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Topalov, V (2775) - Kamsky, G (2732) [A15]
WCh Candidates Kazan RUS (1.2), 06.05.2011
[IM Polivanov, Anatoliy]

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nc3 d5 4.cxd5 Nxd5 5.Qb3

Third Grunfeld’s sideline by popularity after 5.Qa4+ and 5.e4. 5...Nb6

[Surely, not 5...Nxc3? 6.Qxc3] 6.d4 White wants to put = on d1 as soon as possible in order to prevent any counterplay like c5 or e5. 6...Bg7 7.Bf4

[Third Grunfeld’s sideline by popularity after 5.Qa4+ and 5.e4.] 7...Be6 8.Qa3

Here queen won’t be fall under Nb4, but a3 is poor place for it anyway. 8...Nc6 9.0-0-0N


Bxe3+ is threatening. 15.Rd2? [Hard to understand, how such agressive player like Topalov could reject active 15.Ng5! Bg4 16.Rd2 f6 17.Nge4 with good play.] 15...f6!

Immediately covering squares e5 and g5. Moreover, king e8 now is able to castle artificially too. 16.Ne4 [White may try 16.Bc4 b5 17.Bxd5 Nxd5 18.Qc5 , but after 18...Kf7 Black is better anyway.] 16...b6 17.Be2 Qc8! Yet another strong move – in addition to preparing c6–c5, bishop e6 is protected now, which can be useful in case of Nxa2 strikes. 18.Rh4 Kf7 [18...Nxa2+ 19.Qxa2 Nxe3 (19...Nc3? 20.Qa3 – £e4 is defended now) 20.Qb1 Nf5 (20...Nxe2? 21.Nd6+!) 21.Rxh6 Rxe4 looks quite promising, but Black doesn’t want such complications yet – White still has nothing to do.] 19.Rd1 g5 This is the beginning of the end. 20.Rh2 [20.Rhh1 hardly changes something.] 20...g4 21.Nfd2 c5! Now white king will suffer. 22.dxc5 [22.Kb1 loses queen a3 after 22...Nxe3! 23.fxe3 Bxa2+ 24.Ka1 Nc2+] 22...f5

(02) Mamedyarov,S (2772) – Gelfand,B (2733) [B87]
WCh Candidates Kazan RUS (1.3), 07.05.2011
[IM Polivanov,Anatoliy]

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Bc4 e6 7.Bb3 b5 8.0-0 Be7 9.Qf3 Some players make this move right after 7...b5, in order to keep a long castle option. 9...Qc7 [Another way to prevent e4–e5 – 9...Qb6 10.Be3 Qb7 11.Qg3 b4 12.Na4 Nbd7 13.f3 0-0 with complicate play.] 10.Qg3 0-0 11.Bh6 Making a discomfort for the black pieces and gaining some time. 11...Ne8 12.Rad1 Bd7 [12...Bf6 13.Bg5; 12...Nc6 meets unpleasant 13.Nd5 , that's why 12...Bd7 first.] 13.f4

after 16.f6! Bxf6 17.Rxf6 Qc5 18.Bxg7+ (exchange's sacrifice 18.Ne2 e5 19.Rxd6 exd4 20.Rxd7 gxh6 is less clear) 18...Nxd7 19.Qf2, for example 19...Qe5 20.Rh6 f5 21.Rd1 fxé4 22.Qh4+– 16...Nf6 17.Qh3 d5! [Well-timed counterstrike in center, as 17...Qc8? 18.g4 is simply bad.] 18.e5!? [Mamedyarov tries to find the best resources. 18.exd5 exf5 has no prospects for White – Black possesses "e"-file and point g4 for the ¤.] 18...Qxe5 19.Rh4 intending to eliminate ¤f6 after Bd4. 19...Rfc8!

Now Bd4 isn't dangerous because of Bc5. Moreover, Qxe3+ with further pin is hanging. 20.Kh1? [20.Bg4! would be a logical continuation of White's strategy. After 20...h6 (in case of 20...Kg8 21.Bxf6 Qxf6 22.Rxh7 g6 (only not 22...Bc5+? 23.Kh1 g6 24.Bxd5 exd5 25.Nxd5 Qe5 26.Qh4+) White has draw in a pocket: 23.g4! b4 24.fxg6 Qxg6 25.Rh8+ Kg7 26.Rh7+=) 21.Rhx6+ gxh6 22.Qxh6+ Kg8 23.fxe6 Bxe6 24.Bxf6 Bxf6 25.Rxf6 b4 26.Nd1 White's initiative is enough for equality.] 20...Rxc3! 21.bxc3 Qxc3! 22.Qxc3 Rxc3 23.Rd4 At least White tries to animate bishop b3. 23...a5 23.Rd3 Qc6 24.c3 a4 25.Bc2 e5! But no – bishop c2 can only stare at f5. 26.Bg5 b4 27.Qh4 Mamedyarov stakes one's all. 27...bxc3 28.Rh3 Kg8 29.Re1 [29.Bxf6 Bxf6 30.Qxh7+ Kf8 31.Qh8+ Ke7 – now we see, that 23...Qc6 was wise decision.] 29...e4 30.g4 [30.Bxf6 Bxf6 31.Qxh7+ Kf8 32.Rhe3, seeking to sacrifice a material on e4, is parried by 32...Re8!] 30...Kf8 31.Be3

Two threats at once – on a2 and d4. 32.g5 Bxf5 33.gxf6 Bxf6 34.Qh5 Bg6! [There was nothing wrong with 34...Bxh3 35.Qxh3 Kg8 , but Gelfand considered reasonably, that own bishop is stronger than g3.] 35.Qg4 Qxa2 Six pawns for the rook in overall – Philidor would be happy, if he would have seen this. 36.Bb1 Qc4 37.Qg2 a3 38.Ba2 Qc6 39.Rg3 Rb8 [White resigned, though 39...Rb8 40.Bc1 Rb2!? 41.Bxb2 axb2 would be interesting to observe.] 0–1

(03) Maiorov,N (2528) - Solodovnichenko,Y (2574) [A40] 29th Metz Open A Longeville-les-Metz FRA (8.1), 07.05.2011 [IM Polivanov,Anatoliy]

Preparing e4–e5 advancement, which is gonna tore Black’s position apart. 13...Qb6
[Earlier met 13...c4!? 14.h3 Nxf2 15.Kxf2 Qb6+ 16.Kg3 Qxb2 17.Na4 Qxa1, but
18.Qe2! (instead of 18.Qxa1 Bxa1 19.Rxa1 Rfb8, Belotti–Drazic, Milan 2001) 18...Qf6
19.Bg5+- clarifies the situation.] 14.Qd2N Rfb8 15.Rab1 Nc7 16.e5± Extra pawn and
better position – that’s the result of opening phase for White. 16...dxe5 17.Nxe5 Nxe5
18.Bxe5 Bxe5 19.Rxe5 Qd6 20.Qe2 e6 Thus d7 is becoming more active at least. 21.dxe6
piece is going to be centralized – c3. 23...Qa6 24.h4 h5

25.Rd6?! [Maiorov misses 25.Ne4! (prior 25.a3!? is also strong) 25...Qxa2 26.Nf6+
Kg7! (26...Kh8 27.Rbd1 Qxb2 28.Rd8+!++) 27.Nxh5+ Kh6, and now 28.Rbd1! Qxb2

29.Qe3+ Kh7 30.Rd7 Ng7 (30...Nd8
31.Rd6+--; 30...Kg8 31.Rxf7l) 31.Rxf7!
gxh5 32.Rdd7 Rg8 33.Rxg7+! Rgx7
34.Qe4+– with victory. But that line is not
from the simplest.] 25...Rb6 Now exchanges make Black’s life somewhat easier.
Kh7 30.Nxg6 Qg7?] 29...Qg7 30.Qxg7+
Kxg7 This ending is not won unconditionally for White, because black c and d
can be very importunate. 31.Nb6 Ra6 32.Nc4
Nd4 33.Kf1 Ra4 34.Nd2 Nb5 35.Rc1!

[It’s easy to understand White’s desire to keep a pair alive, though 35.g3 c4 36.Ne4
c3 37.bxc3 Nxa3 38.Rb4 Ra7 39.c4 looks good too.] 35...Rhx4 36.Rxc5?! [But that’s
an inaccuracy – 36.Nf3! Rh1+ 37.Ng1 would leave to Black a minimum chances
to survive.] 36...Rh1+ That’s the beginning of endless checks. 37.Ke2 Nd4+ 38.Ke3
[It’s difficult to foresee the consequences of 38.Kd3 Ne6 39.Rc4 Rh2+ – perhaps, after
40.a4 Rxe2 41.a5 Rxf2 42.a6 Rf5 43.b4
d5+ 44.Ke3 Rd8 45.b5 Ra8 46.Rc6 h4
47.b6 Rxa6 48.b7 Rxc6 49.b8Q Black will try to build the fortress.] 38...Nf5+ 39.Kf3
Nd4+ 40.Ke4 [40.Kg3?? h4+ 41.Kg4 f5++] 40...Rh4+ 41.Ke5 Ne6 42.Rc1 [Things are
clearer after 42.Rc3 Rh2 43.Rg3 h4
44.Rg4 h3 45.gxh3 Rxh2 46.Nc4; now Black is taking his counterchances.]
42...Ng4 43.Rc3 f6+ 44.Kd6 Nxg2 45.Nf3
Rh1 46.b4 g5 47.b5 g4
48.b6? [Such feeling, that in case of 48.Nd4! h4 49.b6 White would have won nevertheless: 49...Rb1 50.Rb3! (50.Nb3 is weaker due 50...Rd1+! (50...h3? 51.b7 h2 52.b8Q h1Q 53.Rc7+ Kg6 54.Qg8+ Kf5 55.Nd4+ Kf4 56.Qd5! with mate) ) 50...Rxb3 51.Nxb3 h3 52.Nd4! h2 53.Nf5+ Kg6 54.Ng3+–] 48...Rb1 49.Kc6 Nf4!? [Perhaps, was worth to prefer 49...gxf3 50.Rxf3 (otherwise knight would escape – 50.a4 Nf4) 50...Nh4! , and ♖ helps in defense through the square g6.] 50.Rc4 Nd3 51.Rd4 Rc1+ 52.Kd6 Nc5 Black has managed to stop ♖b6, but this barrier is quite fragile. 53.Nh4 Nb7+ 54.Kd7 Rc5 55.Ra4! Aiming to disturb ♖b7. But Black is ready for this. 55...Kh6 56.Ra7 Na5! [56...Kg5 57.Rxb7 Kxh4 58.Rc7 Rb5 59.b7 Kh3 60.a4+-] 57.a4 Kg5

58.Ng2? [The turning moment. White decided not to get involved in ending 58.Rxa5 Rxax , and as soon as ♔ will reach square f3, it will be uneasy to win this. But some chances still are.] 58...h4 59.b7? [After 59.Nxh4 Kxh4 60.Rxa5 Rxa5 61.b7 Ra7! a theoretical draw appears: 62.Kc6 Rxb7 63.Kxb7 g3 64.fxg3+ Kxg3 65.a5 f5 66.a6 f4 67.a7 f3 68.a8Q f2= ; now White gets risk to be lost.] 59...Nxb7 60.Rxb7 h3 61.Ne3 h2 62.Rb1 f5? [Now already Black has lost an opportunity to win the game: 62...Rc! 63.Rh1 (63.Nd5 Rf3; 63.a5 g3!) 63...Rxex3 64.Rxh2 Ra3=+] 63.Rh1 f4 64.Nxg4 [64.Rxh2 fxe3 65.fxe3 g3 66.Ra2 seems the quickest way to draw. But this spoils nothing too.] 64...Kyg4 65.Rxh2 Rc4 66.f3+ Kxf3 67.Ra2 Kg3 68.a5 f3 69.a6 [69.Ra3! Kg2 70.a6 f2 71.a7 , and pawn promotes with check.] 69...f2 70.Ra3+ Kh2!

Rxa5 59.b7 Ra7 60.Kc6 Kxh4 61.b8Q Rxax , and as soon as ♔ will reach square f3, it will be uneasy to win this. But some chances still are.] 58...h4 59.b7? [After 59.Nxh4 Kxh4 60.Rxa5 Rxa5 61.b7 Ra7! a theoretical draw appears: 62.Kc6 Rxb7 63.Kxb7 g3 64.fxg3+ Kxg3 65.a5 f5 66.a6 f4 67.a7 f3 68.a8Q f2= ; now White gets risk to be lost.] 59...Nxb7 60.Rxb7 h3 61.Ne3 h2 62.Rb1 f5? [Now already Black has lost an opportunity to win the game: 62...Rc! 63.Rh1 (63.Nd5 Rf3; 63.a5 g3!) 63...Rxex3 64.Rxh2 Ra3=+] 63.Rh1 f4 64.Nxg4 [64.Rxh2 fxe3 65.fxe3 g3 66.Ra2 seems the quickest way to draw. But this spoils nothing too.] 64...Kyg4 65.Rxh2 Rc4 66.f3+ Kxf3 67.Ra2 Kg3 68.a5 f3 69.a6 [69.Ra3! Kg2 70.a6 f2 71.a7 , and pawn promotes with check.] 69...f2 70.Ra3+ Kh2!

71.a7? [That's a fatal error. 71.Ra1= Ra4 (71...Kg2 72.a7! 72.Rxa4 f1Q 73.a7 Qb5+ 74.Kc7 Qxa4 75.Kb7=] 71...f1Q 72.a8Q Qf7+ As it turned out, Black mates first. 73.Kd6 [73.Kd8 Rd4+ 74.Kc8 Qd7+] 73...Qf6+ 74.Kd7 [74.Kd5 Rd4+ 75.Kc5 Qd6+] 74...Rd4+ 75.Kc7 Qd6+ 76.Kb7 Rb4+ 77.Kc8 Rc4+ Solodovnichenko has shown a fantastic perseverance, that's his victory (in this game and whole event) is truly deserved. 0–1
1.e4 e6! Vysochin is one of the most notable experts in French, he applies it everywhere, especially in decisive games like this one, not being scared by opponent's preparation. This is a fidelity to principle in the best possible way.

2.d4 d5 3.e5 c5 4.c3 Qb6

[4...Nc6 leaves an option 5.Be3 Qb6 6.Qd2 - but 4...Qb6 doesn't.]

5.Nf3 Nc6 6.a3 Nh6

¤ is heading at f5 to push §d4.

7.b4 cxd4

8.Bxh6

White ruins Black's kingside, but now bishop f8 will occupy the main diagonal. [GM Psakhis in his book about Advance System in French examines 8.cxd4 Nf5 9.Bb2 (9.Be3 f6 10.exf6 gxf6 11.Bd3 Nxe3 12.fxe3 Bh6 13.Qe2y 9...Be7 10.h4!? as the main line: 10...h5 (maybe, 10...a5?! 11.b5 a4! right now is stronger) 11.Bd3 a5 12.Bxf5 exf5 13.Nc6 Be6 14.b5 a4 15.Qd3 Na7 16.0-0 Rc8 17.Bc1 Rc4 18.Ne2! - by the way, that chapter in Psakhis' book is based on game by Vysochin (White) against... me. Eventually I lost it in 2002.]


So, the very complicated ending has appeared. But it's becoming somewhat easier, if draw up basic plans for both sides. Thus, it's obvious, that Black should aspire for the rook's swap to make passed Δ's "b" formation possible. So, White has to do the opposite action. 19.Nd2 Kd7 20.Rb1 Ba6 [Of course, not 20...Bc6 to keep "c"-file open.] 21.Rc1 Kd6 [21...Rc8 22.Rxc8 Kxc8 moves black king away from center, so Vysochin wants to exchange rooks differently; 21...b6?! at once is dubious in view of 22.Ba4+ b5 23.Nb3!] 22.f4 b6 23.Kf2 f6?! [Immediate 23...Rc8 was a little bit more exact.] 24.Rc3 Rc8 25.Rxc8? [Illogi- cal. Of course, 25.Rh3! it's worth to be preferred, as black rook is unable to do any harm: 25...Rc1 26.Bb3 h5 (26...Ra1 27.a4 b5 28.a5!) 27.Rxh5 Bd3 28.Rh6 Bg6 29.g4]
25...Bxc8 26.Bc2 e5 27.Bxh7 a5 Whereas White was grabbing quite useless \(h_7\), black passers have seriously approached. \(28.Kg3!\) [In case of solid \(28.Ke3\) White doesn't run the risk of being lost. But the victory is also unlikely, so Zherebukh takes a chance.] \(28...b5\) \(29.fxe5+ fxe5\) \(30.Bc2\) Otherwise white bishop will be cut off after \(e5-e4\). \(30...Bd7!\) [Reasonable decision – Black hampers White’s plans of intrusion to \(h5\). Besides, it’s very difficult to calculate consequences of \(30...a4!\)? \(31.Kh4\) \(Kc5\) \(32.Kh5\) \(b4\) \(33.axb4+\) \(Kxb4\) \(34.Bxa4\) \(Kxa4\) \(35.Kxh6\) \(Kb4\) \(36.Kg5\), thought it seems White will achieve draw here.] \(31.Kh4\) \(Be8\) \(32.g4\) e4

\[XABCDEFGHY
8-+-+l+-+(!
7+-+-+-+L'
6-+-+-+-zp&
5zpp+-+-+P%
4-+-+-+P+$
3zP-+-+-mK-#
2-mk-+-+-+"
1+-+-+-+-!
xabcdefghy\]

33.Nxe4+?! After this move Zherebukh offered a draw. I recall, that in my aforesaid game against Vysochin in 2002 I did the same thing and then realized that I made a gross error, after which my position was undefensible. Here we have a somewhat similar story. [It was necessary to stick to intended plan: \(33.g5\) \(h5!\) \(33...hxg5+\) \(34.Kxg5\) \(Ke5\) \(35.h4\) \(Kd4\) \(36.h5\) \(Bxh5\) \(37.Kxh5\) \(Kc3\) \(38.Bxe4!=\) \(34.Bd1\) \(b4\) \(35.axb4\) \(axb4\) \(36.Bxh5\) \(Bxh5\) \(37.Kxh5\) \(e3\) \(38.Nf3\) \(b3\) \(39.g6\) \(Kg7\) \(39...b2\) \(40.g7\) \(b1Q\) \(41.g8Q\) \(Qf5+\) \(42.Ng5\) could be dangerous for Black] \(40.g7\) \(Kf7\) \(41.Kh6\) \(b2\) \(42.Ng5+\) \(Kg8\) \(43.Nh7!\) \(b1Q\) \(44.Nf6+\) \(Kf7\) \(45.g8Q+\) \(Kxf6\) \(46.Qg5+\) \(Ke6\) with probable draw, although White still has some work to make it.] \(33...dxe4\) \(34.Bxe4\) \(Ke5\) \(35.Bh7\) \(Kd4!\) [It seems unbelievable, but \(35...Kf6\) \(36.Kg3\) \(Bg6\) \(37.Bg6\) \(Bf7\) \(38.Bh7\) b4 doesn't win: \(39.axb4\) \(axb4\) \(40.h4\) b3 \(41.Kf4\) \(Kg7\) \(42.Bd3\) \(Bg6\) \(43.Bc4\) \(b2\) \(44.Ba2\) \(b1Q\) \(45.Bxb1\) \(Bxb1\) \(46.g5\) h5 \(47.Ke5!=\), and Black can’t improve own position. That’s why Black chooses the more dangerous option.] \(36.Kg3\) [As it proved, \(36.g5\) \(hxg5+\) \(37.Kxg5\) \(Kc3\) \(38.h4\) leads to salvation too: \(38...Kb2\) \(39.Bd3\) \(Kxa3\) \(40.h5\) \(Bxh5\) \(41.Bxb5\) with draw according to the endgame tablebases, for example \(41...Kb4\) \(42.Bc6\) \(Be2\) \(43.Kf4\) \(Bb5\) \(44.Bxb5\) \(Kxb5\) \(45.Ke3=\)] \(36...Kc3\) \(37.h4\) \(Kb2\) \(38.h5?\)

Final mistake.[This move is good after \(38.Bd3\) \(Kxa3\), and only now \(39.h5\) \(Bxh5\) \(40.Bxb5\) \(Bg6\) \(41.Kh4!\), and Black's advantage isn't enough -- \(41...Kb4\) \(42.Bc6\) \(Bf7\) \(43.Bd7\) \(a4\) \(44.Bxa4\) \(Kxa4\) \(45.Kg3\) \(Kb4\) \(46.Kf4\) \(Be6\) \(47.g5\) h5 \(48.g6=\), but is it possible to evaluate all this on lack of time conditions? I don’t think so.] \(38...Bxh5!\) Now that’s it. \(39.gxh5\) \(Kxa3\) \(40.Kf4\) \(Kb2\) Epic battle, which brings to Vysochin a victory, first place in tournament and ticket for the Ukrainian Superfinal, where he will stand up for French again! \(0-1\)
1.e4 e5 2.f4!? Quite unexpected opening in tournaments of highest level. Seems, like King's Gambit was almost buried after glorious Shirov's victory (by Black!) against Fedorov in 2000. 2...exf4 3.Nf3 h6 [That game developed so: 3...g5 4.h4 g4 5.Ne5 d6 6.Nxg4 Nf6 7.Nf2?! (№ 7.Nxf6+ Qxf6 8.Nc3) 7...Rg8! 8.d4 Bh6 9.Nc3 Nc6 10.Nd5 Nxd5 11.exd5 Qe7+! (novelty at that time) 12.Be2 Nb4 13.c4 Bf5! 14.Qa4+ Kf8 15.Qxb4 Re8 16.Qd2 Rxd2 17.Kf1 Rg3 with severe attack. With the aid of 3...h6 Black also wants to conduct g7-g5, but in more comfortable way.] 4.Nc3 [4.b3 , in order to meet 4...g5 with 5.Bb2 , should be parried by 4...d5!] 4...d6 5.d4 g5 6.g3 [In view of 6.h4 Bg7! , White has changed own strategy.] 6...Bg7 [6...fxg3 has flaw of opening "f"-file: 7.hxg3 Bg7 8.Bc4 Nc6 9.Be3 Bg4 10.0-0 Nf6 11.Qd3 0-0 12.Nxg5! hxg5 13.Bxg5→, Fedorov–Notkin, Peterburg 1996.] 7.gxf4 g4


[Connecting ♔ to the seat of war. 17.0-0-0 serves the same goal, but then 17...a5 18.b5 a4 is unpleasant.] 17...Bd7 18.e5! dxe5 19.f5 [It seems, that 18.e5 was designed for the variation like 19.fxe5 Bxe5 20.Rf1 Qe7 21.Bc5 Bd6 22.ne4 Bxc5 23.bxc5±, but in fact White wants to secure point e4 for ♔.] 19...b6 [Alekseev tries to play calmly, though a break-up 19...e4!? 20.Qxe4 Qf6 (like in King's Indian) was also possible.] 20.d6?! [That's probably too much. 20.Ne4 Bf6 21.Rh1 with strong initiative was the best option.] 20...Be8 [20...cxd6 21.Bxb6 (21.Nd5 e4! 22.Qxe4 Bc6+) 21...Qc8 22.Bc7!] 21.f6? [Af7 is protected now, that's why such sacrifices are no so effective as before. 21.Ne4 cxd6 22.Qf6 d5 23.Qxg7 Kxg7 24.Qg4+ Kf8 25.Kc1 dxe4 26.Qxe4 still keeps a good position for the White, but Black maintains the equality.] 21...Bxf6 22.Rf1 Bg5 23.Bc4 Qxd6+ [Entering the abyss of complications, although solid 23...Kg7 also deserves a credit: 24.Bxh7? Rf8] 24.Ke2 Bxe3 25.Qxa8 Qd2+ 26.Kf3 f5?
Idea of f5 and Bh5 with mate had captivated Black's mind, but he's missed something. After immediate 26...Kg7 or 26...Bd4 Alekseev should have won.] 27.Qc8! White is reaching the black king finally. 27...Kg7? [Draw achieves in case of 27...e4+ 28.Nxe4 fxe4+ 29.Kxe4+ Bf2 30.Qf5+ Ke7 (30...Kg7 31.Qe5=) 31.Qe5+ Kd8 32.Qxe8 Qe3+ 33.Kf5 Qf5+ 34.Ke4 Qe3+ – but now Black is gonna lose.] 28.Qxc7+ Kf8?! [That's only lightens Shirov's work. 28...Kg6 29.Qxe5 Bd4 30.Qe6+ Kg5 31.Ne2! Bh5+ 32.Kg2 Qxc2 , and White still has to find a strike 33.Qe7+ Bf6 34.Rxf5+!! Kk5 (34...Qxf5 35.Qe3+ Kg6 36.Bd3) 35.Qe6+ Kg6 36.Bd3+! Qxd3 37.Nf4+ Kh7 38.Nxd3–] 29.Qxe5 Bh5+ [29...Qd4 30.Qxf5+ Kg7 31.Kg2++] 30.g4 Bxg4+ 31.Kg3 Qd4 [31...f4+ 32.Kxg4 Qg7+ 33.Kf5 Qg5+ 34.Ke4++] 32.Qb8+ Kg7 33.Qc7+ Kg6 34.Qf7+ Kg5 35.Qe7+ [Black resigned because of 35.Qf7+ Kg6 36.Bf7+ Kh7 37.Ne4! Qxe4 (37...fxe4 38.Be6+ Qg7 39.Rf7) 38.Be6+ Kg6 39.Qf7+ Kg5 40.Qg7+] 1-0

(06) Ivanchuk,V (2776) – Andreikin,D (2687) [A56]
46th Capablanca Memorial Elite Havana CUB (8), 19.05.2011
[IM Polivanov,Anatoliy]

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 c5 3.d5 g6 4.Nc3 Bg7 5.e4 d6 6.Nge2 0-0 7.Ng3 a6 [Showing one's cards at once – it was possible to keep a mystery for a while: 7...e6 8.Be2 exd5 9.cxd5 , and only now 9...Na6 10.0-0 Nc7 or 9...a6 or even 9...b6!? Δ Ba6.] 8.a4 e6 9.Be2 exd5 10.cxd5 Nbd7 11.0-0 Re8 12.f3 [12.Bf4 Ne5 13.Qd2 Bd7 – Braun–Efimenko, CZM 05/2011] 12...Rb8 13.Be3 h5 Standard method against g3. 14.Qd2


17.Qd2 bxc4 18.0–0–0! [Rogozenco mentioned only 18.Nxc4 , but after 18...Rc8 White is in troubles, for example: 19.Ne3 Rg5! , counting on 20.0–0-0 Nxe3 21.Qxe3 Rc5 22.Rd2 Qc7 23.Qe2 d5 24.Kb1 d4–+] 18...Rc8 [18...d5 meets 19.Nxc4! (19.f3!?) 19...dxc4 20.Ba4+ Ke7 21.Qf4f 19.Nb1 [As 19.g4 is parried by 19...c3! 20.bxc3 Nh4 21.Qxd6 Qxd6 22.Rxd6 Rxc3= , Perunovic transfers his ¤ to c3.] 19...d5 20.Nc3 Ne7


Situation has changed drastically – white king isn’t in danger anymore, but black one — is, despite an extra queen. Thus, Ne6 is menacing...39...Qf6?? Even worsening the things. [There were two appropriate defences against Ne6: 39...Qe1 40.Rb7! Rd8 41.g3 Qf6 42.Rf3 Rh8! 43.Rxf7+ Kg8 44.Qg4+ Kxf7 45.Rxf6+ Kxf6, and Black should escape the checks; another one – 39...Re8! 40.Rb7 Re3 41.Nd7+ Kg7+]

40.Ne6+ Now game is coming to the ending 2R vs Q in a forced way. 40...Qxe6 41.Rxc8+ Kg7 42.Qg5+ Qg6 43.Qxg6+ Kxg6 44.Rxg8+ Kf6 45.Rf8 ∆f7 is falling, and Black still doesn’t have any possibility to give a couple of checks. 45...Qb5 46.Rdxf7+ Kg6 47.Rf6+ Kg7 48.Rf7+ Kg8 49.Rf8+ [M9.Rf5 Qd3+ 50.b3 Qd6+ 51.Ka4 Qd4+ 52.Ka5 Qd2+ 53.Kb6! Qxa2 (53...Qd6+ 54.Ka7) 54.Rf3+-] 49...Kg7 50.R6f7+ Kg6 51.Rf3?!

Here ♟ stands a little bit worse, than at 5th rank.51...Qa5+ 52.Kb3 Qb5+ 53.Kc3 Qc5+ 54.Kd3 Qb5+ 55.Ke3 Qc5+ 56.Kd2! Qd4?? [White’s task is much harder in case of 56...Qb4+! 57.Kd1 (57.Kc1 Qe1+ 58.Kc2 Qe2+) 57...Qxb2; now it’s over.] 57.Kc1 Qc4+ [57...Qc5+ 58.Kb1 Qg1+ 59.Rf1] 58.Rc3 Qxa2 59.Rg3+ Kh7 60.Rf4! 1-0

(08) Vallejo Pons,F (2722) – Granda Zuniga,J (2614) [C49]
I Bahia Feliz GM Bahia Feliz ESP (9), 21.05.2011
[IM Polivanov, Anatoliy]

9...f5 10.c3 Ba5N 11.Bc4 [Against 11.Qd2 fxe4 will be the best reply (11...Ng6 is less exact due to 12.Qh6! Qf6 13.Ng3 with problems for Black) 12.dxe4 Ng6 13.Qh6 Qf6, intending Qg7.] 11...Ng6 12.Ng3?! [Somewhat passive. 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.Ng3 suggests itself: 13...Bc8! (13...Bg4 14.h3; 13...Bd7 14.d4) 14.d4 d5 15.Bb3 e4 16.Ne5 c6 17.Qh5, having f2-f4 in mind.] 12...fxe4 13.dxe4 Bb6 14.Nf5 Qf6!

Before implementation of his plan Kh8, Rg8 and so on, Granda protects Af7. 15.Ne3 c6 16.Kh1 Kh8 17.a4 White wants to oppose to Black some actions on the queen flank, but it's hard to achieve something here. 17...a5 18.b4 Rg8 19.b5 Rg7 Preparing to double rooks. 20.Rb1 Bc5 21.Rb2 [I don't think, that allowing @]

[9.Nh4 c6 10.Bc4 returns us to the previous annotation. Vallejo wants to transfer another ♞ to the kingside.] 9...f5 10.c3 Ba5N 11.Bc4 [Against 11.Qd2 fxe4 will be the best reply (11...Ng6 is less exact due to 12.Qh6! Qf6 13.Ng3 with problems for Black) 12.dxe4 Ng6 13.Qh6 Qf6, intending Qg7.] 11...Ng6 12.Ng3?! [Somewhat passive. 12.exf5 Bxf5 13.Ng3 suggests itself: 13...Bc8! (13...Bg4 14.h3; 13...Bd7 14.d4) 14.d4 d5 15.Bb3 e4 16.Ne5 c6 17.Qh5, having f2-f4 in mind.] 12...fxe4 13.dxe4 Bb6 14.Nf5 Qf6!
1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.Nf3 Bg7 4.g3 d5 5.cxd5 Nxd5 6.Bg2Nb6

[Important nuance – order of moves 6...0–0 7.0–0 Nb6 8.Nc3 Nc6 allows 9.d5, so Black avoids it.]

7.Nc3 Nc6 8.e3 [Now 8.d5 is connected with dubious sacrifice: 8...Bxc3+ 9.bxc3 Qxd5]

8...0–0 9.0–0 Re8

Such famous expert in Grunfeld Defence like GM Rowson gives an advice to wait with e5 till it's tolerable, because often White's position will only spring in life after this breakup. So Grischuk follows these instructions.[9...e5 10.d5 Na5 11.e4 c6 12.Bg5 f6 13.Be3] 10.Re1 [Here 10.d5 is not so effective, like in 6th move's annotation, but still playable: 10...Na5 11.Nd4 Bd7 12.e4 c6] 10...a5 [Grabbing space at the queenside. In particular, \( a \) can go to \( a5 \) after \( a5-a4 \).]

11.Qe2 Bg4 [Usinq Qe2, Black is developing own bishop. It can be done by 11...Be6 at once, but what if \( h3 \) will be useful as a hook?] 12.h3 Be6 13.b3N Preventing Bc4. [It's notable, that after 13.Rd1 Bc4 14.Qc2 Nb4 15.Qb1 such pretentious move as 15...e5?! (Nf6...a4 16.e4) , which was successfully used by Caruana, only without 11...Bg4 12.h3, isn't good anymore: 16.a3! (in case of 16.b3 exd4 17.bxc4 dxc3 18.Rxd8 Raxd8 19.Nd4 Rxd4! 20.exd4 Re1+ 21.Kh2 Bxd4 Black is OK) 16...exd4 17.axb4 dxc3 18.Rxd8 Raxd8 19.bxc3+- – owing to h3, check on \( d1 \) is useless.]

13...a4 14.Rb1 axb3 15.axb3 Qc8 As it was planned at 11th move. 16.Kh2 [16.Ng5? Bf5!++; 16.g4 could be responded by 16...h6 with further f5.]

16...Ra5!? Such transition in typical for fianchetto systems. 17.Rd1 Gelfand demonstrates, that he isn't scared by Rh5 possibility. 17.Rd1 is called for d4–d5 advance, which, however, isn't possible on current time. 17...Rh5 18.Nh4 Bf6 Seems strong, but... 19.f4!
This is the decisive moment. 

25...Bxb3 [On 25...Rxh4 works the old trick 26.Kg3!]

26.Rdc1 Na5 [26...e6 won't help either:
27.Ba1 Ba4 (27...Na5 28.Qb2!) 28.Qc4
Qa8 29.d5++] 27.d5 b6 28.Be5! c5

[28...Rd7 29.Qb5 with threats Qxb6 and Rxh3.] 29.dxc6 f6 30.Ba1 [30.c7 Rd7
31.Qb5 is also possible, but apparently Gelfand didn't want to bring up all to the
endgame after 31...fxe5 32.Rxb3 (or
32.Qxd7 Qxd7 33.c8Q+ Qxc8 34.Rxc8+
Kg7) 32...Nxb3 (32...Rxc7 33.Rxc7 Qxc7
34.Qe8+ Kg7 35.Rd3+-) 33.Qxb3+ Kg7
34.Qxb6 exf4 35.Qb8 Rxc7 36.Qxc7 Qxc7
37.Rxc7] 30...Rc5 [30...b5 31.e5! Bc4
32.Qb5 Qc7?! [Preliminary 32...Ba2
33.Rb2 , and only now 33...Qc7 was
stronger, although after 34.e5 and Qb6
White should win anyway.] 33.Rxb3 Nxc6
[33...Qxf4+ 34.Rg3!] 34.e5 Nd4 35.Qc4+
Black surrendered, and thus Gelfand has
become Anand's contender. 1-0

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