Smith was planning 19...Nxd5, but changed his mind due 20.Bf5!] **20.Bb5** [Apparently, Hector considered 20.Ne4 Ne6 21.Nxf6+ gxf6 22.Be4 Qxd4 23.Qxd4 Nxd4 24.Rxc7 as not quite enough.] **20...c6 21.Bc4 Qd6 22.Re1 Rxe1+ 23.Rxe1 b6 24.Ne4 Nxe4 25.Rxe4** [25.fxe4 b5 26.Bb3 a4, and bishop is pushed away.] **25...Ne6 26.Qe3 Rd8 27.h4?!** [Worth to eliminate black 27.Bxe6 fxe6, though endgame after 28.Rxe6?! Qxd4 29.Qxd4 Rxd4 30.Rxc6 Rd1+ 31.Kf2 Rd2+ 32.Kg3 Rxb2 33.a4 is dead-draw. Now knight transfers to d5, and White is not better.] **27...Nc7 28.a3 Kf8 29.h5** [29.Qg5] **29...h6 30.Qb3? Nd5?** [30...f5-+, and Black is winning d4 along with, likely, the whole game.] **31.Bxd5 cxd5 32.Re1 Re8 33.Rxe8+ Kxe8**



Under other conditions, a peace treaty could be signed here. But this it team tournament, so the game goes on. **34.Qb5+ Ke7 35.Kf2 Qe6 36.g4 Kd8 37.Qa6 Qc6 38.Qa7 Qc2+ 39.Kg3 Qxb2** [39...Qc7+? 40.Qxc7+ Kxc7 41.Kf4 Kd6 42.Kf5 a4 43.f4 b5 44.g5+- - that's why Hector moved 29.h5 - to grab space.] **40.Qa8+ Ke7 41.Qxd5 Qxa3 42.Qb7+ Ke8** [42...Ke6! was the most reliable here: 43.d5+ (43.Qxb6+? Qd6+) 43...Kd6 44.Qxf7 Qe3! 45.Qxg7 Kxd5=] **43.Qxb6 Qb4 44.Qc6+ Ke7 45.Qc7+ Ke8 46.Qe5+ Kf8** [46...Kd7 forces the draw immediately: 47.Qxg7 Qe1+ 48.Kf4 Qd2+ 49.Ke4 Qe2+= - but, knowing about fighting spirit of Axel Smith, I think, that he still was searching re-sources for the victory.] **47.d5 Qb6 48.Kg2 f6 49.Qc3 Ke7 50.Qc8 Kd6?**



[Serious mistake. 50...a4 is still an equality: 51.Qg8 Qb2+ 52.Kh3 Qc3 53.Qxg7+ Kd6] **51.Qe6+ Kc5 52.Qe3+!** Now the king is moved away from d5. **52...Kb5 53.Qe7 a4** [That's an agony. 53...Ka6, aspiring to checks after Qb2, leaves some practical chances for salvation.] **54.d6 a3** [54...Kc6 55.d7 Qb2+ 56.Kg3 Qb8+ 57.Kh3 Qb3 58.d8N+! Kb5 was the most persistent.] **55.d7 a2 56.Qe2+!** [56.Qe2+ Kc6 57.Qe6+] **1-0**

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