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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 embarrassed 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

Frankly speaking, $\mathcal{E}$'s place is rather on d7 (like in previous annotation), than c6 – to not block up the $\mathcal{E}c8$. 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 $\mathcal{E}c8$ 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...Qxe2 [Letting $\mathcal{E}e1$ go to e7 – is a doubtful idea. Much reasonable was 23...Qf6 24.Qf4 Bxd5 25.b4! Rc7 26.Qf5 Qxf5 27.Bxf5 Bf7 with slightly worse endgame.] 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.Rg2, and ending is tolerable) 26...Kf8 27.Rg1 (a7 is protected already) 27...Ra4! 28.Qg7+ 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:]

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[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 Nc6 [In point of fact, the discovered check threats with... nothing, so Black could easily take 30... Qxh4. As they say, the menace is stronger than own execution.] 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 Petrosian decides to exclude check’s possibility.] 32. Rd7 33. Qc8 Rd8 34. Qg7 Rd7 35. Qg8 Rd8 36. Qf7 Qf4 [36... Rd7 37. Be8 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. Qb5+ 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 Chebanenko 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!? £z, Macieja-Dimitrov, Plovdiv 2008] 8... a5 [Instead of common 8... c5!? £z, Kamsky intends to put the £b8 to b4.] 9. Qb3 dxc4

10. Bxc4 Nh5 Hunting for the white bishop, but it has a good place to go. 11. Be5 Nc6 [In point of fact, the discovered check threats with... nothing, so Black could easily take 30... Qxh4. As they say, the menace is stronger than own execution.] 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 Petrosian decides to exclude check’s possibility.] 32. Rd7 33. Qc8 Rd8 34. Qg7 Rd7 35. Qg8 Rd8 36. Qf7 Qf4 [36... Rd7 37. Be8 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. Qb5+ Kc7 40. Qf7+ Kb8 41. c6+] 1–0

[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 Nc6 [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 £z is not supporting e6–e5 then.] 15. 0–0–0 [Such feeling, that 15. Bxe6! £z is more perspective: 15... fx6 (15... h6 16. Bxd7¡ (16. Nxf7 Nc5) 16. Nxe6+ Kh8 17. Nxf8 Nxf8, and if white £z 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, whereas 16. Na2 Qxb3 17. Bxb3 e5 18. Nc3 exd4 19. Rxd4 Nc5 guarantees a little edge for White. But Sandipan declines an exchange.] 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. Nxf5 Bd7] 18... h6 19. e5 [After 19. Nf3 c5 Black intercepts an initiative, that’s why White wants to place own knight a little bit more active.] 19... Nfd5 20. Nge4
20...c5! Despite \( \text{\textepsilon}e4 \), 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 Bc7) 22...cxd4 23.Rxd4 Bd7 24.Qxb4 axb4 25.b3 b5] 21...Nxc3 22.bxc3 Qxc3+ 23.Kb1? \[\&(8).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 \( \text{\textepsilon}d5 \)... 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 \( \text{\textepsilon}b4 \) together with passed \( \text{\textepsilon}d \). 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 fxg6 33.Qxg6+ Kf7 34.Qxf6+ Ke7) 32...h5 33.g4!! Rxg4 \((33...hxg4 34.h5 gxh5 35.Qh6=)\) 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

34.Qxe6? Decisive error. \[\&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, \( \text{\textepsilon}f2 \) falls, after which mate threats are imminent. 35.Qe7+ Rf7 36.Rxg5+ Realizing, that game is lost, Sandipan tries the last resort. 36...hxg5 37.Qxg5+ Rg6 38.Qd8 d3 \[Not bad, though 38...Rxg2 39.Qxa5 Rg1+ wins forcibly: 40.Kb2 Rxg2+ 41.Kb3 Rb1+ 42.Kc4 Rc2+] 39.e6 Rxe6 40.Qg5+ Kg8 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 Re2+ 48.Kf4 Rd7 49.Qg8+ Ke7 After couple of checks king will reach square c7, where it will be unattainable – as well as \( \text{\textepsilon}d2. 0-1
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 relives 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 Nfx3 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 Nxg3 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...Qxd5 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±


25...Qxd3 [Now 25...Nd4 is met by 26.Re6]


28...Rxe7 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 A, in order to create a passed one. 31...Rc6 32.Rb7 Rc1+ 33.Kh2 Rc2 34.Rxb6 Rxh2 Pawn pair "a+b" – is just a temporary event, because one of them should be taken away for Ae4. 35.a4 Kf7 36.Rb3! [36.b4? e3 would be erroneous (as Eb6 doesn't have a square e6 anymore), so White already has to jump off to draw: 37.Kg1 Ra2 38.Kf1 Rxh1 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 Rxh6 40.Rxe3 Ra1=] 36...e3 37.Rxe3 Rxh2 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 Ea6 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-Inkiov 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 Kb7 49.Kb5 Re6 50.a6 Kb8! gives a little, because black rook has escaped.] 48.g5 Rg6 [48...hxg5 49.Ke5 Kb7 50.Kf5 g4 51.Kxg4 Rg6+ 52.Kf3 Ka6 53.g4 with next plan: Kg3–h4 and in suitable moment – Rh3–f7, attacking Aa7. 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 Aa5, 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 Rx5 67.Kxg7 with easy transition to the winning Lucena position.] 66.Rb7+ Kg8 67.Kf5 [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.Rf5 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.Rb5 Re1 73.Qe7 Rb1+ 74.Rc6 Rd8 75.Kd4 Re8 76.Rb5 Rd8. 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 Δg6, 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 Δ, 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 Nd7?! [28...Rg7 was lesser of the evils, although after 29.Bf5 Bxd5 30.Bh7+ Rxh7 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 Rxh4 31.Ra3 Rg7 32.Rg5 Bb2 33.Rd3 a6 34.Kg2 axb5 35.axb5 Kf8 36.Ned2 [36.Kg3 Bc1 37.Rc3 Rxh4 38.Rxc1] 36...Rb6 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...Rxh5 42.Rdh3 Re5 43.Rb6+ Ke7 44.Bf5 [One more proof in 41.Nfd2 benefit – otherwise why not 44.Bf5 Rxe4+? ] 1-0

(05) Timofeev, Artyom (2681) - Sjugirov, Sanan (2626) [E25] Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (6), 13.02.2011


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 "p"-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 \[26.Ng6 Nxe6 27.Qxc6 Bb7 28.Qd7 Qxd7 29.Rxd7 Ne5! 30.Rxb7 Ng4+ leads to the approximately equal endgame.\] 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?! \[Greed is punishable – 30.Qxa7 Nh4 31.Qxb6 Nxe2 32.Bc5 Qf7!, and Black wins: 33.Bxf8 Nxf3+ 34.Bxf3 Nxe1 35.Rxe1 Qg6+ 36.Kf1 Bxf3 37.Qxe6+ Qxe6 38.Rxe6 Bd5+; but 30.Bf2! was a clever prophylactic move, taking point h4 away.\] 30...Bc6? \[30...Bxf3! 31.gxf3 Rxf3 32.Bg5 (32.Bf1 Rxc3) 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 Δc3 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 Δ and strong Δ should be told upon. 43.a4 h4 44.Kh2 Rc6 With Δ 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 № 58...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 §e4 is at death's door. 56.Rb7 e5 57.Rd7 Rd4 58.Kg1 Rb2! Preventing white king's activation. 59.Rd6+ Kg5 60.Re6 Kf4 61.Rg6 Kg4 62.Rg7 Ke5 63.g3 e4

There is no reason to waste a time by 63...hxg3. 64.gxh4 e3 65.h5 Rd2! [Good idea – rook with a tempo switches to d6, wherefrom it will be hamper §h5. After 66...Rb5 67.h6 Rh5 68.h5 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+ Kc1 83.Kg3 Rd7–+) 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 Kf5 92.h7 Ra7+ 93.Kg8 Kg6 94.h8N+ Kf6–+] 79...Kb3 80.Re1 Rxe7 81.Kg3 Rce7 82.h4 Rc4! Like in a book – white king is cut off through 4th line, so h4 won't promote. 83.h5 Ka2 84.Kg2 0-1

(06) Kamsky,Gata (2730) - Ding,Liren (2628) [C11] Aeroflot Open A Moscow RUS (6), 13.02.2011

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nc3 Nf6 4.e5 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.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...Kxh8 with coming Nxd5; 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, clingoing 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?
[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!

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.Nxe6 Qxe6 25.e4 with huge advantage.] 22...Re7 23.Rae1 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.Qxd6 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...Rg8 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

1.e4 e5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.Bb5 a6 4.Ba4 Ne7 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

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".]


18...Ba8? c4 can't step back in view of Na4–b6, so bishop makes room for the queen d7. 19.b3


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...Ne6 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 Δ.] 15...Nh5 16.Nb4 [16.c5 gives not much:

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 Nxh4+] 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+

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 a, 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 a6 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?!
[Probably, Smith was planning 19...Nxd5, but changed his mind due 20.Bf5! 20.Bb5
Nxd4 24.Rxc7 as not quite enough.]
20...c6 21.Bc4 Qd6 22.Re1 Rxe1+
[25.fx e4 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
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 is 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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55.d7 a2 56.Qe2+! [56.Qe2+ Kc6
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