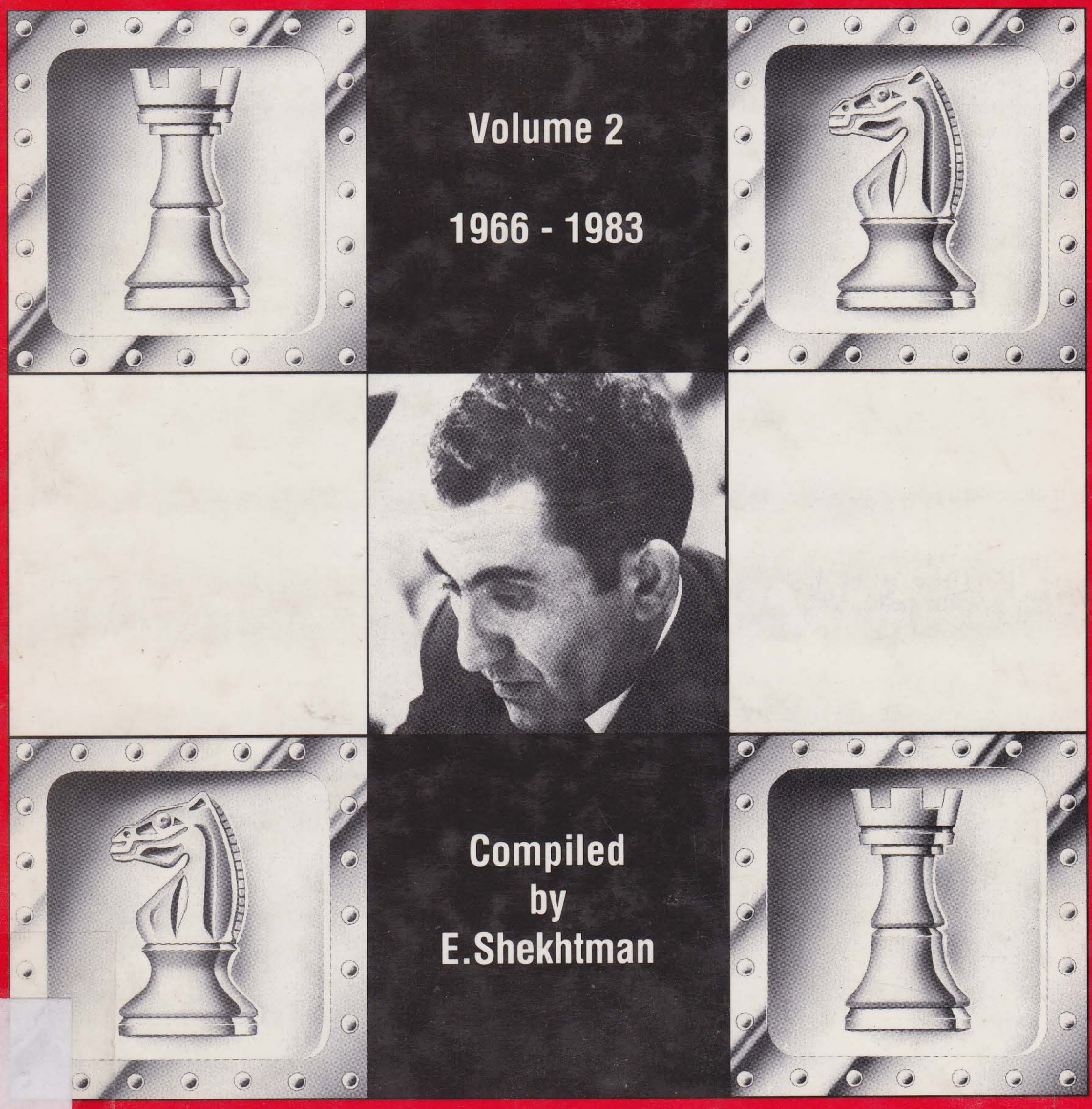
The Games of Tigran Petrosian



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The Games of Tigran Petrosian

Volume 2: 1966-1983

Compiled by Eduard Shekhtman

Translated and Edited by Kenneth P. Neat

With a contribution by

Boris Spassky



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Contents

About Petrosian *by Boris Spassky* ix

The Games of Tigran Petrosian 1966-1983 1

Index of Openings 435
Index of Openings 445

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The publishers wish to thank the following for their assistance in the production of Volume 2: Ann Park for origination; Jimmy Adams, Graham Hillyard, Bob Wade and Ken Neat for identifying and attempting to trace missing games.

One of these games came to light only as the book was going to press. Venice 1967, Round 10:

(118a) Paoli-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘g8 5 ♘b3 b6 6 ♘f3 ♘e7 7 c3 ♕d7 8 ♗d3 ♗a6 9 0-0 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 ♘bc6 11 ♘g5 f5 12 exf6 gxf6 13 ♘h3 (13 ♘xh7? ♗g7 14 ♗h6?! ♘f5 ∓∓) **13 ... ♘g6 14 ♗f4 ♗g7 15 ♖fe1 0-0 16 ♖ad1 ♖ae8 17 ♗g3 ♘ce7 18 ♘d2 ♘f5 19 ♘f1 c6** (intending ... e5) **20 ♘e3 ♘d6 21 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 22 g3? e5! 23 ♘f5** (23 ♘g2?? ♕d7) **23 ... ♕d7 24 ♘xg7 ♔xg7! 25 ♕f1** (25 ♔g2? ♕g4!) **25 ... e4 26 ♔h1 ♖f7 27 ♖e3 f5 28 ♕g2 ♔h8 29 ♘f4 ♖g8** (29 ... ♘xf4? 30 gxf4 ♕d6 31 ♖g3 ♕xf4 32 ♖g1 ♕b8 33 ♖g7 ♖ef8 34 ♕g5 and 35 ♕h6) **30 ♘xg6+ hxg6** (better 30 ... ♖xg6 Petrosian) **31 f4! ♕d6 32 h4 ♔g7 33 ♕f2 ♖h8 34 ♔g2 ♔f8 35 ♖ee1 ♖c7 36 ♕d2 ♔f7 37 ♖h1 ♔e6 38 a3 ♖hh7 39 ♖h2 c5 40 h5?** (time trouble) **40 ... ♖xh5! ∓∓** (40 ... gxh5? 41 ♖dh1) **41 ♖xh5 gxh5 42 ♖h1 ♖h7 43 ♕d1 h4! 44 ♖h3 c4 45 ♕a4** (45 ♕h1 ♕e7! 46 ♖xh4 [*46 gxh4 ♕g7+ 47 ♖g3 ♕h6*] 46 ... ♖xh4 47 gxh4 ♕g7+ 48 ♔f2 ♕g4 ∓∓) **45 ... ♕d7 46 ♕d1 hxg3 47 ♕h1 ♖xh3 48 ♕xh3 ♔d6 49 ♕h8 ♔c6 50 ♕f6+ ♔b5! 51 ♕f8 ♕e6! 0-1** (Paoli)

Foreword

In December 1983 Tigran Petrosian decided at last to write a book. He agreed under pressure from the chief editor of the publishing house *Fizkultura i Sport*, V.Chepizhny, whose arguments were more than convincing. And indeed, the former World Champion realized himself that it was time to do so. By that time he and I had managed to collect and sort out practically all the games played by him (they number about two thousand). About one quarter of these had notes, although many only in brief (*Informator*-style) format.

For this book Petrosian wanted to annotate a further 30-40 games, which together with those published earlier would comprise, so to speak, the core of the manuscript.

But life decreed otherwise. Tigran Vartanovich had long been feeling unwell. His play had deteriorated, and strange mistakes and inexplicable errors occurred in his games. An examination revealed that he was incurably ill. His robust organism withstood two operations, and he returned home. New plans, the desire to play, write and work . . . To the final moments he did not know that he was dying. It was reported that Petrosian had been included in one of the Interzonal tournaments. He asked his wife to find out where and when. He was again in hospital, and his strength was on the wane, but he refused to believe that he would not get up again.

On 13 August 1984, in hospital, the ninth Champion of the World passed away.

It is probable that the book written by Tigran Vartanovich would have been quite different. I know only that he did not wish to change anything in his old commentaries, which reflected the spirit of the times, and that he wanted to observe strict chronology . . .

From the most diverse sources it proved possible to collect a fairly extensive amount of material, the majority of it written by Petrosian himself. A number of games were annotated by his closest helpers Isaac Boleslavsky and Igor Zaitsev, and also by certain other grandmasters.

Petrosian's notes were normally written soon after the event, for special bulletins and magazines. In preparing this book, he did not wish to modernize them. Therefore expressions such as 'recent research', 'two years ago' etc should be taken from the time when the given game was played.

In certain cases, where game commentaries were incomplete, the compiler or editor has made small corrections, additions or changes.

The introductory piece has been written by Boris Spassky, against whom Petrosian played two World Championship matches.

I should like to express my sincere gratitude to Rona Petrosian, who helped a great deal in compiling the material for this book.

I hope that readers will find this book, about the life and games of the ninth World Chess Champion, to be of interest.

Eduard Shekhtman

About Petrosian

Both in chess and in life Petrosian was an exceptionally complete and harmonious personality. He set himself the aim of becoming World Champion, and he achieved it. He loved himself and his life, in the way that he had organized it. He respected 'the rules of the game', and he valued and observed a hierarchal order in life: each and every thing in its place! He was thankful to fate for having placed him on such a high pedestal. He was intelligent and possessed a sense of humour. He was an inquisitive and genuinely talented person.

In chess he was an exceptional talent, a player of half-tints. His playing manner was modest, but very sharp-sighted! He never aimed for outward effects, but preferred a logical, smooth course of events. "A ripe apple must fall of its own accord!" His chief strength was tactics! In 1963, after losing their match, Botvinnik called him 'left-handed'. He had in mind Petrosian's rare gift for forestalling in advance the activity of the opponent's pieces. He possessed a phenomenal sense of danger!

As World Champion he reigned but did not rule. His greatest success was sharing first place with Paul Keres in the First Piatigorsky Cup, 1963. It seems to me that the inability to demonstrate that you are the strongest must disturb the inner equilibrium of a champion. However, Petrosian did not become depressed. His predecessor Botvinnik was also in a similar position. But in 1966, when Petrosian's chess throne was threatened, he thoroughly defeated me. Petrosian's "Achilles' heel" was that he could not play at full strength if he was made angry. For me this is a forbidden method. In 1969 I defeated him by playing strength.

In the autumn of 1946, in the Leningrad Palace of Pioneers, I saw a photograph of Petrosian, then the USSR Junior Champion. I, a nine-year-old boy, saw him as a folk hero. And I have retained for ever this respectful attitude to Tigran Petrosian.

Boris Spassky
Allemont, France

Symbols

!	good move
!!	excellent move
?	poor move
??	blunder
!?	interesting move
?!	dubious move
±	White stands slightly better
±	White stands better
±±	White has a decisive advantage
∓	Black stands slightly better
∓	Black stands better
∓∓	Black has a decisive advantage
=	equal position
∞	unclear position
⩱	compensation for material

1966

Grandmaster Training Tournament
Moscow, January 1966

1 **Petrosian** (+7 –1 =2) 8; 2 Boleslavsky 6; 3 Simagin 4½; 4-5 Averbakh, Korchnoi 4; 6 Shamkovich 3½.

(1) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♕e2 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 d4 ♗g4 10 ♖d1 exd4 11 cxd4 d5 12 exd5 ♘a5 13 ♗c2 ♖e8 14 ♘c3 ♗b4 15 ♕d3 ♘c4 16 ♘e2 g6 17 ♘g3 ♕xd5 18 a3 ♗f8 19 b3 ♘b6 20 a4 ♗xf3 21 ♕xf3 ♕xf3 22 gxf3 ♘fd5 23 ♗d2 f5 24 ♗d3 c6 25 axb5 cxb5 26 ♗a5 ♖e6 27 ♘e2 ♗b4 28 ♗xb6 ♖xb6 29 ♖ac1 ♖d8 30 ♖c2 ♗f8 31 ♖dc1 ♗h6 32 ♖e1 ♖bd6 33 ♖c5 ♘b4 34 ♗b1 ♗g7 35 ♖c7 ♖e8 36 ♔f1 ♗xd4 37 h4 h5 38 ♘f4 ♖xe1+ 39 ♔xe1 ♗e5 40 ♖c8+ ♔g7 41 ♘h3 0-1

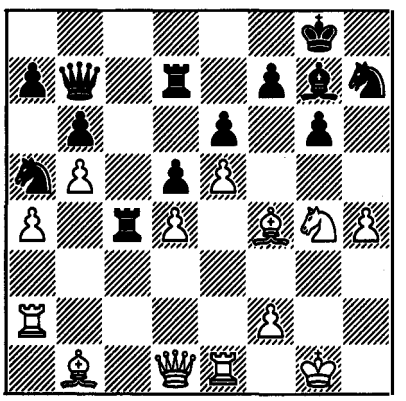
(2) Shamkovich-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 g3 b5 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 d4 cxd4 7 ♘xd4 ♘c6 8 ♘xc6.♗xc6 9 0-0 d6 10 ♖e1 ♘f6 11 a4 bxa4 12 ♘xa4 ♘d7 13 b3 ♗e7 14 ♗b2 0-0 15 ♕d4 ♘f6 16 h3 ♖b8 17 ♘c3 ♕c8 18 ♘d5 ♗xd5 19 exd5 ♕xc2 20 dxe6 ♕xb3 21 exf7+ ♖xf7 22 ♗c3 d5 23 ♖e3 ♕b7 24 ♕d3 ♘e4 25 ♖xe4 dxe4 26 ♗xe4 ♕b6 27 ♗d4 ♗c5 28 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 29 ♗d5 ♕xf2+ 30 ♔h1 ♔h8 31 ♗xf7 ♕xf7 32 ♖xa6 ♕b7+ 33 ♔g1 ♕c8 34 ♖d6 ♕c5+ 35 ♔f1 ♖f8+ 36 ♔e2 ♕f2+ 37 ♔d1 ♕g1+ 38 ♔c2 ♕g2+ 39 ♔b3 ♖b8+ 40 ♔c4 ♖c8+ 41 ♔b5 ♕b2+ 42 ♔a5 ♖a8+ 43 ♖a6 ♖b8 0-1

(3) Boleslavsky-Petrosian
Alekhine's Defence

1 e4 ♘f6 2 e5 ♘g8 3 d4 d6 4 ♘f3 g6 5 ♘c3 ♗g7 6 ♗c4 c6 7 h3 d5 8 ♗b3 b6 9 0-0 e6 10 ♖e1 ♗a6 11 ♘e2 ♘e7 12 ♘f4 h6 13 c3 ♘d7 14 ♗c2 c5 15 b3 ♖c8 16 a4 ♕c7 17 ♖a2 0-0 18 h4 ♖fd8 19 ♗b1 ♘f8 20 ♘e2 ♗xe2 21 ♖axe2 h5 22 g3 ♖d7 23 ♖c2 ♕b7 24 b4 cxb4 25 cxb4 ♖c4 26 ♖b2 ♘c6 27 b5 ♘a5 28 ♗d2 ♖c8 29 ♖a2 ♘c4 30 ♗f4 ♘h7 31 g4 hxg4 32 ♘h2 ♘a5 33 ♘xg4 ♖c4 *(1)*

1

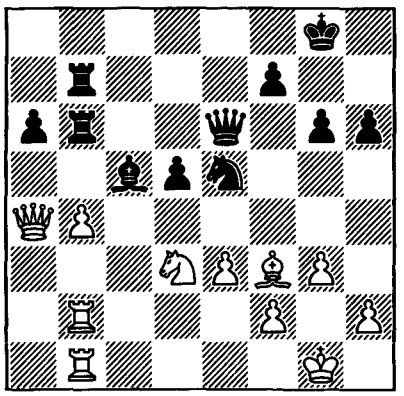


34 h5 ♘f8 35 ♗g5 ♕c8 36 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 37 ♗xf6 ♖dc7 38 ♕d2 ♘h7 39 hxg6 fxg6 40 ♕h6 ♕f8 41 ♕xg6+ ♖g7 42 ♗xg7 ♕xg7 43 ♕xg7+ ♔xg7 44 f4 ♘f8 45 f5 ♖xd4 46 ♖g2+ ♔f7 47 ♖f1 1-0

(4) Petrosian-Averbakh
Ragozin Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♗g5 ♗b4+ 5 ♘c3 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 7 ♕a4+ ♘c6 8 cxd5 exd5 9 e3 0-0 10 ♗e2 ♖d8 11 0-0 ♗f8 12 ♖fc1 a6 13 ♕b3 ♕d6 14 ♘a4 b6 15 ♕d1 g6 16 a3 ♗g7 17 b4 ♘b8 18 ♘c3 c6 19 ♕b3 ♗e6 20 a4 ♘d7 21 a5 ♖db8 22 axb6 ♖xb6 23 ♘a2 ♗g4 24 ♕a4 ♗f8 25 ♖c2 ♗xf3 26 ♗xf3 ♖e8 27 ♖ac1 ♘b8 28 ♗e2 ♖e7 29 g3 ♖eb7 30 ♖b1 ♕e6 31 ♖cb2 ♗d6 32 ♘c1 c5 33 dxc5 ♗xc5 34 ♗f3 ♘c6 35 ♘d3 ♘e5 *(2)*

2



36 ♘xc5 ♘xf3+ 37 ♔g2 ♕g4 38 b5 ♘h4+ 39 ♔f1 1-0

(5) Petrosian-Simagin
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 9 ♕b3 a6 10 a4 b6 11 d5 ♗xc3 12 dxe6 ♗a5 13 exd7 ♕xd7 14 ♖d1 ♕c7 15 ♗d2 ♗xd2 16 ♖xd2 ♘e4 17 ♖d3 ♘d6 18 ♗d5 ♗b7 19 ♘e5 b5 20 ♕c3 ♖ad8 21 ♖ad1 c4 22 axb5 axb5 23 ♖d4 ♗xd5 24 ♖xd5 f6 25 ♘f3 ♘f7 26 ♕b4 ♕b7 27 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 28 ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 29 ♘d4 ♘c6 30 ♕xb5 ♕xb5 31 ♘xb5 ♘a5 32 ♔f1 ♔f7 33 ♔e2 ♔e6 34 ♔d2 ♔d5 35 ♔c3 h5 36 ♘c7+ ♔e5 37 ♔b4 1-0

(6) Averbakh-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♕b3 dxc4 6 ♕xc4 0-0 7 e4 ♗g4 8 ♗e3 ♘fd7 9 ♖d1 ♘b6 10 ♕b3 ♘c6 11 d5 ♘e5 12 ♗e2 ♘xf3+ 13 gxf3 ♗h5 14 f4 ♗xe2 15 ♘xe2 ♕d7 16 ♗d4 ♗xd4 17 ♖xd4 c6 18 dxc6 ♕xc6 19 0-0 ♖fd8 20 ♖c1 ♕f6 21 ♖cd1 ♖xd4 22 ♖xd4 ♖c8 23 ♕d3 e5 24 fxe5 ♕xe5 25 b3 ♔g7 26 a4 ♕c5 27 ♔f1 ♖c7 28 ♖d6 ♖c6 29 ♖d8 ♘c8 30 ♕d4+ ♕xd4 31 ♘xd4 ♖c7 32 ♔e2 a6 33 ♔d3 ♘e7 34 f4 ♘c6 35 ♘xc6 ♖xc6 36 b4 ♖f6 37 ♔e3 ♖b6 38 ♖d4 ♔f6 39 h4 ♔e7 40 ♖c4 ♔d7 41 e5 f6 42 exf6 ♖xf6 43 ♖c5 ♖b6 44 b5 axb5 45 axb5 ♖e6+ 46 ♔d4 ♖f6 47 ♔e4 ♔d6 48 ♖d5+ ♔e6 49 ♖e5+ ♔d6 ½-½

(7) Petrosian-Boleslavsky
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 e3 ♗g7 5 b4 0-0 6 ♗b2 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b6 8 ♘f3 c5 9 bxc5 bxc5 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♕e2 ♗b7 12 d5 ♘b6 13 ♖fd1 ♘xc4 14 ♕xc4 ♕a5 15 ♘e4 ♘xe4 16 ♗xg7 ♘d6 17 ♕c3 ♕xc3 18 ♗xc3 ♖fe8 19 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 20 ♘g5 h6 21 ♘h3 g5 22 f3 f5 23 ♘f2 e6 24 dxe6 ♖xe6 25 e4 fxe4 26 fxe4 ♖f8 27 e5 ♘e4 28 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 29 ♖d6 ♗f5 30 ♖d7 ♖f7 31 ♖d8+ ♔h7 32 ♖f1 ♖ee7 33 ♖d6 g4 34 ♖e1 h5 35 e6 ♖f8 36 ♖d7 1-0

(8) Petrosian-Shamkovich
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♗f4 c5 6 dxc5 ♕a5 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♕xd5 ♗xc3+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 ♕xc5 11 ♖c1 ♕f5 12 h4 ♘c6 13 h5 ♕f6 14 ♖c4 ♗f5 15 g4 ♖d8 16 ♕c1 ♗d3 17 ♖f4 ♕e6 18 a3 0-0 19 ♖h3 ♗a6 20 hxg6 fxg6 21 ♖xf8+

♖xf8 22 ♕h6 ♕f7 23 ♖h2 ♕g7 24 ♕xg7+ ♔xg7 25 ♘g5 ♖h8 26 ♘e6+ ♔f6 27 ♘c5 ♘e5 28 f3 ♗c4 29 ♘xb7 ♗d5 30 ♘c5 ♔g7 31 g5 ♗xf3 32 ♖h3 ♗d5 33 ♖e3 ♘c6 34 ♖d3 ♗f7 35 ♗g2 ♖d8 36 ♗xc6 ♖c8 37 ♖d7 ♖xc6 38 b4 a5 39 ♖xe7 axb4 40 axb4 ♔f8 41 ♖b7 ♔e8 1-0

(9) Simagin-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 ♗e3 exd4 8 ♘xd4 ♖e8 9 ♕c2 ♕e7 10 f3 c6 11 ♗f2 ♘h5 12 g3 ♘d7 13 0-0 ♘e5 14 ♖fe1 ♘f6 15 ♔g2 c5 16 ♘b3 ♗e6 17 f4 ♘c6 18 ♖ad1 b6 19 ♘d5 ♗xd5 20 exd5 ♘b4 21 ♕b1 ♕e4+ 22 ♕xe4 ♘xe4 23 ♗f3 ♘xf2 24 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 25 ♔xf2 ♗xb2 26 a4 ♘c2 27 ♖d2 ♗d4+ 28 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 29 ♖b2 ♖b8 30 g4 ♔g7 31 g5 h6 32 a5 b5 33 cxb5 ♖xb5 34 ♖xb5 ♘xb5 35 ♔e3 f6 36 gxh6+ ♔xh6 37 ♔d3 g5 38 f5 ♘d4 39 ♗g4 ♔g7 40 ♔e4 ♘b3 41 a6 ♔f8 42 ♗e2 ♔e7 43 ♗d3 ♔d8 44 ♔f3 c4 0-1

(10) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 d4 ♗b7 5 a3 ♘e4 6 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 7 ♗f4 ♗e7 8 e3 c5 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 cxd4 11 ♘xd4 a6 12 ♖d1 0-0 13 0-0 ♖a7 14 e4 ♕c8 15 ♘f3 ♖b7 16 b4 d6 17 ♗xd6 ♗xd6 18 ♕xd6 ♕xc4 19 ♖fe1 ♕b5 20 ♘e5 ♖e8 21 h4 f6 22 ♘g4 h5 23 ♘e3 ♘d7 24 f4 ♘f8 25 ♕d3 ♕xd3 26 ♖xd3 ♖c8 27 ♔f2 ♔f7 28 ♖ed1 ♔e7 29 ♖1d2 ♖d7 30 ♖xd7+ ♘xd7 31 ♖c2 ♖xc2+ 32 ♘xc2 e5 33 g3 b5 34 ♘e3 ♘b6 ½-½

Moscow Team Championship
January-February 1966

+1 –0 =2.

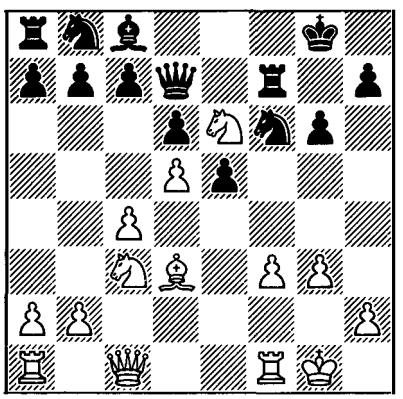
(11) Bronstein-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘c5 b6 6 ♘b3 e6 7 ♘f3 ♗d6 8 g3 ♘e7 9 ♗g2 h6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♕e2 ♘d7 12 c3 ♖c8 13 ♘bd2 ♗g4 14 h3 ♗h5 15 ♘c4 ♗b8 16 b4 b5 17 ♘a5 ♘d5 18 ♗d2 ♖e8 19 c4 bxc4 20 ♘xc4 e5 21 dxe5 ♘xe5 22 ♘cxe5 ♗xe5 23 ♖ae1 ½-½

(12) Petrosian-I.Zaitsev
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 ♘h5 8 g3 f5?! (8 ... ♘bd7 9 ♗g5 ♘df6) 9 exf5 ♕f6 10 ♘g5! ♕xf5 11 0-0 ♘f6 ± 12 ♗d3 ♕g4 13 ♗e2 ♕f5 14 f3! ♗h6 15 ♗d3 ±± ♕d7 16 ♘e6 ♗xc1 17 ♕xc1 ♖f7 *(3)*

3



18 f4 exf4 19 ♕xf4 ♘xd5 20 ♕xf7+ ♕xf7 21 ♖xf7 ♗xe6 22 ♘xd5! ♗xd5 23 ♖xc7 ♘a6 24 ♖d7 1-0

(13) Botvinnik-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d3 g6 4 g3 ♗g7 5 ♗g2 ♘f6 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘bd2 ♘c6 8 a4 b6 9 ♘c4 ♗b7 10 ♗d2 ♕c7 11 ♖e1 ♖ab8 (11 ... ♖ad8) **12 ♕c1 ♖fe8 13 ♗f4 ♖bd8 14 h3** (14 e5 dxe5 15 ♘cxe5 ♘xe5 16 ♗xe5 ♕c8 17 a5 ±) **14 ... ♕c8 15 ♗h6 d5! 16 exd5 ♘xd5 17 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 18 ♘ce5** (18 a5!) **18 ... ♘f6 19 ♕f4 ♘xe5 20 ♘xe5 ♖d4 21 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 22 ♕e3** (22 ♕f3 ♕xf3 23 ♘xf3 ♖d7 24 a5) **22 ... ♖ed8 23 ♖e2 e6 24 b3 h5 25 ♖ae1 ♖h8 26 h4 ♖c8 27 ♕g5 ♖e8 ½-½**

Match for the World Championship v. Spassky
Moscow, April-June 1966

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	Total
Petrosian	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	½	0	1	½	1	0	½	12½
Spassky	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	½	½	0	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	0	½	0	1	½	11½

This interview was first published on the pages of *Nedelya* in 1966, not long before the start of the match. The conditions of this unusual blitz match were that both participants were asked the same questions, and allowed not more than 20 seconds for each reply. Here are Tigran Petrosian's replies:

First question – about chess. What main qualities does it develop in a person?

The ability to concentrate.

The No. 1 foreign chess player at the moment?

Fischer, I think. Although, as Tal would put it, Larsen does not think so.

Name the young Soviet players who are, in your opinion, the most promising.

I could do this, but I am afraid that it would not bring them any benefit.

At what age did you yourself begin playing chess?

At the age of twelve. But at the age of four I began playing Nardy – a popular table game in the Caucasus. I can recommend it to those who wish to develop their quick-wittedness and speed of reaction.

Your favourite writer?

Lermontov.

Composer?

Tchaikovsky, Verdi, Wagner.

And film actor?

Can I have an actress? Natalie Wood.

Singer?

To this I can reply immediately: Benjamino Gigli.

Do you like opera?

Very much so! Some consider opera to be a dying art form, but when I saw the *La Scala* company on tour, I realized that such opera would live forever.

What about musical instrument?

Any one. It depends on who is playing the instrument.

And book?

Can you name a book which is always under your pillow? At different times and in different moods a person feels the need for different books.

Your favourite sport?

All types of sport! In the main, of course, I am a fan. But table tennis, skiing and billiards – these are the types I take part in.

The happiest recollection of your life?

My first thought would be to say that it was when I won the title of World Champion. But if one remembers that the title is given only for a certain time, and is taken away forever, then . . .

And your biggest disappointment?

Each time that Spartak lose!

Your most difficult game?

I think that it soon awaits me.

What do you engage in after a defeat?

Self-criticism. And then I try to forget as quickly as possible about the defeat.

And after a difficult victory?

I think that ahead lie encounters which are no less difficult.

Do you find popularity a nuisance?

Yes. To a certain extent, yes.

What did you dream of becoming when you were young?

A diplomat or a soldier. I even dreamed of entering the Nakhimov Military School, which was set up in the war years in Tbilisi.

What would you like to see your children become?

My older son has already chosen his path in life: he is studying at Moscow University to become a biophysicist. And Vartan? Let's see what attracts him most . . .

Then name what is in your opinion the most respected modern profession.

Any, which brings happiness and benefit to people.

Do you have any passions? Hobbies?

I have many. Music, books, sport, cine and still photography. I cannot give preference to any one.

Do you dance?

I even very much like to. But I dance very badly.

Your favourite day of the week?

If you insist – Sunday. There is always football on Sunday.

And your favourite dish?

Of course, Shashlik. But also any other well roasted meat.

Season?

Any, apart from autumn. I don't like slush.

Do you smoke?

I have tried it. I even very much wanted to learn, for 'respectability'. But I didn't like it.

Which region of which town do you like the best?

I like large towns. On a fine summer's evening I very much like Gorky Street in Moscow. And also – if it will not be considered immodest – summer evenings on the great boulevards of Paris.

Your happiest recollection from your trips abroad?

This relates to 1953. A Swiss newspaper saw in me a resemblance to a Persian Shah.

Which traits in people do you consider the most worthy of respect?

It is hard to chose something immediately . . . Of course, honesty, modesty, conscientiousness.

And, on the contrary, the most unpleasant?

Conceit.

Is superstition common among chess players?

I think we all suffer a little from this . . . But speaking seriously, the role is played here not by the signs themselves, such as black cats or unlucky numbers, but by one's psychological mood. I recall my first official international tournament in 1952 in Stockholm. At the drawing of lots I very much wanted to pick number seven and play the first game with White against the weakest player in the tournament. And that's exactly what happened! How

could I play badly after that? In that tournament I gained the grandmaster title.

Let's return again to chess. What colour do you prefer – White or Black?

My trainer, grandmaster Boleslavsky, often repeats this saying. "Like us as black", beg the chess pieces, "and you will in any case like us as white."

Is chess an individual or team activity?

Profoundly individual. After all, you yourself have to move the pieces on the board.

For which piece do you have a secret weakness (not counting, of course, the king itself)?

I have a weakness for any extra piece compared with the opponent – from a pawn to a queen.

What is important in chess – improvisation or analysis?

Both are equally necessary.

Will you yourself train others?

It is said that I have a difficult character.

Does the spectre of time trouble worry you?

Fortunately, up till now time trouble has been only a spectre.

Do you believe in the problem of the difficult opponent?

I do.

And in chance in chess?

It happens. But mastery, in my opinion, consists in reducing the role of chance to the minimum.

Which is better – to attack or to counter-attack?

It is better to win.

How many hours a day do you devote to chess?

I do not have any definite allocation of time. Everything depends on what has to be done that day.

And what is the significance of a routine?

For me, routine is going to bed early.

Does the reaction of the audience during play affect you?

Of course. Disorderly noise disturbs me, but approval inspires me.

And the behaviour of your opponent?

I try to ensure that it is not my opponent's behaviour which affects me, but his moves.

Game 1
(14) Spassky-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

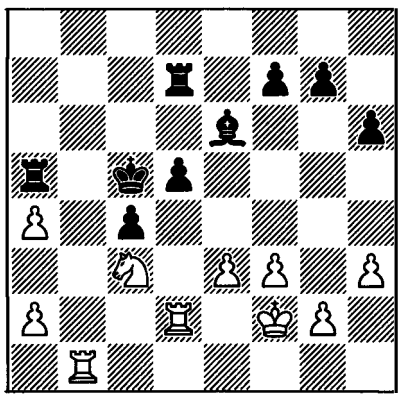
1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 h4 h6 7 ♘f3 ♘d7 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 ♕c7 10 ♗d2 e6 11 0-0-0 0-0-0 12 c4 ♘gf6 13 ♔b1 c5 14 ♗c3 cxd4 15 ♘xd4 a6 = 16 ♘f3 ♗c5 17 ♕e2 ♗d6 18 ♘e4 ♗e7! (18 ... ♘xe4 19 ♕xe4 ♘f6 20 ♕e2 ♕c6 21 ♖de1 ♗c7 22 ♘d4 ±) **19 ♘xf6** (19 ♖he1, Spassky-Matulović, 1964) **19 ... ♗xf6 20 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 21 ♘e5 ♖xd1+ 22 ♖xd1 ♖d8 23 ♖xd8+ ♔xd8 24 ♕d3+ ♔e7 25 ♕d4 h5! 26 a3 ♘d7! 27 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 28 ♕c5+** (28 ♕xg7?! ♕d3+!) **28 ... ♕d6 29 ♕g5+?** (29 ♕xh5? ♕d3+ 30 ♔a1 ♕f1+ 31 ♔a2 ♕xc4+ 32 ♔b1 ♕f1+; 29 ♕xd6+! =) **29 ... ♔e8! 30 ♕e3 ♕c6** (30 ... ♕d1+ 31 ♔a2 ♕g4 32 ♕c5! ♕xg2 33 ♕c8+ ♔e7 34 ♕c7+ ♔f6 35 ♕f4+ ♔g6 36 f3! =) **31 ♕g3 g6 32 b3 ♕e4+ 33 ♔b2 e5 34 ♕e3! ♕xg2 35 ♕xe5+ ♔f8 36 ♕h8+ ♔e7 37 ♕e5+** ½-½ (Euwe)

Game 2
(15) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♖c1 ♗e6 12 ♕a4 c5 13 ♕a3 ♖c8 14 ♗e2 a5 15 0-0 ♘a6 (intending ... ♘b4; 15 ... ♔f8!) **16**

dxc5 ± bxc5 17 ♘d4 ♗d7 18 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 19 ♘e2 a4 (19 ... ♗b5! =) **20 ♖fd1 ♕d6 21 ♖d2! ♗e6 22 h3 ♖c7 23 ♘f4 c4 24 ♕xd6 ♖xd6 25 ♘e2 a3?!** (25 ... ♖b6! 26 ♘c3 ♖a7 27 ♖cc2 ♖a5!) **26 bxa3 ♗f5** (26 ... ♖a6 [*26 ... ♖a7*] 27 ♘c3 intending ♘b5) **27 ♘c3 ♖cd7 28 ♖d4! ♔f8 29 f3** (better 29 ♖cd1 ♗d3 30 ♖d2 ♔e7 31 ♖b2) **29 ... ♔e7 30 ♖cd1 ♗e6 31 ♖b1** (better 31 ♔f2 ♖a6 32 a4) **31 ... ♖a6 32 a4 ♔d6 33 ♔f2** (33 e4?! ♔c5! 34 ♖bd1 ♔b4! =) **33 ... ♔c5 34 ♖d2 ♖a5** *(4)*

4

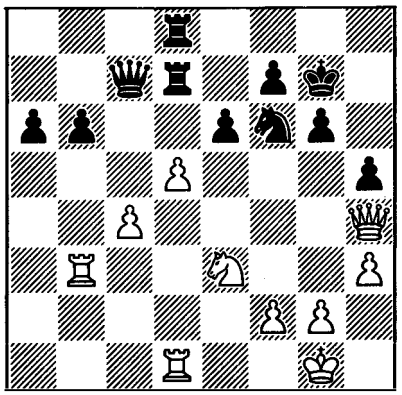


35 ♔e2? = (35 ♖b5+ ♖xb5 36 axb5 ♔b4; 35 g4!) **35 ... ♗f5! 36 e4** (36 ♖b8 ♗d3+ 37 ♔f2 d4! ∓) **36 ... dxe4 37 fxe4 ♖xd2+ 38 ♔xd2 ♗d7! 39 ♖b7 ♔c6 40 ♖b8 ♔c5 41 ♖f8 ♗e6 42 ♖b8 ♗d7 43 ♖b7 ♔c6 44 ♖b2 ♔c5 45 ♔e3 ♖a7 46 ♖d2 ♗c6! 47 g4 ♖b7 48 ♖f2! ♖d7! 49 ♖d2 ♖b7 50 h4 f6! ½-½** (Filip)

Game 3
(16) Spassky-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗c4 (8 ♗d3) **8 ... ♘f6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♕e2 ♘c6 11 ♗e3 ♘a5 12 ♗d3 b6 13 ♗g5 ♗b7 14 ♖ad1 ♖c8 15 ♖fe1 h6 16 ♗c1 ♗b4! 17 ♗d2 ♗xc3! 18 bxc3 ♕d5!** ∓ **19 ♕f1 ♕xa2 20 ♘e5 ♘b3 21 ♖e2** (21 ♗xh6 gxh6 22 ♖e3 with attack) **21 ... ♘xd2** (21 ... ♕a3!) **22 ♖exd2 ♕d5 23 c4 ♕d6 24 ♕e2 ♖fd8 25 h3 ♘d7 26 ♘g4 h5 27 ♘e3 g6 28 ♖a2 ♖a8 29 ♕c2 ♔g7 30 ♗e4** (30 c5 ♕c7) **30 ... ♗xe4 31 ♕xe4 ♘f6 32 ♕h4 ♖d7 33 ♖ad2 ♖ad8 34 ♖d3 a6 35 ♕g5 ♘e4 36 ♕h4 ♘f6 37 ♖b3 ♕c7** (time trouble) **38 d5** *(5)*

5



38 ... ♕e5 = (38 ... exd5 39 ♘f5+ gxf5 40 ♕g5+ ♔f8 41 ♕xf6; 38 ... b5! 39 cxb5 ♘xd5 40 ♘xd5 ♖xd5 41 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 ∓) **39 ♖xb6 exd5 40 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 41 cxd5 ♖xd5 42 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 43 ♖xd8 ♕e1+ ½-½** (Suetin)

Game 4
(17) Petrosian-Spassky
Catalan Opening

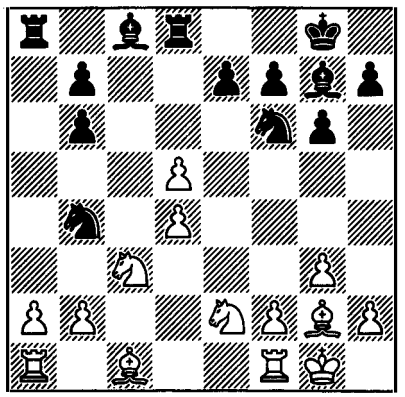
1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 c6 7 b3 b6 8 ♗b2 ♗b7 9 ♘c3 ♘bd7 10 ♕c2 ♖c8 11 ♖ad1 b5! 12 c5 (12 cxb5) **12 ... b4! 13 ♘a4 ♗a6 14 ♘e1! ♗b5 15 ♘d3 a5 16 a3! bxa3 17 ♗xa3 ♖b8 18 ♖b1 ♖e8 19 ♘c3 ♗a6 20 ♖fd1 ♗f8 21 e4! dxe4 22 ♘xe4 ♗xd3! = 23 ♕xd3 ♘d5! 24 ♖dc1 ♘7f6 25 ♘d6 ♗xd6 26 cxd6 ♕d7 27 ♕a6 ♖ec8 28 ♕xa5 ♘e8! 29 ♕c5 ♖b5 30 ♕c4 ♖bb8** (30 ... ♘xd6? 31 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 32 ♕xb5 ±±) **31 ♕c5 ♖b5 32 ♕c4 h6 33 ♖c2 ♖bb8 34 ♖bc1 ♘xd6 35 ♗xd6**

♕xd6 36 ♗xd5 (36 ♕a4!?) **36 ... exd5 37 ♕a4 ♖b6 38 ♖c5 ♕e6 39 b4 ♖cb8 40 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 41 ♕xc6 ♕xc6 42 ♖xc6 ♖xb4 43 ♔f1 ♖xd4 42 ♔e2 ½-½** (Bondarevsky)

Game 5
(18) Spassky-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 g6 6 ♕b3 ♗g7 7 cxd5 0-0 8 g3! ♘a6 9 ♗g2 ♕b6 10 ♕xb6 axb6 11 ♘ge2 ♘b4 12 0-0 ♖d8 (intending 13 ... ♘xd5) *(6)*

6



13 d6! ♖xd6 (13 ... exd6 14 ♗g5!) **14 ♗f4 ♖d7 15 ♖fd1 ♘bd5 16 ♗e5 ± ♗h6?** (16 ... ♖d8!?) **17 a3 e6 18 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 19 ♖d3 ♗g5 20 ♗xd5! exd5** (20 ... ♖xd5 21 ♘c3 ♖da5 22 ♘e4 ±) **21 h4 ♗d8 22 ♖c1 ♖e7 23 ♘f4 ♗e6 24 ♖dc3 ♗d7!** (24 ... ♖e8 25 ♘xe6 fxe6 26 ♖c7! ±) **25 ♘xd5 ♖e6 26 ♗c7 ♔g7 27 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 28 ♘e3 b5 29 d5 ♖b6 30 ♘c2** (better 30 ♖b3-b4-d4 ±) **30 ... h6! 31 ♘b4 g5 32 hxg5 hxg5 33 ♔g2 ♖f6! 34 ♖e3 ♖h8! 35 ♘d3! ♖d6 36 ♘e5 ♗h3+ 37 ♔f3 ♖xd5 38 ♖c7 ♗e6 39 ♖xb7 ♖c5** (better 39 ... ♔f6) **40 ♖a7 ♗d5+** (better 40 ... ♖h2) **41 ♔g4 ♖c2 42 ♔xg5 ♖xf2 43 ♘d3 ♖f3 44 ♖ae7 ♖xe3 45 ♖xe3 f6+! 46 ♔f4 ♔f7 47 ♘b4 ♗c4 48 ♖c3 ♖h2 49 b3 ♗e6 50 ♘d3 ♖a2! 51 ♖c7+ ♔g6 52 ♘c5 ♗f7 53 ♖b7 ♖xa3 54 ♖xb5 ♖a1 55 ♘e4 ♖f1+ 56 ♔e3 ♖e1+ 57 ♔f3 ♖f1+ 58 ♔e2 ♖b1 59 ♘d2 ♖g1 60 ♔f2 ♖c1 61 b4 ♖c2 62 ♔e3 ♖c3+ 63 ♔f4 ♖d3 64 ♘f3** (64 ♘e4 ♗d5 =) **64 ... ♗d5 65 ♘h4+ ♔f7 66 ♖b8 ♖d4+ 67 ♔e3 ♖e4+ 68 ♔f2 ♔e7 69 ♘g6+ ♔d7 70 ♘f4 ♗c6 71 ♘d3 ♔c7 72 ♖f8 ♗b5 73 ♘f4 ♔d7 74 ♖f7+ ♔e8 75 ♖b7 ♖xb4 76 ♘d5 ♖b2+ 77 ♔e3 ♖b3+ 78 ♔f4 ♗c4 79 ♘xf6+ ♔f8 ½-½** (Simagin)

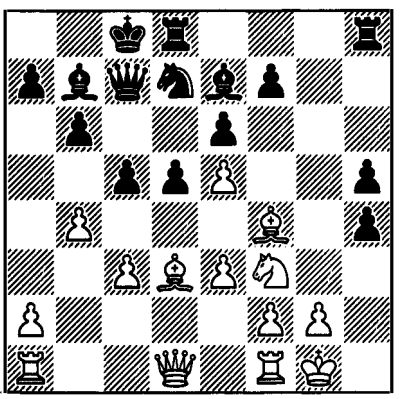
Game 6
(19) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 g3 (6 e3, 6 e4) **6 ... ♘c6 7 ♗g2 ♘xc3 8 bxc3 cxd4 9 cxd4 ♗b4+ 10 ♗d2 ♗e7 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖b1!?** (12 e3) **12 ... ♘xd4 13 ♘xd4 ♕xd4 14 ♕c2 ♕c5 15 ♕xc5 ♗xc5 ½-½** (Yudovich)

Game 7
(20) Spassky-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

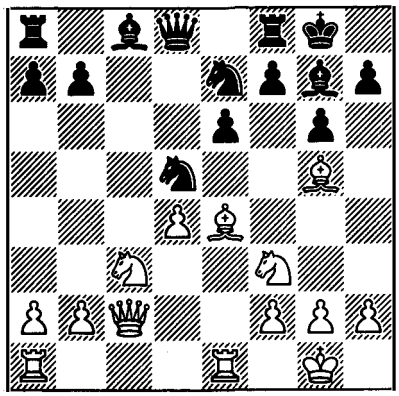
1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗g5 d5 4 ♘bd2 ♗e7 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♗d3 c5 7 c3 b6 8 0-0 ♗b7 9 ♘e5 (9 a4!?) **9 ... ♘xe5! 10 dxe5 ♘d7 11 ♗f4** (better 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 f4 =) **11 ... ♕c7 12 ♘f3 h6! 13 b4 g5! 14 ♗g3 h5 15 h4 gxh4 16 ♗f4 0-0-0!** *(7)*

7



17 a4? (17 bxc5!?) **17 ... c4! 18 ♗e2 a6 19 ♔h1 ♖dg8 20 ♖g1 ♖g4 21 ♕d2 ♖hg8 22 a5 b5 23 ♖ad1 ♗f8 24 ♘h2 ♘xe5! 25 ♘xg4 hxg4 26 e4 ♗d6 27 ♕e3 ♘d7** (27 ... g3 28 f3!) **28 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 29 ♖d4?** (29 f4!) **29 ... e5 30 ♖d2 f5! ∓ 31 exd5 f4 32 ♕e4 ♘f6 33 ♕f5+ ♔b8 34 f3** (34 ♕e6 ♕xe6 35 dxe6 ♘e4) **34 ... ♗c8 35 ♕b1 g3 36 ♖e1 h3 37 ♗f1** (37 gxh3 g2+ 38 ♔g1 ♕d7! ∓∓) **37 ... ♖h8 38 gxh3 ♗xh3 39 ♔g1 ♗xf1 40 ♔xf1 e4 41 ♕d1** (41 fxe4 f3! ∓∓) **41 ... ♘g4! 42 fxg4 f3 43 ♖g2 fxg2+ 0-1** (O'Kelly)

8



Game 8
(21) Petrosian-Spassky
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 e6 6 e3 ♗e7 7 ♗e2 0-0 8 0-0 d6 9 b3 a6 10 ♗b2 ♗d7 11 ♕d2 ♕c7 12 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 13 ♖fd1 ♕b8 14 ♘f3 ♖fd8 = 15 ♗d3 ♗e8 16 ♕e2 (16 e4 ♘e5! =) **16 ... d5! 17 cxd5 ♘xd5 18 ♘xd5 ♖xd5 19 a3** (19 ♕c2 ♖h5!) **19 ... ♖cd8 20 ♗e4 ♖xd1+ 21 ♖xd1 ♖xd1+ 22 ♕xd1 ♕d8 23 ♕xd8 ♗xd8 ½-½** (Lilienthal)

Game 9
(22) Spassky-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗d3 ♘c6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♗f6 11 ♗e4 ♘ce7 12 ♕c2 g6 13 ♗h6 ♗g7 14 ♗g5 (14 ♕d2!?)

(diagram 8)

14 ... f6! 15 ♗d2 ♗d7 16 ♕b3 ♗c6 = 17 ♗xd5 exd5 18 ♘e4 ♖f7 19 ♘c5 ♘f5 20 h3 ♗f8 21 ♘e6 ♕d7 22 ♘xf8 ♖fxf8 23 ♗b4 ♖fe8 24 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 25 ♖e1 ♖xe1+ 26 ♗xe1 ½-½ (Filip)

Game 10
(23) Petrosian-Spassky
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Boleslavsky)

1 ♘f3 ♘f6
2 g3 g6

For the first time in the match Spassky chooses the King's Indian Defence, thereby demonstrating that he is aiming for a sharp struggle.

3 c4 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 0-0 ♘c6 6 ♘c3 d6 7 d4 a6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 e5

Up to here the game has followed a familiar pattern, and the two players spent little time on the opening. Here Spassky deviates from the theoretical move 10 ... ♖b8. In my opinion, the early blocking of the bishop at g7 does not harmonize with the placing of the knight at a5. White now has great freedom in his choice of plan.

11 b3

This continuation, the best in reply to 10 ... ♖b8, is here insufficiently energetic. White should have played 11 a3 b6 12 b4 ♘b7 13 ♖b1, when, since the opponent's

b6 square is weakened, he can count on gaining the advantage on the queenside.

11 ... ♘g4
12 e4

Since on the queenside White is sticking to defensive tactics, he has to seek counterplay on the kingside.

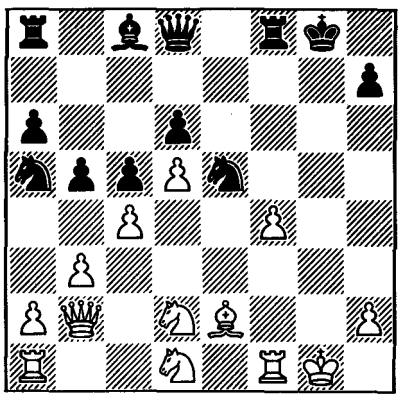
12 ... f5 13 exf5 gxf5 14 ♘d1 b5 15 f3(?)

A premature move, allowing Black to seize the initiative. White should first have played 15 ♗b2, when after the possible 15 ... ♖b8 16 f3 ♘f6 17 ♗c3 ♗h6 18 ♖e1 he gradually improves the placing of his pieces, whereas it is not easy for Black to find an active plan. Now the struggle becomes sharper, but by no means to White's advantage.

15 ... e4! 16 ♗b2 ♗xb2 17 ♕xb2 exf3 18 ♗xf3 ♘e5 19 ♗e2 f4! 20 gxf4 *(9)*

Black also has a good game after 20 ♖xf4 ♖xf4 21 gxf4 ♘g6 22 ♘e4 ♘xf4 23 ♘1f2 ♖a7.

9



20 ... ♗h3?

Black overrates his position, and suddenly the picture changes sharply. The simple 20 ... ♖xf4 would have been good, when after 21 ♘e3 ♕g5+ 22 ♔h1 ♖xf1+ 23 ♘dxf1 ♖a7 White would have faced a struggle for a draw.

21 ♘e3! ♗xf1

Now the capture on f4 would have had unpleasant consequences, e.g. 21 ... ♖xf4 22 ♖xf4 ♕g5+ 23 ♖g4! ♘xg4 24 ♘xg4 ♗xg4 25 ♗xg4 ♕xg4+ 26 ♔h1 ♕d4 (forced) 27 ♖g1+ ♔h8 28 ♕xd4+ cxd4 29 ♖g4, and the ending is very difficult for Black.

22 ♖xf1 ♘g6

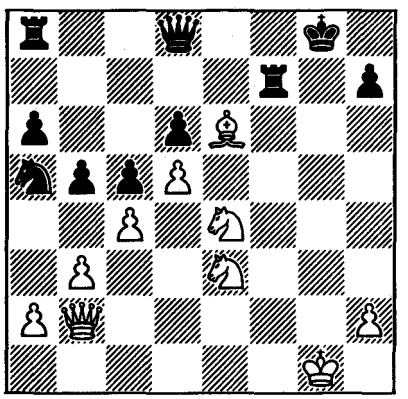
It would have been better to retreat the knight to d7, and on 23 ♗g4 play 23 ... ♕f6, with possibilities of a resistance.

23 ♗g4 ♘xf4?

Black goes to pieces and loses within a few moves. Of course, 23 ... ♖xf4 24 ♗e6+ ♔f8 25 ♖xf4+ ♘xf4 26 ♕h8+ was also bad. 23 ... ♕f6 was essential. It is true that after 24 ♗e6+ ♔h8 25 ♕xf6+ ♖xf6 26 f5 White has a big advantage, but a lengthy struggle would still have been in prospect.

24 ♖xf4! ♖xf4 25 ♗e6+ ♖f7 26 ♘e4 *(10)*

10



A picturesque position. Black is helpless, despite being two exchanges to the

good. The knight at a5 is a passive witness to the destruction of his army.

26 ... ♕h4

26 ... ♖a7 27 ♘f5 ♕f8 is most simply met by 28 ♕f6.

27 ♘xd6 ♕g5+

Or 27 ... ♕e1+ 28 ♔g2 ♕xe3 29 ♗xf7+ ♔f8 30 ♕h8+ ♔e7 31 ♘f5+ ♔xf7 32 ♕g7+ and 33 ♘xe3.

28 ♔h1 ♖a7 29 ♗xf7+ ♖xf7 30 ♕h8+!

A spectacular concluding stroke! **Black resigns.**

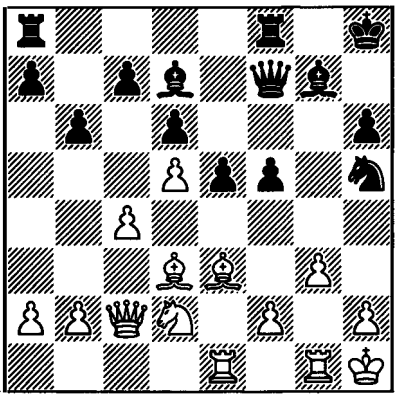
Game 11
(24) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♗g5 ♗e7 8 ♗d3 c5 9 dxc5 ♕a5+ 10 c3 ♕xc5 11 ♕e2 ♗d7!? 12 ♘e5! ♗c6 13 h4! ♖d8 (13 ... ♗xg2?! 14 ♖g1 ♗c6 15 0-0-0! ±) **14 0-0-0 ♘d7 15 ♘xc6!?** (15 ♗xe7! ♕xe7 16 ♘xc6 bxc6 17 ♗e4 ±) **15 ... ♗xg5+ 16 hxg5 ♕xg5+ 17 ♔c2** (17 ♔b1!?) **17 ... bxc6 18 ♖h5?!** (18 ♗e4!? ♕c5 19 ♖h5 ♕b6 20 ♕f3! ±) **18 ... ♕f4 19 ♗e4 ♕c7 20 ♕c4 c5 21 ♕b5** (21 ♖xh7 ♖xh7 22 ♗xh7 = g6? 23 ♗xg6 fxg6 24 ♕xe6+ ♔f8 25 ♖d3 ±±) **21 ... g6! 22 ♖h4 0-0 23 ♕c6 ♕xc6 24 ♗xc6 ♘e5 25 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 26 ♗b5!** (26 ... ♖b8 27 a4 h5 28 ♖e4 ♘g4 29 f3 ♘f6 30 ♖c4 ♘d5! ∓) **½-½** (Vasyukov)

Game 12
(25) Petrosian-Spassky
Irregular Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘d7 5 e4 e6 6 ♗e2 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7 8 ♗e3 ♘e7 9 ♕c2 h6 10 ♖ad1 0-0 11 d5! e5 12 ♕c1 ♔h7 13 g3 f5?! (better ... a5, ... ♘c5, ... ♗c8) **14 exf5 ♘xf5** (14 ... gxf5 15 ♘h4!) **15 ♗d3 ♗c8 16 ♔g2 ♘f6 17 ♘e4 ♘h5 18 ♗d2 ♗d7 19 ♔h1** (19 g4? ♘h4+! 20 ♘xh4 ♕xh4 21 gxh5 ♕h3+! ∓) **19 ... ♘e7 20 ♘h4! ± ♗h3 21 ♖g1 ♗d7 22 ♗e3 ♕e8 23 ♖de1 ♕f7 24 ♕c2 ♔h8 25 ♘d2 ♘f5 26 ♘xf5!** (26 ♘xg6+? ♕xg6 27 g4 ♘hg3+! 28 fxg3 ♕xg4 ∓) **26 ... gxf5** *(11)*

11

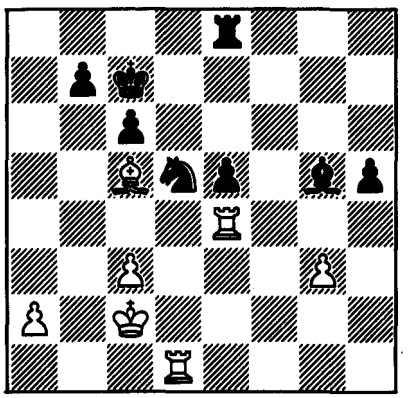


27 g4! (with attack) **27 ... e4 28 gxh5 f4 29 ♖xg7!! ♕xg7 30 ♖g1 ♕e5** (30 ... exd3 31 ♕xd3 ♕xg1+ 32 ♔xg1 ♖g8+ 33 ♔h1! fxe3 34 ♕xe3 ♖g5 35 ♘e4! ♖e8 36 h4! ♖xh5 37 ♕d4+ ♖ee5 38 ♘f6! ±±) **31 ♘f3!** (intending 32 ♗d4; 31 ... exf3 32 ♗d2 intending 33 ♗c3) **31 ... exd3 32 ♘xe5?** (32 ♕xd3! ♗f5 33 ♘xe5 ♗xd3 34 ♗d4 dxe5 [*34 ... ♗e4+ 35 ♘f3+!*] 35 ♗xe5+ ♔h7 36 ♖g7+ ♔h8 37 ♖xc7+ ♔g8 38 ♖g7+ ♔h8 39 ♖xa7+ ♔g8 40 ♖g7+ ♔h8 41 ♖g3+ ♔h7 42 ♖xd3 ±±) **32 ... dxc2 33 ♗d4! dxe5 34 ♗xe5+ ♔h7 35 ♖g7+ ♔h8 36 ♖f7+ ♔g8 37 ♖g7+ ♔h8 38 ♖g6+** (38 ♖xd7+ ♔g8 39 ♖g7+ ♔h8 40 ♖xc7+ ♔g8 41 ♖g7+ ♔h8 =; 42 ♖g1+ ♔h7 43 ♖c1 ♖ae8) **38 ... ♔h7 39 ♖g7+ ½-½** (Shamkovich)

Game 13
(26) Spassky-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 h4 h6 7 ♘f3 ♘d7 8 h5 ♗h7 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 ♕c7 11 ♗d2 e6 12 ♕e2! ♘gf6 13 0-0-0 0-0-0 14 ♘e5! ♘xe5 15 dxe5 ♘d7 16 f4 ± ♗e7 17 ♘e4 ♘c5 18 ♘c3 f6! 19 exf6 ♗xf6 20 ♕c4! (20 b4 ♗xc3 21 ♗xc3 ♕xf4+ 22 ♗d2 ♕e4! =) **20 ... ♕b6 21 b4 ♘a6 22 ♘e4** (22 ♕xe6+ ♔b8 23 a3 ♖xd2! 24 ♔xd2 ♕d4+) **22 ... ♘c7 23 ♖he1 ♖d4** (better 23 ... ♗e7 24 ♗c3 ♘d5 25 ♗xg7 ♗xb4) **24 ♕b3 ♕b5 25 c3 ♖xe4** (25 ... ♖*any* 26 ♘c5 ±) **26 ♖xe4 ♕xh5 27 ♕c4 ♕f5 28 ♕e2 h5 29 ♗e1 ♖e8 30 g3 a5 31 bxa5 ♕xa5 32 ♕c2 ♕f5 33 ♖a4 g5?!** (33 ... b5!?) **34 fxg5 ♗xg5+ 35 ♔b1 ♕xc2+ 36 ♔xc2 e5 37 ♖e4 ♘d5 38 ♗f2 ♘f6 39 ♖a4 ♔c7 40 ♗c5 ♘d5 41 ♖e4** *(12)*

12

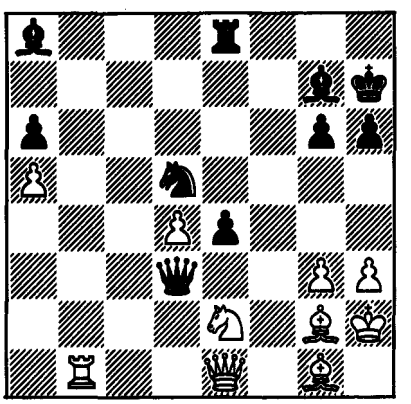


41 ... b6 42 ♗g1 ♗d8 43 ♖f1 ♘f6 44 ♖e2 c5 45 ♖f5 ♔d6 46 a4! ♔d5 47 ♔d3 ♘g4 48 ♖b2 (48 ♖xh5 ♖f8!) **48 ... ♖h8 49 a5 c4+ 50 ♔e2 ♔e4 51 ♖f7 bxa5 52 ♖b8 a4 53 ♖c8 ♗f6 54 ♖xc4+** (54 ♖xh8! ♗xh8 55 ♖c7! ±±) **54 ... ♔f5 55 ♖a7 a3 56 ♖xa3 ♖b8 57 ♖b4 ♖c8 58 c4 ♗e7 59 c5 e4!** (59 ... ♗xc5? 60 ♖f3+! ±±) **60 ♖a7 ♗f6 61 ♖h7** (61 ♖aa4!) **61 ... ♔g6 62 ♖d7 ♔f5 63 ♖d5+ ♗e5 64 ♖b6 e3!** (64 ... ♖a8 65 ♗d4! ♖a2+ 66 ♗b2! ♖a5 67 ♗xe5 ♘xe5 68 ♖h6! ±±) **65 ♔f3 ♘f6 66 ♖d3 ♖xc5 67 ♗xe3 ♖c2 68 ♖d8 ♖c3 69 ♔e2 ♖c2+ 70 ♔d1 ♖c3 71 ♗f2 ♘e4?** (71 ... ♖a3!?; 71 ... ♗xg3? 72 ♗d4; 71 ... ♘g4!?) **72 ♖f8+ ♔g5** (72 ... ♘f6 73 ♖xf6+! ♗xf6 74 ♖xf6+ ♔xf6 75 ♗d4+ ♔f5 76 ♗xc3 ♔g4 77 ♗e1! ±±) **73 ♖b5 ♖d3+ 74 ♔e2 ♖d5 75 ♖xd5 ♘c3+ 76 ♔f3 ♘xd5 77 ♖a8 ♔f5 78 ♖a5 ♔e6 79 ♗e1 ♘f6 80 ♖b5 ♘d5 81 ♗d2 ♗g7 82 ♗c1 ♗e5 83 ♗b2 ♗c7 84 ♖c5 ♗d6 85 ♖c1 ♘e7 86 ♖e1+!** (86 ♖h1? ♘f5! 87 ♖h3 ♘xg3! =) **86 ... ♔f5 87 ♖a1 ♘c6 88 ♖a6 ♗e5 89 ♖xc6 ♗xb2 90 ♖c5+ ♔g6 91 ♔f4 ♗g7 1-0** (Kholmov)

Game 14
(27) Petrosian-Spassky
Irregular Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 b5 3 a4 b4 4 d3 ♗b7 5 e4 d6 6 ♗g2 ♘bd7 7 0-0 e6 8 a5 ♖b8 9 ♘bd2 ♗e7 10 ♘c4 0-0 11 ♖e1 a6 = 12 ♗f4 ♗a8 13 ♕e2 ♖e8 14 h3 ♗f8 15 ♘cd2 (15 e5!? dxe5 16 ♘fxe5 ♘xe5 17 ♘xe5 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 ♕d5+! =) **15 ... g6 16 ♗g5 h6 17 ♗e3 ♗g7 18 ♔h2 ♕e7 19 ♖a2? ♔h7 20 ♘g1 d5! 21 f4 e5! 22 fxe5 ♕xe5 23 d4** (23 ♗f4 ♕e7 24 ♗xc7 ♖bc8! ∓; 24 exd5 ♕xe2 25 ♖xe2 ♖xe2 26 ♘xe2 ♘xd5 =) **23 ... ♕e6 24 e5 ♘e4 25 ♖aa1 c5! 26 ♘xe4 dxe4 27 c3 bxc3 28 bxc3 cxd4 29 cxd4 f6 30 exf6 ♘xf6 31 ♖ab1 ♘d5! 32 ♕d2 ♖xb1 33 ♖xb1 ♕d6! 34 ♘e2 ♕a3 35 ♗g1 ♕d3 36 ♕e1!** (36 ♕xd3? exd3 37 ♘f4 ♘c3! ∓∓) *(13)*

13



36 ... ♗c6 (better 36 ... ♖c8 intending 37 ... ♖c2; 37 ♖d1 ♖c2 38 ♖xd3 exd3; 37 ♖c1 ♖xc1 38 ♘xc1 ♕c2 39 ♘e2 e3 ∓) **37 ♖d1 ♕a3** (37 ... ♗b5 38 ♘f4) **38 ♘f4! ♘xf4 39 gxf4 ♗b5** (39 ... ♕d6!) **40 ♗e3 ♗d3 41 h4! ♕d6 42 h5 g5** (42 ... gxh5!? 43 ♕f2 ♖d8 44 ♗h3! ♗xd4? 45 ♗f5+ ♔h8 46 ♗xe4! =) **43 ♕g3 ♗xd4 44 ♗xd4** (44 ♗xe4+!? ♖xe4 45 ♖xd3 ♖xe3! 46 ♕xe3 ♗xe3 47 ♖xd6 ♗xf4+! ∓∓; 46 ♖xe3 ♗xe3 47 ♕xe3 gxf4 ∓) **44 ... ♕xd4 45 fxg5 ♕e5 46 ♕xe5 ♖xe5 47 gxh6 ♖xa5 48 ♔g3 ♖g5+ 49 ♔f2 a5 50 ♖a1 ♔xh6 51 ♗h1 ♖xh5 52 ♔e3 ♗c2 53 ♖c1 ♖h3+ 54 ♔d4 a4 55 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 56 ♔xe4 a3 57 ♔d4 ½-½** (Kotov)

Game 15
(28) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 d3 d6 6 ♘h3 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 f3 ♗xh3 9 ♗xh3 0-0 10 ♗e3 ♘e8! 11 ♕d2 ♘c7 12 ♖ae1 b6 13 ♘d1 d5 14 ♕e2 e6 15 f4 f5 = 16 ♗c1 ♖f7 17 ♗g2 ♕d7 18 ♘f2 ♖d8 19 c3 b5 20 exd5 exd5 21 ♗d2 c4 22 ♕f3 ♘e7 23 dxc4 bxc4 24 b3! ♘c8 25 bxc4 dxc4 26 ♗c1 ♕a4 27 ♖d1! ♖df8 28 ♗e3! ♘b6 29 ♗c5 ♖c8 30 ♗b4 ♘a6 31 ♗d6 ♕a5 32 g4 ♕xc3 33 ♕e2! ♕f6? (time trouble; better 33 ... ♘c5) **34 ♖fe1 ♖d7 35 ♗e7 ♖xe7** (35 ... ♕f7? 36 ♖xd7 ♘xd7 37 ♗b7! ±±) **36 ♕xe7 ♕xe7 37 ♖xe7 ♘c5 38 gxf5 c3! 39 fxg6 hxg6 40 ♖e2** (40 ♖xa7 ♗d4! 41 ♖xd4 c2 42 ♖d1 ♘d3! ∞) **40 ... ♖c7 41 ♘e4 ♘e6 42 ♘xc3 ♘d4 43 ♖e5 ♗xe5 44 fxe5 ♖xc3 45 ♖xd4 ♔f7 46 ♖d6 ♖c5 47 ♖f6+ ♔g7 48 ♗e4 ♖xe5 49 ♖xg6+ ♔f7 50 ♗c2** (50 ♖g4!) **50 ... ♖e1+ 51 ♔f2 ♖a1! 52 ♖c6 ♖xa2 53 h4 ♘d5 54 ♔f3 ♖a3+ 55 ♔e4 ♖c3 ½-½** (Bondarevsky)

Game 16
(29) Petrosian-Spassky
Irregular Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 ♗e2 e6 5 c3 ♘d7 6 0-0 ♘e7 7 ♘bd2 b6 8 a4 a6 9 ♖e1 ♗b7 10 ♗d3 0-0 11 ♘c4 ♕e8 12 ♗d2 (12 e5) **12 ... f6 13 ♕e2 ♔h8 14 ♔h1 ♕f7 ∞ 15 ♘g1 e5! 16 dxe5 fxe5 17 f3 ♘c5 18 ♘e3 ♕e8! 19 ♗c2 a5 20 ♘h3 ♗c8** (20 ... ♗a6!?) **21 ♘f2 ♗e6 22 ♕d1 ♕f7 23 ♖a3 ♗d7 24 ♘d3! ♘xd3 25 ♗xd3 ♗h6 26 ♗c4 ♕g7 27 ♖e2 ♘g8** (intending ... ♘f6-h5-f4) **28 ♗xg8 ♖xg8 29 ♘d5 ♗xd2 30 ♖xd2 ♗e6 31 b4 ♕f7 32 ♕e2 ♖a7 33 ♖a1 ♖f8** (33 ... axb4!? 34 cxb4 ♖ga8 35 ♕d1 ♔g7 ∞) **34 b5 ♖aa8 35 ♕e3 ♖ab8 36 ♖f1 ♕g7 37 ♕d3 ♖f7 38 ♔g1 ♖bf8 39 ♘e3 g5 40 ♖df2 h5 41 c4! ♕g6 42 ♘d5! ♖g8** (42 ... ♗xd5 43 cxd5 g4?! 44 fxg4 ♖xf2 45 ♖xf2 ♖xf2 46 ♔xf2 ♕xg4 =; 44 ... hxg4? 45 ♖xf7 ♖xf7 46 ♖xf7 ♕xf7 47 ♕e3! ♕g6 48 ♔f2! ±) **43 ♕e3 ♔h7 44 ♕d2 ♖gg7 45 ♕e3 ♔g8 46 ♖d2 ♔h7 47 ♖df2 ♖f8 48 ♕d2 ♖gf7 49 ♕e3 ½-½** (Moiseyev, Ravinsky)

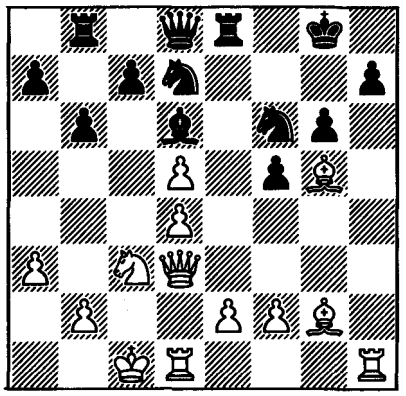
Game 17
(30) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 g3 ♗g7 5 ♗g2 ♘f6 6 d3 0-0 7 ♘h4! ♖b8! 8 f4 d6 9 0-0 ♗d7 10 f5! b5! 11 ♗g5! b4 12 ♘d5 a5 (12 ... ♘xd5 13 exd5 ♘e5 14 ♕d2! ±) **13 ♔h1** (better 13 ♕d2!) **13 ... ♘e5 14 ♕d2 ♗c6 15 ♖ae1 ± a4 16 ♕e2** (better h2-h3 intending g3-g4) **16 ... ♕d7 17 ♗c1 ♕b7 18 ♘e3 e6! 19 fxe6** (19 g4) **19 ... fxe6 20 ♘f3 ♘xf3 21 ♖xf3 d5!** (with initiative) **22 exd5 exd5 23 ♘g4 ♖be8 24 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 25 ♖e3 ♖xe3 26 ♕xe3 ♖e8 27 ♕f2 ♖xe1+ 28 ♕xe1 ♔f7 29 ♕e2 ♕e7 ½-½** (Flohr)

Game 18
(31) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b7 5 a3 ♗xf3? 6 gxf3 ♗e7 7 f4 d5 8 f5! (intending 9 fxe6, ♗h3) **8 ... exf5 9 ♗g2 0-0!? 10 cxd5 ♗d6 11 ♕d3 g6 12 ♗g5 ♖e8 13 h4** (13 0-0-0!?) **13 ... ♘bd7 14 h5 ± ♖b8 15 hxg6** (better 15 ♕h3 ♕e7! 16 ♔f1 ♕f8 17 ♗f3 b5 18 e3 ♕g7 19 ♘e2 ±) **15 ... fxg6 16 0-0-0** *(14)*

14

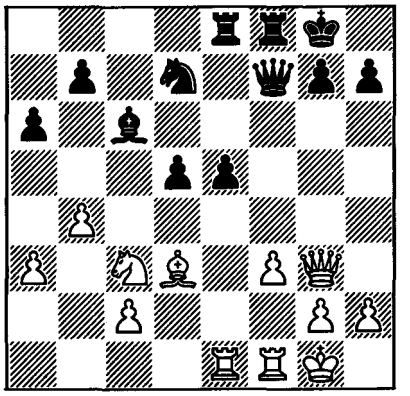


16 ... b5! 17 ♘xb5 (17 e4 fxe4 18 ♘xe4 intending 19 ♕h3) **17 ... ♕c8 18 ♖d2 ♕b7 19 ♘c3 ♕b3** (with initiative) **20 ♕c2! ♔g7! 21 ♗f3 h5! 22 ♕xb3 ♖xb3 23 ♖c2 ♖eb8 24 e3 ♔f7 25 ♖d1 ♘b6** (intending 26 ... ♘c4) **26 ♗xf6** (26 ♗e2 ♖xc3! 27 ♖xc3 ♘e4) **26 ... ♔xf6 27 ♗e2 h4 28 f4! ♖e8 29 ♔d2 ♖xc3! 30 ♖xc3** (30 bxc3 ♘xd5 ∓ 31 ♗b5 ♖xe3 32 c4 ♗xf4 33 cxd5 ♖b3+) **30 ... ♘xd5 31 ♗b5!** (31 ♖b3 ♘xe3! 32 ♖xe3 ♗xf4) **31 ... ♘xc3 32 ♗xe8 ♘xd1 33 ♔xd1 ½-½** (Bykhovsky)

Game 19
(32) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 ♘f3 c5 6 dxc5 ♘c6 7 ♗f4 ♗xc5 8 ♗d3 f6 9 exf6 ♘xf6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♘e5 (better 11 ♗g3) **11 ... ♗d7! 12 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 13 ♕e2 ♕e7 14 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 = 15 ♗g3 a6 16 a3 ♕f7 17 b4** (17 ♕d2) **17 ... ♗d4 18 ♗e5! ♗xe5 19 ♕xe5 ♘d7 20 ♕g3 e5! 21 f3** *(15)*

15



21 ... ♕f4?! (21 ... ♖e7) **22 ♕xf4 ♖xf4 23 ♖f2 g6 24 ♖d2 ♘b6 25 ♖de2 ♘d7 26 ♘d1 b5 27 c3 ♖f7 28 ♗c2 ♔g7 29 ♗b3 h5 30 ♘e3 ♘b6 31 ♘c2 ♘d7** (better 31 ... ♖fe7 32 f4 e4 33 ♘d4 ♗d7) **32 ♖e3 h4 33 h3 ♖f6 34 ♘d4! ♗b7 35 a4! ♖d8 36 ♘e2 bxa4** (36 ... ♔h6!?) **37 ♗xa4 ♘b6 38 ♗b3 e4** (38 ... ♖e8 39 ♘d4 ♘d7 40 ♗a4) **39 ♘d4 ♔h6 40 ♖d1 ♖c8** (better 40 ... ♖d7) **41 fxe4 dxe4 42 ♘e6!! ±** (intending 43 ♘c5; 42 ... ♗d5 43 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 44 ♖xe4 ±±; 42 ... ♘a4 43 ♖d7 ±±; 42 ... a5? 43 ♖d6! ♘c4 44 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 45 ♘d8! ±±) **42 ... ♘c4 43 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 44 ♘c5 ♖f7 45 ♖a1 ♔g5 46 ♖a5!** (46 ♘xb7 ♖xb7 47 ♖xa6 ±; 46 ♘xa6 ♗xa6 47 ♖xa6 ♖d7 =) **46 ... ♔f4 47 ♔f2 ♗d5 48 ♘b3 ♔e5+** (48 ... ♗b7 49 ♘d4! intending 50 ♘e2 mate) **49 ♔e2 ♖c6 50 ♘d2 ♔e6** (50 ... ♖f4? 51 c4! ±±) **51 ♘xe4 ♗c4+ 52 ♔d2 ♖d7+ 53 ♔c2 ♔f7 54 ♖e5 ♔g7 55 ♘d2 ♗b5 56 ♘f3 ♗a4+ 57 ♔b2 ♖d1 58 ♖5e4 ♖f1 59 ♖e1 ♖xe1 60 ♖xe1 ♖f6 61 ♖e4 g5 62 ♘xg5 ♖f2+ 63 ♔a3 ♗c6 64 ♖xh4 ♗xg2 65 ♘e4 ♖e2 66 ♘c5 ♗f1 67 ♖f4 ♖e1 68 h4 1-0** (Boleslavsky)

Game 20

(33) Petrosian-Spassky

Nimzo-Indian Defence

(notes by Simagin)

Can a match for the World Championship be compared with a cycle race lasting many days? I think that in this comparison there is a grain of truth. At any rate, the marathon distance of these events creates an exceptionally difficult situation for their participants.

The grandmasters are tired, but they have to be very careful. One second, one incorrect move in an individual game, and it will be very difficult to make amends . . . One cannot simply play chess in such a match, without thorough preparations. The participants must draw up their dispositions both for the match as a whole, and for each individual game.

This game was played in an unusual psychological situation. For the first time since the 7th game, the Challenger had succeeded in levelling the scores. The situation had changed, and the plans of the two players also changed. Preparation for this game was of enormous importance, since the result of each individual encounter at the finish could decide the outcome of the match as a whole.

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4

This popular defence occurs for the first time in the match. Lovers of chess theory can rejoice: at last an opening has been chosen, certain variations of which have been analyzed almost as far as the endgame!

In this match Spassky was reproached for playing completely unusual opening schemes. But was he right in this case, to take the game along quiet positional lines? Did this not show a certain complacency after his success in the 19th game? After all, it is known that the World Champion feels very much at home precisely in the simple positions which often arise in the lines of the Nimzo-Indian Defence.

4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 ♘c6

In recent years 7 ... dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 has been more often played.

8 a3 ♗xc3 9 bxc3 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♕c7

A few years ago this continuation was very popular, but it has gradually gone out of use. Extensive practical testing has shown that White retains a slight but clear positional advantage.

After the move made by Spassky, the theorists became watchful: the Challenger had chosen a well-known but not altogether satisfactory variation, and hence an innovation, changing the assessment of the position, could be expected.

11 ♗d3 e5
12 ♕c2 ♗g4

Other possible continuations are 12 ... ♕e7, 12 ... ♖d8 and 12 ... ♖e8. Of these theorists consider the best to be 12 ... ♖e8, and as an example of correct play they give the game Gligorić-Filip (Portorož, 1958): 12 ... ♖e8 13 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 14 dxe5 ♕xe5 15 f3 ♗d7 16 a4 ♗c6 17 e4 ♖ad8 18 ♗c4 b6 19 ♗d2 ♖d7. True, even in this case, in my opinion, White has the advantage.

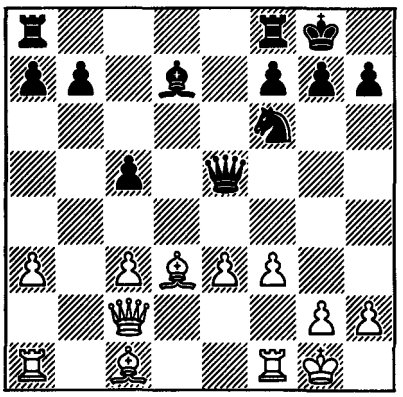
13 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 14 dxe5 ♕xe5 15 f3 ♗d7 *(16)*

This position must undoubtedly have been studied by both players before the match. It occurred back in the game Geller-Spassky (Candidates Tournament, Amsterdam, 1956), which continued 16 ♖e1 ♗a4! 17 ♕b2 ♖ad8 18 ♗f1 b6 19 c4 ♖fe8 20 ♕xe5 ♖xe5 21 e4 ♘d7 22 ♗b2 ♖e6 23 e5 ♘b8 24 ♗e2 ♘c6, with good

chances for Black. Later, White continued 16 e4 in a number of games.

Spassky can hardly have been hoping to repeat his game with Geller, but perhaps he had prepared an improvement for Black in reply to 16 e4. But at this point Petrosian was the first to take the game away from the well-trodden path.

16



16 a4

In such a classical variation an individual move cannot play a decisive role, but at any rate a new continuation has a certain psychological effect.

16 ... ♖fe8

Black should have considered 16 ... c4! 17 ♗xc4 (*17 ♗e2 ♘d5* is worse) 17 ... ♖ac8! with equalizing chances.

17 e4

What should Black play? 18 f4 and 19 e5 is threatened. On 17 ... ♕c7 or 17 ... ♕e7 there can follow 18 c4! with advantage to White.

17 ... c4
18 ♗e2 ♗e6

18 ... ♕c5+ was significantly better.

19 ♗e3 ♕c7 20 ♖ab1 ♘d7 21 ♖b5 h6 22 ♖fb1 ♕c6 23 ♗d4 f6 24 ♕a2

As a result of Black's unfavourable opening, White has obtained a highly promising position: Black is condemned to passive defence and is obliged to await the offensive.

24 ... ♔h8 25 ♗f1 h6 26 h3 ♖ab8 27 a5 ♖b7

Many commentators recommended 27 ... a6, but after 28 ♖xb6 ♘xb6 29 axb6 ♕b7 30 ♕a5 Black's position is hopeless.

28 axb6 axb6
29 ♕f2?

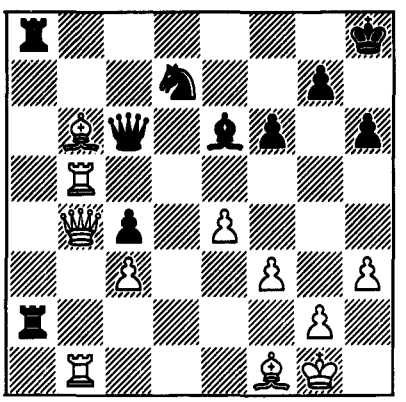
An inaccuracy, after which Black could have gained counterchances. White concedes the open a-file to his opponent, probably as a result of an oversight. At any rate, 29 ♕b2 would have been better, e.g. 29 ... ♖a8 30 ♕b4 ♖ba7 31 ♗xb6 ♖a3 32 ♗d4 ♖b3 33 ♖xb3 cxb3 34 c4!

29 ... ♖a8 30 ♕b2 ♖ba7! 31 ♗xb6 ♖a2

The alternative was 31 ... ♖a3, when if 32 ♗f2 then 32 ... ♖b3 33 ♖xb3 cxb3 34 c4 ♖b8, when Black acquires saving chances.

32 ♕b4 *(17)*

17



32 ... ♖c2?

Here 32 ... ♖2a3 no longer achieves its aim: 33 ♗d4 ♖b3 34 ♖xb3 cxb3 35 c4, but 32 ... ♖8a3 came seriously into consideration, e.g. 33 ♗d4 ♖b3 34 ♖xb3 cxb3 35 c4 ♖c2! 36 ♕xb3, when after 36... ♖xc4!? 37 ♗xc4 ♗xc4 38 ♖b8+ ♘xb8 39 ♕xb8+ ♔h7 White has only a slight advantage, while 36 ... ♖c1! 37 ♖d5! leaves the situation unclear.

An interesting possibility was suggested by Nikitin: 32 ... ♖2a4 33 ♕e7 ♖b8 34 ♖5b2 ♖aa8 35 ♗d4 ♖e8 36 ♕b4 ♖eb8 37 ♕xb8+ ♖xb8 38 ♖xb8+ ♘xb8 39 ♖xb8+ ♔h7 40 ♖b6 with minimal advantage to White (true, instead of 35 ♗d4 White can continue 35 ♗c7!).

33 ♗f2 ♕c7

Or 33 ... ♖aa2 34 ♗g3.

34 ♕e7 ♗xh3

Black's position is already hopeless, and so the Challenger cannot be condemned for this despairing attempt at an attack.

35 gxh3 ♖xf2 36 ♔xf2 ♕h2+ 37 ♗g2 ♘e5 38 ♖b8+ ♖xb8 39 ♖xb8+ ♔h7 40 ♖d8 ♘g6 41 ♕e6

Black resigns. Spassky's choice of opening proved unfortunate, and led to his defeat in this highly important game.

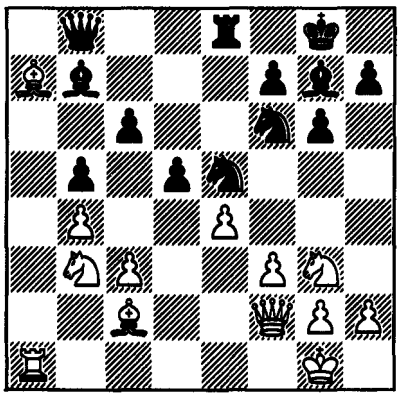
Game 21
(34) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗e7 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 c3 ♘d7 8 ♘f3 0-0 9 ♗d3 e5! 10 ♕c2 (10 ♕d2!?) **10 ... exd4 11 cxd4 g6 12 h4! ♗g7! 13 h5 ♘f6 14 hxg6 hxg6 15 0-0-0** (15 ♘eg5 ♘d5 ∞) **15 ... ♘xe4 16 ♗xe4 ♗g4 = 17 ♕b3** (17 ♗xb7? ♖b8 18 ♗e4 ♗xf3 19 ♗xf3 ♗xd4 ∓) **17 ... ♕d6 18 ♖h4** (18 ♕xb7? ♖ab8 19 ♕d5 ♕f4+ 20 ♔b1 ♖fd8 ∓) **18 ... ♕f4+! 19 ♕e3 ♕xe3+ 20 fxe3 ♗xf3 21 gxf3 c6 22 ♔d2 ♖fe8 23 b4 ♗f6 24 ♖g4 ♖e7 25 ♗d3 ♖ae8 26 ♖e1 a6 27 ♗c4 ♔g7 28 ♖gg1 ♖h8 29 ♖h1 ♖xh1 30 ♖xh1 ♖d7 31 ♗b3 ♗d8 32 f4 f5 33 ♔d3 a5 34 bxa5 ♗xa5 35 ♖c1 ♔f6 36 ♖c4 ♖d8 37 ♔e2 ♗c7 38 ♖a4 g5 39 fxg5+ ♔xg5 ½-½** (Kotov)

Game 22
§ (35) Petrosian-Spassky
Irregular Defence

1 d4 b5 2 e4 ♗b7 3 f3 a6 4 ♗e3 e6 5 ♘d2! ♘f6 6 c3 ♗e7 7 ♗d3 d6 8 a4 c6 9 ♘e2 ♘bd7 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♘g3 ♖e8 12 axb5 axb5 13 ♖xa8 ♕xa8 14 ♕c2 ♗f8 15 b4! ± ♕b8 16 ♘b3 g6 17 ♖a1 e5 18 ♕f2! d5 19 dxe5 ♘xe5 20 ♗c2 ♗g7 (20 ... h5 intending ... h4-h3) **21 ♗a7 ♕c7 22 ♗b6 ♕b8 23 ♗a7 ♕c7 24 ♗b6 ♕b8 25 ♗a7** *(18)*

18



25 ... ♕c8? (25 ... ♕c7 =) **26 ♗d4 h5 27 h3 h4 28 ♘f1 dxe4 29 fxe4 ♘ed7 30 ♘fd2 c5 31 ♘xc5 ♘xc5 32 bxc5 ♗xe4 33 ♗b3! ♗f5 34 ♖a7! ♘d7** (34 ... ♖f8 35 ♕xh4! ±±) **35 ♘f3 ♕b8** (36 c6! ±±) **1-0** (Alatortsev)

Grandmaster Yuri Averbakh met Petrosian the day after the 22nd game. The match with Spassky was still continuing, but the main thing was already clear: for a further three years Petrosian had retained the supreme title of World Champion.

Commentators have remarked that you were well prepared for this match. Could you tell us in some detail about your preparations?

I began preparing for the match long before it commenced. Spassky had not yet sat down to play his Candidates Final match with Tal, when together with my trainer I had already worked out a detailed plan of preparation. Initially we studied my own games, and tried to look at them from the side. When the Spassky-Tal match was in progress, I travelled specially to Tbilisi, in order to observe my future opponents. When it became clear that Spassky was going to win, I returned to Moscow and began studying his games. This took a considerable amount of time. Only after this did I begin preparing for the coming 24 games. I worked out my opening repertoire, and my match tactics. Roughly a month before the start I stopped studying chess, having decided to rest thoroughly before the encounter.

Botvinnik once said that the Challenger is always better prepared in a practical sense than the Champion. Would you agree?

I would agree that the Challenger, in gaining the right to a match with the World Champion, goes through a good practical training. But at the same time he becomes exhausted both physically and mentally. I realized that I might prove to be in worse training and less played in than Spassky. Therefore, with training aims, I played in the Yerevan International Tournament, in the Moscow-Leningrad Match, in the Moscow Team Championship, and in a specially organized grandmaster tournament. In all these events I pursued the training aims which I needed, and tried to disclose the deficiencies in my play.

In the struggle at the chess board it is important to have a clear head throughout the five hours of play, and not to become too tired. Therefore, if you want to achieve success, you have to be rational: play less intensively, conserve your strength, and avoid bad time trouble. I could list a number of masters of great talent, I would call them tragic cases, who on account of irrational allocation of their strength have not managed to show all of which they are capable.

What can you say about the match?

In the lst game I missed an excellent chance of gaining an advantage. This so affected me that, under the influence of my error, I played the next two games excessively nervously. The ending of the 2nd game was by no means as simple as it seemed to certain commentators. I should like to mention the great tenacity and resourcefulness which Spassky displayed in defence.

I consider the seventh game to be my best achievement in the match. It demonstrates my creative philosophy: restriction of the opponent's possibilities, strategic play over the entire board, and the encirclement and gradual tightening of the ring around the enemy king.

In the match I had two critical moments. The first came after the 12th game, in which I carried out a pretty combination, but failed to conclude it properly. I should explain that the finish of the game took place in a severe time scramble, and I forgot about the possibility of a threefold repetition of the position. This severely affected me. It was possibly even for nervous reasons that I developed a sore throat, and decided to claim a postpone-

ment. But while I was receiving treatment, Spassky evidently pulled himself together after his unpleasant experiences in the first half of the match, and in the 13th game he inflicted a defeat on me.

Defeats in themselves do not greatly concern me; what was more worrying was how I lost. And this game I lost twice. During the adjournment session I managed to achieve a drawn position, but in time trouble I again went wrong.

Therefore I played the following game, the 14th (it took place the next day), in a demoralized state. Only when threatened by a further defeat did I manage to pull myself together, and maintain the balance during the adjournment session. This was a very difficult game, but it returned to me my belief in my powers.

My second critical moment came after the 19th game. I lost in time trouble. To a certain extent this was a chance defeat. And although the match situation became sharper, the loss had a positive effect on me, and forced me to pull myself together before the decisive final encounters.

What would you like to say about Spassky?

The commentators consider that, in this match with me, Spassky did not display everything of which he is capable. Putting it in Botvinnik's words, he did not manage properly "to program himself for Petrosian". True, in his time even Botvinnik did not manage to do this. A match is a clash of two individuals, and the 'programming' does not depend only on one of the contestants.

I would agree with Botvinnik, that Spassky's trip to the Christmas tournament in Hastings was not the best form of training. I think that a certain role in slightly underestimating the coming encounter was played by the results of the Candidates matches. After brilliantly defeating Keres, Geller and Tal, Boris Spassky evidently believed in his fate, and decided that everything else would follow, so to speak, through inertia.

Are you very tired after the match?

Of course, I am tired, but I think that I was more tired after the match with Botvinnik. Or perhaps I have simply become accustomed to match play.

What do you think of the opening experiments made by Spassky in the second half of the match?

One can play this way, but whether one should is a different matter. It was probably against his will that Spassky began avoiding topical openings. But after he had done this once, I was obliged to reckon with it. You will be interested to know that, in our preparations for the 22nd game, we anticipated that in reply to 1 d4 Spassky might play 1 ... b5.

Some commentators stated that, in this match, defence was stronger than attack. Would you agree?

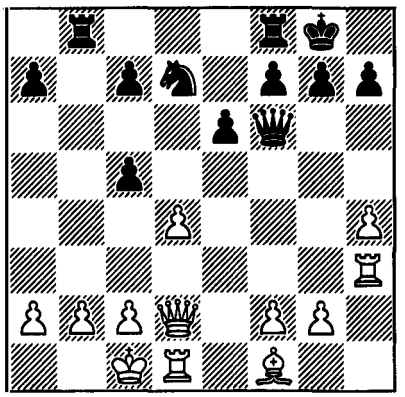
Not entirely. This is a feature of modern chess. In our time defensive methods have been highly developed – prophylactic forestalling of an attack, timely withdrawal behind impregnable lines, various methods of simplifying the position, pawn sacrifices transposing into drawn endings, and so on. Nowadays playing for a win against an equally strong opponent demands enormous preparatory work, and deeply thought out battle tactics.

Game 23
(36) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗e7 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 ♘f3 ♗d7!? 8 ♕d2 ♗c6 9 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 10 ♘e5! 0-0 11 0-0-0 ♘d7? (better 11 ... ♖d8 intending 12 ... ♗e8, ... ♘c6) **12 ♘xc6 bxc6 13 h4!**

♖ab8 14 ♖h3 c5 *(19)*

19



15 ♕g5! ± **cxd4** (15 ... ♕xf2? 16 ♖f3 ♕g1 17 ♗b5! ±±) **16 ♕xf6 ♘xf6 17 ♖xd4** ±± **♖b7 18 ♖b3! ♖xb3 19 axb3 ♖a8 20 ♖c4 ♘e8 21 ♖a4 ♘d6 22 g3! ♔f8 23 ♗g2 ♖c8 24 ♖xa7 ♔e7 25 ♔d2 h6 26 c4 g5 27 hxg5 hxg5 28 ♔c3 ♔d7 29 b4 ♖h8 30 b5 ♖h2 31 ♗c6+ ♔d8** (32 c5 ♘f5 33 b6) **1-0** (Moiseyev)

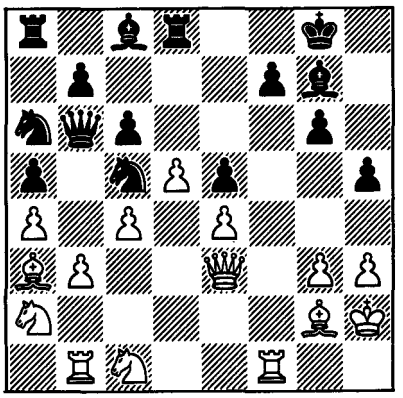
Game 24
(37) Petrosian-Spassky
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 ♘c3 d6 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♘ge2 a6 (7 ... e5) **8 b3 ♖b8 9 a4 a5 10 ♗a3 c6 11 0-0 ♕c7 12 ♕d2 ♖e8 13 ♖ac1 ♖a8 14 ♖fd1 ♘b8 15 h3 ♘a6 16 ♔h2 h5 17 f4** (only move) **17 ... ♘b4 18 ♖f1** (18 d5 intending e3-e4) **18 ... e5 19 fxe5** (19 e4) **19 ... dxe5 20 d5 ♖d8 21 e4 ♘d7 22 ♖b1 ♘c5 23 ♘a2 ♘ba6 24 ♕e3 ♕b6** (24 ... b6 25 ♘c3 ♗b7 26 dxc6 ♗xc6 27 ♘d5 ±) **25 ♘ec1**

(diagram 20)

25 ... ♕a7 (25 ... ♘xa4? 26 ♕f3 ♖d7 27 h4 ±) **26 ♘d3 ♘xd3 27 ♕xd3 ♖e8** (better 27 ... ♗d7 intending ... ♗e8) **28 ♖b2 ♘c5 29 ♕e3 ♘d7 30 ♕c1** (30 ♕xa7

20



♖xa7 31 c5 intending ♖bf2; 30 ♕g5! intending 31 ♖bf2 with attack) **30 ... ♕b6 31 ♖bf2 f6** (31 ... ♕xb3 32 ♖f3 ♕xa4 [*32 ... ♕xa2 33 ♖1f2!*] 33 ♖xf7 ±) **32 ♖f3 ♕d8 33 ♘c3 ♘f8 34 ♕c2** (better 34 ♖d1!) **34 ... ♘h7 35 ♖d3 ♕c7 36 ♕e2 ♗h6 37 h4 ♗f8 38 d6 ♕f7 39 ♗h3 ♗xh3 40 ♔xh3 ♖ed8** (40 ... b6) **41 c5!** = **♕e6+** (41 ... ♕xb3 42 ♘d5! ♕xa4 43 ♘b6, 43 ♘xf6+) **42 ♔g2 ♗h6 43 ♘d1 ♘f8 44 ♘b2 ♘d7 45 ♖df3 ♕g4** (45 ... ♖f8 46 ♕c4 ♔f7 =) **46 ♕c4+ ♔g7 47 ♘d3 ♖e8 48 ♖b1?** (48 ♗b2 ±; 48 ... ♕e6 49 ♘xe5! ♘xe5 50 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 51 ♖xf6; 48 ... g5 49 ♖f5 gxh4 50 ♖1f3 intending 51 ♘f2; 48 ... ♖f8 49 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 [*49 ... fxe5 50 ♖f7+ ♔h8 51 ♖xd7 ♖xf1 52 ♗xe5+*] 50 ♖xf6 ♘xc4 51 ♖xf8+ ♘xb2 52 ♖1f7 mate; 48 ... ♔h7 49 ♖xf6 ♘xf6 50 ♖xf6) **48 ... ♕e6 49 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 50 b4 axb4 51 ♖xb4 ♖a7 52 ♖b2** (better 52 ♖f2, 52 ♖f1) **52 ... ♖e8 53 ♖f1 ♔f7** (53 ... ♔g8! 54 a5 ♖xa5 55 ♖xb7 ♖xa3 ∓) **54 a5 ♔e6** (54 ... ♖xa5 55 ♖xb7 ♖xa3 56 ♘xe5+! ♖xe5 57 ♖xd7+) **55 ♗b4 ♗e3 56 ♖e2 ♗d4 57 ♔h3 ♖f8** (57 ... ♖ea8 58 ♖a2 f5!) **58 ♖c1 ♖aa8 59 ♔g2 ♖g8** (better 59 ... g5 60 hxg5 fxg5 61 ♖h1 ♖h8 ∓) **60 ♘e1 g5 61 ♘f3 gxh4 62 ♘xh4 ♖g4 63 ♘f5 ♖ag8 64 ♔h3 ♖8g5** (better 64 ... h4 65 gxh4 ♖f4 ∞) **65 ♖b1 ♖xe4 66 ♖xe4 ♖xf5 67 ♖e2 ♖f3 68 ♔g2! ♖d3 69**

♖d2 ♖e3 **70** ♖a2! (70 ... ♗xc5 71 ♗xc5 ♘xc5 72 ♖xb7!!) **70 ... f5** = (70 ... h4) **71** ♗e1 ♘xc5 **72** ♗f2 ♖b3! **73** ♖xb3 ♘xb3 **74** ♖a3 ♘c5 **75** ♗xd4 exd4 **76** ♖f3 d3 **77** ♔f2 ½-½ (Flohr)

And so this most difficult match was completed: Petrosian had retained his title of World Champion. One of his first interviews after the match was published in the newspaper *Soviet Sport*:

Could you explain, please, what exactly you are? You have always been regarded as a strict positional player, and a supreme master of defence. But now it would appear that many have 'discovered' in the World Champion a talent for combinations?

This is all very difficult to explain. If it is true that a player's style is his person, then everyone plays as he is intended to by nature. I am naturally cautious, and I altogether dislike situations which involve risk . . .

But – and here lies the paradox – I have never complained about my combinational vision! Although to many this seems strange, in general I consider that in chess everything rests on tactics. If one thinks of strategy as a block of marble, then tactics are the chisel with which a master operates, in creating works of chess art.

Perhaps it is a tactical mastery which makes me refrain from many combinations, since I find refutations for my opponents . . .

Yes, perhaps I do prefer defending to attacking, but who has shown that defence is a less dangerous and risky occupation than attack!? When a player is defending against an onslaught, is he not walking on the edge of the abyss? Does not such play require courage? And are there not a number of games which have entered the golden treasury of chess, thanks precisely to virtuoso defence?

Can you briefly formulate your chess credo? What do you value most in chess?

Logic! I am deeply convinced that, although chess remains a game, there is nothing accidental in it. This is my credo. I like only those games where I have played in accordance with the demands of the position. I believe only in logical, 'correct' play . . .

* * *

For many years Petrosian enjoyed a fruitful collaboration with Isaak Boleslavsky, who was his helper, trainer and second. Years later Petrosian was to write the preface to the book *Grandmaster Boleslavsky*, published in Moscow in 1981, including these warm words about Boleslavsky the trainer:

In 1959 I hesitantly approached Isaak Boleslavsky with a view to chess collaboration. A player of world class and a desirable helper for any player, he could have chosen any protégé he liked, and, frankly speaking, I was not only gladdened but also rather surprised that he agreed.

Top players who have taken on the role of trainer at a comparatively early age are few in number. Bondarevsky, Boleslavsky, Furman, Tolush . . . It is not easy to add to this list. People of different destinies in life, different personalities, different chess views. Each possessed an individual approach to the formulation and solving of those chess problems and non-chess problems which arise during a lengthy period of collaboration. Unfortunately, it has to be said that they all died young (who knows how many grey hairs they acquired during their protégés' appearances in

important events!) and took with them their trainers' "secrets". Once, in a conversation with me, Spassky mentioned certain exercises which Bondarevsky had devised specially for him. In the words of the Ex-World Champion: "This led to a kind of clearing of minds".

Remembering our joint work over a period of ten years, I was surprised to notice the following. On the one hand, my relations with Boleslavsky certainly brought enormous benefit, far beyond the bounds of the analysis of adjourned games and opening discussions. But at the same time there was a complete absence of any specific exercises. Our chess sessions, in which other players sometimes participated, took the form of a discussion. Each of us was free to put forward and defend his argument, which would sometimes be subjected to fairly fierce criticism by the other. I have never been accustomed to paying the greatest attention to opening knowledge. The habit of playing various lines, without fear of bad positions, gradually instilled in me a belief in the defensibility of difficult positions, and developed skill in playing them. And when, true to myself, during analysis I sometimes suggested a second-rate move, Boleslavsky would not even argue, let alone try to refute it. He would simply say: "To play like that there is no need to prepare", and the question would be considered closed. But from the side it must have been rather amusing to observe, when in the analysis of a serious problem we could not agree. We would both argue, although throughout the years there was essentially not a single occasion when our relations were spoiled by inevitable chess disagreements. Boleslavsky, as an embodiment of delicacy with regard to his protégé, and I out of sincere respect for him, always maintained a proper regard for the chess qualities of the other.

There were occasions when my viewpoint prevailed. Boleslavsky would be unable with variations to make me change my mind, and the question would be closed. Things would go on as normal. But it often happened that, a considerable time later at the start of one of our training sessions, before we had begun analyzing the agreed topic, my trainer would set out the pieces in the previous position and with Olympian calm, behind which one sensed the triumph of a man proving his case, he would show me what we had overlooked earlier.

Before the 1963 World Championship Match I was often asked by chess fans: "Who is your second, and how good is he?" I used to reply: "Boleslavsky is an excellent second and a devoted friend. If I should lose the match, he will not be to blame." But in all my successes achieved during the period of our joint work, the 'blame' attached to Isaak Boleslavsky is enormous, and I will always retain grateful memories of this remarkable chess player and person.

2nd Piatigorsky Cup
Santa Monica, July-August 1966

1 Spassky 11½; 2 Fischer 11; 3 Larsen 10; 4-5 Portisch, Unzicker 9½; 6-7 **Petrosian** (+3 –3 =12), Reshevsky 9; 8 Najdorf 8; 9 Ivkov 6½; 10 Donner 6.

(38) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 ♖c1 ♗b7 9 cxd5 ♘xd5 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 ♕a4 c5 13 ♕a3 ♖c8 14 ♗e2 (14 ♗b5)

14 ... ♘d7 15 0-0 ♕f8 16 dxc5 bxc5 17 ♖c2 ± ♕d6! 18 ♖fc1 ♕b6 19 ♘d2 ♖e8! 20 ♘b3 d4!! 21 ♘xc5 ♘xc5 22 ♖xc5 dxe3 23 fxe3 ♖e7 24 ♖b5 ♕xe3+ 25 ♕xe3 ♖xe3 26 ♖xb7 ♖xe2 27 ♖cc7 ♖d8 = 28 ♖d7 ♖c8 29 ♖bc7 ½-½ (Ivkov)

(39) Petrosian-Reshevsky
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3

This leads within a few moves to a position which has already occurred in several of my games. Usually I play 4 ♘f3 and only on 4 ... ♗b7 – 5 a3. The move order adopted here is perhaps more precise, since Black is altogether prevented from playing 4 ... ♗b4, which is possible after 4 ♘f3.

4 ... ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗b5+

One of the subtleties of this variation. The bishop goes to d3 in two moves, forcing Black to play ... c6, a move which he does not really need.

8 ... c6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 ♗d2 ♘d7 11 ♘xd5

It is interesting to note that in earlier games my opponents, and they included such strong grandmasters as Smyslov and Szabo, tried to avoid being left with a pawn on d5, blocking the diagonal of the bishop at b7.

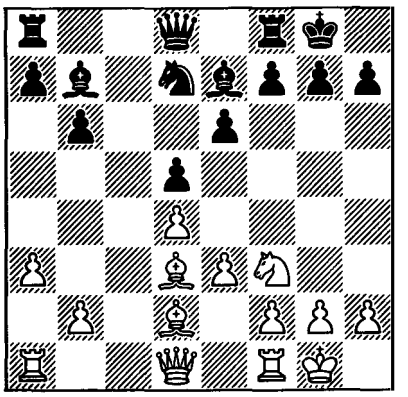
11 ... cxd5

On the capture with the other pawn I was intending to play 12 b4.

12 0-0 *(21)*

At first sight the position seems completely level. The pawn structure in the centre has been stabilized, and here it is difficult for either player to take the initiative. The only open file, which the two sides will naturally try to seize, is liable to become a base for the exchange of rooks. Even so, a more careful study of the position shows that White's chances are preferable. From b4 the dark-square bishops can be exchanged, after which a comparison of the bishops at d3 and b7 is clearly in White's favour. Black's queenside is slightly weakened, and his knight at d7 is practically forced to guard the e5 square . . .

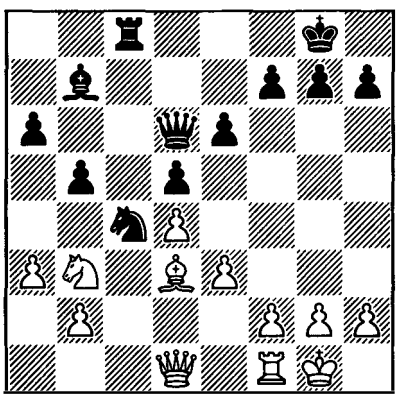
21



This suggests that White is entering the middlegame with serious hopes of an initiative.

12 ... ♗d6 13 ♕a4 a6 14 ♗b4 ♕e7 15 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 16 ♖ac1 ♖fc8 17 ♘d2 b5 18 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 19 ♕d1 ♘b6 20 ♘b3 ♘c4 *(22)*

22



21 ♕e2?

After this Reshevsky succeeds in equalizing by accurate play. After 21 ♘c5 Black would have faced a difficult problem: whether to take on b2, agreeing after 21 ... ♘xb2 22 ♗xh7+ ♔xh7 23 ♕c1+ ♔g8 24 ♕xb2 to remain with a bad bishop against a knight, or whether to allow White by ♕c1 and b2-b3 to drive the knight from c4. In fact it is possible that 21 ♕c1 is the strongest move in the given position.

21 ... ♗c6
22 ♘c5 a5!

Excellently played! When the black pawn reaches a4 it will be seen that, although the knight at c5 'looks' better, it is hardly superior to the knight at c4, which has also essentially become impregnable. After all, in the event of the exchange on c4 Black will have a good choice, depending on circumstances, between recapturing with the b-pawn (giving him the b-file and a weak pawn to attack on b2) and the d-pawn (giving him the h1-a8 diagonal).

23 h4?!

Annoyed by his inaccuracy on move 21, White tries to complicate the position. Black's correct reaction would have been 23 ... e5, intending the exchange on d4 followed by ... ♕f4.

23 ... a4 24 h5 h6 25 f4 f5

Grandmaster Reshevsky, as usual, was already short of time on the clock. It is no secret that, when their opponent is in time trouble, many players look for continuations which are objectively not the best, but which set the opponent difficult problems. Black's last two moves have offered White quite good prospects of an attack on the kingside, and 26 g4 suggests itself.

Now in the event of 26 ... fxg4 27 ♕xg4 ♘xe3 28 ♕g6 ♘xf1 29 ♗f5! the position looks dangerous for Black, but what can White do after 29 ... ♘g3? I also did not care for 27 ... ♗e8, when the exchange sacrifice on c5 is suddenly threatened.

Of course, I could have played 26 g4, hoping in the event of an unfavourable turn of events to be able to give perpetual check, or . . . for a blunder by my opponent in time trouble. But to turn chess into poker, relying on 'bluff', is not one of my convictions.

26 ♖f2 ♖f8 27 g3 ♕e7 28 ♖g2 ♗e8

Black has brought all his forces across to the the kingside, and the g3-g4 advance has no more chance of success than it had earlier. On 29 ♗xc4 dxc4 30 g4 there would have followed 30 ... ♗c6, with a very sharp game.

29 ♔f2 ♖f6 30 ♖h2 ♖f8 31 ♔e1 ♖f6 32 ♗b1 ♖f8 33 ♘d3 ♕c7 34 ♔f2 ♖f6 35 ♖h1 ♖f8 36 ♕e1 ♕d6 37 ♕c3 ♖f7 38 ♗a2 ♖c7 39 ♘c5 ♖e7 40 ♗b1 ♖c7 41 ♕b4 ♕e7

In this position the game was adjourned, and **agreed drawn** without resumption. Some 10-12 moves ago, with his pieces ideally placed, White was unable to find a plan, and analysis showed that now this was practically impossible.

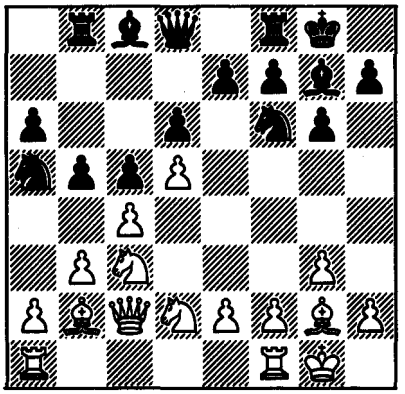
(40) Portisch-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 ♘c6 7 0-0 a6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 ♖b8 11 b3 b5 12 ♗b2 *(23)*

One of the basic positions in the modern interpretation of the King's Indian Defence. During recent years it has gained the reputation of being rather difficult for

Black, and in the present game Black fails to change this assessment.

23

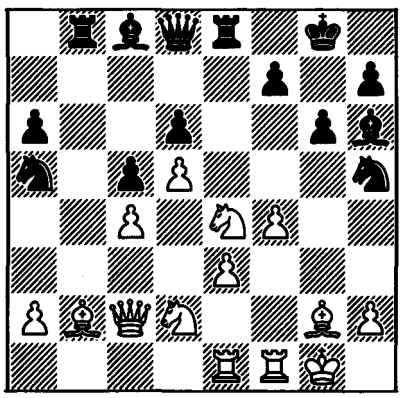


12 ... bxc4 13 bxc4 ♗h6 14 f4 e5 15 ♖ae1 exf4 16 gxf4 ♘h5

In the well-known game Botvinnik-Donner, played in 1960, in which 13 ... ♗h6 was first employed, Donner continued 16 ... ♖e8 here.

17 e3 ♖e8
18 ♘ce4! *(24)*

24



Grandmaster Portisch is famed as an expert on opening theory, and in this game he justifies his reputation. The strength of this move was pointed out by grandmaster Boleslavsky in his notes to the Botvinnik-Donner game, published in the 1958-59 Soviet Chess Yearbook.

18 ... ♗f5 19 ♗c3 ♘b7 20 ♕a4 a5

Black's position is already strategically lost. The knight at b7 is dismally placed, and has no chance of a better future. White controls the centre, and the threatened advance of his pawn mass hangs over Black like an inevitable Sword of Damocles.

Belatedly and with regret, it has to be said that playing a difficult strategic variation against a strong opponent is nowadays an impermissible luxury.

21 ♖b1 ♕e7 22 ♖fe1 ♗d7 23 ♕c2 ♗f5 24 ♕a4 ♔f8

Black avoids repeating moves, for the reason that on 24 ... ♗d7 Portisch would have played 25 ♕a3, which I considered the strongest continuation for White.

25 ♖b6 ♖bd8 26 ♕b3 ♗c8 27 ♘f1 ♖d7 28 ♘fg3!

Black could already have resigned here. The weakness at f6 has proved fatal.

28 ... ♘xg3 29 hxg3 ♗g7 30 ♕b2 f5 31 ♗xg7+ ♕xg7 32 ♘f6 Black resigns

(41) Petrosian-Ivkov
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♗g5

The variation with 5 ♗e2 and 6 ♗g5, which in general has a rather harmless reputation, sometimes flares up like a star of the first magnitude. For example, in this tournament it was this system of development which brought Najdorf success in his game with Fischer.

6 ... c5 7 d5 a6 8 a4 ♕a5 9 ♗d2 e6 10 ♘f3 exd5 11 cxd5 ♖e8 12 0-0 ♕c7 13 ♕c2 ♗g4 14 b3

A prophylactic move, directed against the possibility of a typical manoeuvre by Black: the exchange on f3 followed by ... c4 and ... ♘c5.

14 ... ♘bd7 15 h3 ♗xf3 16 ♗xf3 c4 17 b4 ♖e7

More in the spirit of the position was 17 ... ♘e5 18 ♗e2 ♘fd7, not worrying about the loss of a pawn after 19 f4 ♘d3 20 ♗xd3 cxd3 21 ♕xd3, when Black's active piece play compensates for his slight material deficit. 21 ... ♕b6+ 22 ♔h2 ♕d4 would be a possible continuation.

18 ♖fe1 ♖ae8 19 ♖ac1 h6 20 a5 ♕b8 21 ♕b1

By 20 a5 White has prevented Black from supporting his c4 pawn with his b-pawn, and now he hopes to take action against it.

21 ... ♔h8
22 ♘a4

After this move the game ends unexpectedly quickly.

22 ... ♘e5
23 ♗e2 ♘ed7

This White overlooked. Not only is the e4 pawn attacked, but ... ♘xd5 is also threatened. In the event of 24 f3 ♘xd5 25 ♗xc4 White retains slightly the better chances, but 24... ♕a7+ followed by 25... ♕f2 is extremely unpleasant for him, after which ... ♘h5 gives Black excellent prospects on the dark squares in the vicinity of the white king. And so . . .

24 ♗f3 ♘e5 25 ♗e2 ♘ed7 Draw Agreed

(42) Donner-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 e4 d6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e5 8 0-0

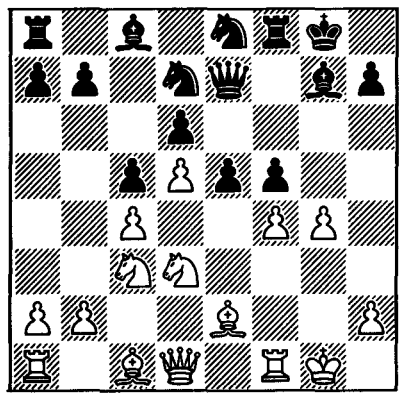
Donner is not attracted by the fashionable 8 ♗g5, although as yet it is not clear which plan is the most acceptable for Black.

8 ... ♘e8 9 ♘e1 f5 10 ♘d3 ♘d7 11 exf5 gxf5 12 f4 ♕e7

Normally f2-f4 provokes the immediate reaction from Black of advancing his pawn to e4. The move made by him is useful since, by not hurrying to decide the fate of the e5 pawn, he can, for example, answer 13 ♗e3 with 13 ... exf4, when White cannot recapture on f4 in the most favourable way – with his knight.

13 g4? *(25)*

25



Undoubtedly not only risky, but also, in the absence of any positional basis, a simply poor decision.

13 ... e4
14 ♘f2

To advance the pawn to e3 or not? This is the dilemma facing Black. I conceived and carried out a plan which involved exploiting the purely positional defects in White's idea. Normally in my games, when I have a choice between two continuations, one of which has unclear

consequences, although I sense that my chances will be more favourable, and another which leads to a clear and persistent advantage, I prefer clarity rather than complexity and risk.

14 ... ♗xc3!

As far as I am aware, such an exchange was first employed by me in a game with Bronstein from the 1956 Candidates Tournament. The basic aim of the move is to reduce to the minimum the activity of White's dark-square bishop, which now runs up against the pawns at c3 and f4.

15 bxc3 fxg4 16 ♘xg4 ♔h8 17 ♔h1?

17 f5 was essential. This pawn might have been lost, but on the other hand White's bishop would have become a genuine piece.

17 ... ♘g7 18 ♘e3 ♘f6 19 ♗d2 ♘g8 20 ♕e1 ♘h6 21 ♕g3 ♘gf5 22 ♕g5 ♗d7

Black does not object to an endgame, where his advantage would certainly be no less.

23 ♖ae1 ♖f6
24 ♘xf5 ♘xf5?

A blunder. After 24 ... ♗xf5 the threat of advancing the pawn followed by a check on e4, plus the possibility of occupying the g-file with the rooks and playing the bishop or knight to g4, would have given Black a decisive advantage.

25 ♖g1 ♕f8
26 ♗h5!

The only move, but more than sufficient, essentially paralyzing both black rooks. Neither 26 ... ♖g6 nor 26 ... ♖e8 is possible, and the e4 pawn suddenly proves to be undefendable.

Fortunately, Black's position is so good that even the loss of a pawn does not prevent him from achieving . . . a draw. Vexing. But there is nothing else to be done.

26 ... ♘g7 27 ♖xe4 ♘xh5 28 ♕xh5 ♖e8 29 ♖xe8 ♗xe8 30 ♕e2 ♗g6 31 ♖g3 ♕c8 32 ♔g2 ♕f5 33 ♖e3 ♖f8 34 h3 ♕c2

There is no point in taking the f4 pawn, if only because of 35 ♖e8.

35 ♗e1 Draw Agreed

(43) Petrosian-Unzicker
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 e3

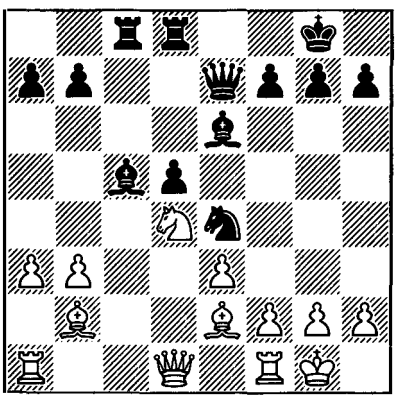
With regret, it has to be said that the days have passed when 5 e3 led to a relatively unexplored game. Now it is as well studied as 5 cxd5 ♘xd5.

5 ... ♘c6 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗e2 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 dxc5 ♗xc5 10 b3 ♗e6 11 ♗b2 ♕e7 12 a3

White considers it necessary to avert the possible exchange of dark-square bishops. 12 ♘b5 was more consistent.

12 ... ♖fd8 13 ♘b5 ♖ac8 14 ♘bd4 ♘xd4 15 ♘xd4 ♘e4 *(26)*

26



The chances are equal. White has the

d4 square for his pieces, but otherwise he has nothing to boast of, whereas all the black pieces are excellently placed.

16 ♗d3 ♗d6 17 ♕h5 h6 18 b4 ♘f6 19 ♕e2 ♗g4 20 ♕e1

Of course, after 20 f3 White need not have feared the weakness of his e3 pawn, but it would have deprived him of any chance of taking the initiative. It is this that explains such an awkward queen move.

20 ... ♗d7

Unzicker plays very cautiously. The natural 20 ... ♕e5 would have led to a sharpening of the struggle after 21 f4 followed by ♕g3.

21 h3 ♘e4 22 f4 ♖e8 23 ♖f3 ♕d8 24 ♘e2 ♗e7!

The correct plan. All White's hopes are associated with his bishop at b2, and so Unzicker hastens to oppose it with his own dark-square bishop.

25 ♖c1 ♗f6 26 ♖xc8 ♗xc8 27 ♕a1 ♕b6 28 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 29 ♘d4 ♗d7 30 ♔h2 ♕c7 31 ♘e2 ♕b6 32 ♘d4 ♕c7

Black does not hide the fact that he is happy to share the point. Although White has not even a hint of an advantage, he tries playing on.

33 ♕e1 ♖c8
34 ♘e2

Black has occupied the only open file, and for the moment White covers the possible invasion squares.

34 ... ♗a4

34 ... a6 came into consideration, intending a possible ... ♗b5. White might have regretted that not long before he declined the tacit offer of a draw.

35 ♗f5 ♗d7 36 ♗d3 ♗a4 37 ♗f5 ♗d7

Draw nevertheless **agreed**. Unzicker did not even try to exploit his advantageous situation.

(44) Larsen-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 g6 5 ♗e3 ♗g7 6 c4 ♘f6 7 ♘c3 ♘g4 8 ♕xg4 ♘xd4 9 ♕d1

All that has occurred up to here will be quite interesting for those uninitiated in the subtleties of modern opening play, but will not surprise the modern master. The resulting position is well studied and is rather difficult for Black. True, I have pleasant recollections of this variation: in the 1959 Candidates Tournament I succeeded in obtaining quite a good game against Keres.

9 ... ♘e6

That is how I played against Keres. Now, after the present game, 9 ... ♘c6 seems preferable to me, although it does not change the assessment of the variation.

10 ♕d2 d6 11 ♗e2 ♗d7 12 0-0 0-0 13 ♖ad1!

Larsen employs a very active deployment of his forces, which differs favourably from Keres's plan – ♖fd1, ♖ac1, f2-f3, b2-b3 etc, which is very secure, but does not set Black any great problems. For the moment 14 c5 is threatened.

13 ... ♗c6
14 ♘d5 ♖e8

Here I thought for rather a long time, since I was unable to find an acceptable plan. The exchange on d5, either immediately or after 14 ... ♘c5 15 ♕c2, would

have led to a very passive position. Therefore I decided on a prophylactic move, defending the e7 pawn just in case.

15 f4 ♘c7

I reluctantly made this extremely awkward move, after I saw that the planned 15 ... ♘c5 16 e5 ♘d7 17 exd6 ♗xd5 followed by ... exd6, with counterplay on the e-file plus a strong bishop at g7, was based on an oversight: 15 ... ♘c5 16 e5 ♘d7 17 ♘b4!, with an obvious advantage to White.

16 f5 ♘a6

The knight is aiming for d7, where it will be ideally placed, controlling the squares f6 and e5, which have become critical.

17 ♗g4

17 b4 ♘b8 18 b5 was strong, after which both 18 ... ♗xd5 19 ♕xd5 with the threats of 20 ♕xb7 and 20 fxg6 with an attack on f7, and 18 ... ♗d7 19 ♗g5 would have led to a dismal situation.

Larsen forces matters, which gives Black hopes of gaining counterchances.

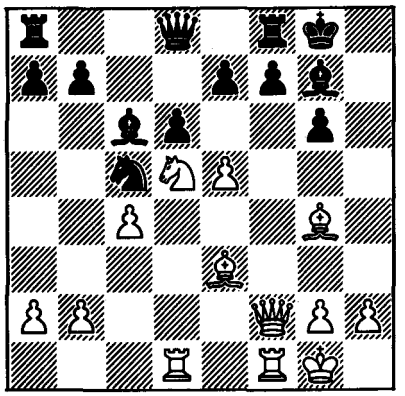
17 ... ♘c5
18 fxg6 hxg6

After 18 ... fxg6 19 ♗xc5 dxc5 20 ♗e6+ ♔h8 21 ♖f7 White would have retained the advantage, without resorting to any sacrifice of material. At this moment I became obsessed with the idea of enticing the opponent to 'come at me', i.e. allowing him to attack, so that, in the event of the attack not succeeding, he would lose his advantage.

19 ♕f2 ♖f8
20 e5 *(27)*

The variation 20 ♗xc5 dxc5 21 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 22 ♖xd8 ♖axd8, or 21 ♕xc5 ♗xd5

27



followed by ... ♕b6, did not especially worry me. And as for the situation which arose in the game after White's 22nd move, I foresaw this and did not consider it dangerous for me.

20 ... ♗xe5 21 ♕h4 ♗xd5 22 ♖xd5

If, 5-6 moves earlier, I had been told that there would soon come a moment when I would have a choice of several reasonable possibilities, I would hardly have believed it, and would have taken it to be a joke. Now I had to make a difficult choice, but this was relatively pleasant, bearing in mind how unpleasant the position had been for many moves.

The simplest, of course, was 22 ... e6. Now White can win two bishops for a rook – 23 ♕xd8 ♖fxd8 24 ♖xe5 dxe5 25 ♗xc5 – but Black's compact pawn mass combined with his control of the d-file allows him to consider that his position is not inferior. 22 ... ♘e4 was also possible.

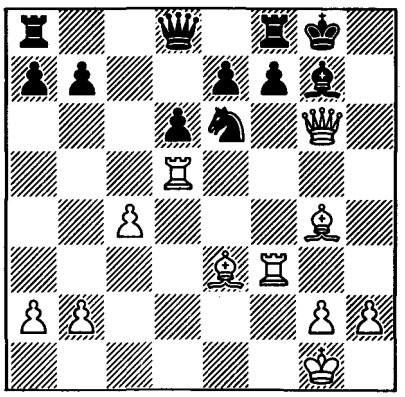
22 ... ♘e6
23 ♖f3 ♗f6??

After this White has a spectacular win. It was not yet too late for 23 ... f5 24 ♖h3 ♘g7, with hopes of a successful defence. After moving the bishop to f6, I noticed the danger, but it was too late. Only one

hope remained . . .

24 ♕h6 ♗g7
25 ♕xg6!! *(28)*

28



No. The hope was not destined to be realized. Larsen had seen this move, which, although in general not very complicated, is uncommonly beautiful.

I could already have resigned here, but the 'struggle' continued.

25 ... ♘f4 26 ♖xf4 fxg6 27 ♗e6+ ♖f7 28 ♖xf7 ♔h8 29 ♖g5 b5 30 ♖g3 Black resigns

(45) Petrosian-Najdorf
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 b4

In recent times such a fianchetto of the queen's bishop has become quite fashionable.

3 ... ♗g7 4 ♗b2 0-0 5 ♗g2 c6

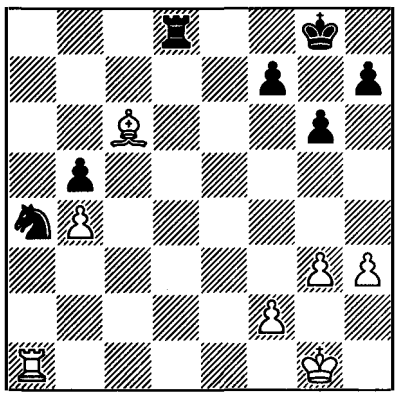
The simplest solution to the problems facing Black. A barrier is erected in front of the b-pawn, and it will come under attack by ... a5 and ... ♕b6.

6 0-0 a5 7 a3 axb4 8 axb4 ♖xa1 9 ♗xa1 ♕b6 10 c3 d5 11 d3 ♘bd7 12 ♘bd2 ♕c7 13 c4 e5 14 ♕c2 ♖e8 15 cxd5 ♘xd5 16 ♖b1 b5

A good move. The b4 pawn, which was ready to advance, is immobilized and may prove a target for attack.

17 e4 ♘5b6 18 ♘b3 ♕d6 19 ♘a5 ♘b8 20 h3 ♘a4 21 ♗f1 ♗d7 22 ♕d1 ♕e7 23 d4 exd4 24 ♘xd4 ♕xe4 25 ♗g2 ♕e7 26 ♘axc6 ♘xc6 27 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 28 ♗xc6 ♖d8 29 ♕e1 ♕xe1+ 30 ♖xe1 ♗xa1 31 ♖xa1 *(29)*

29



The game has taken a rather insipid course. A skirmish in the centre of the board has led to mass exchanges, and a draw seems about to be agreed.

Right from the start of the game Najdorf's peaceful intentions were obvious to me, and so I was not surprised when he offered a draw here. I declined, which considerably surprised my opponent, and he made his reply quickly.

31 ... ♖d4

Had Najdorf taken the trouble to think even a little longer, he would have seen the slight chance available to White. But he was firmly convinced that any move would draw, and he made one such move.

31 ... ♘c3 was one way to achieve a certain draw.

32 ♗xb5 ♘c3 33 ♖a8+ ♔g7 34 ♗e8

This is the point. b4-b5 is threatened, and after 35 ♖a7 the f7 pawn will be attacked.

34 ... ♖xb4 35 ♖a7 ♔f8 36 ♗xf7 ♖e4 37 ♗b3 ♖e7 38 ♖a8+ ♖e8 39 ♖a6 ♖e7 40 ♔g2 ♘e4 41 ♗c2 ♔g7 42 ♖c6 ♘f6

Strictly speaking, Black should be able to draw this ending without great difficulty.

43 ♖c5 ♘e8 44 ♗d1 ♘f6 45 h4 h6

If Black wanted to move this pawn, it would have been better to move it two squares.

46 ♗c2 ♘h7 47 g4 ♘f8 48 ♔g3 ♖a7 49 ♗e4 ♖e7 50 f3 ♖f7 51 ♗d5 ♖a7 52 ♔f4 ♖e7 53 ♖c6 ♖d7 54 ♔e4 ♖e7+ 55 ♔d4 ♖a7 56 ♔c5 ♖d7 57 ♖b6 ♖c7+ 58 ♔d4 ♖e7 59 f4

White has tried in vain to take his king up to the sixth rank, to create a possible threat of exchanging rooks, after which the poor position of the black knight might tell. After this has failed, he tries his last chance – bringing his f-pawn into the battle.

59 ... ♘h7
60 ♗e6 ♘f8

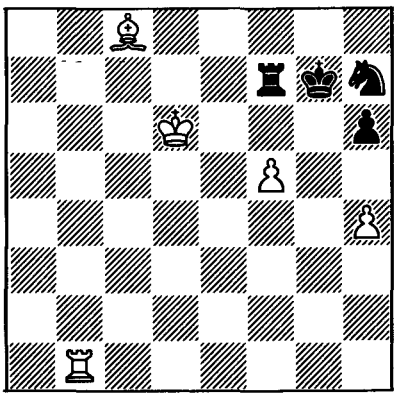
Black is firmly convinced that he has set up an impregnable fortress, but he is mistaken. Now that the advance of White's f-pawn has weakened his pawns, the active 60 ... ♘f6 would have been stronger.

61 ♗b3 ♘h7
62 ♗d5 ♖c7

Both here and later ... ♘f6 would have been good.

63 ♔e5 ♖e7+ 64 ♔d6 ♖a7 65 ♗e6 ♘f8 66 ♗c8 ♖f7 67 f5 gxf5 68 gxf5 ♘h7 69 ♖b1! *(30)*

30



White has achieved his optimum position. His king occupies its most favourable square, his f-pawn is a real force, and on the g-file there is a good base – the g6 square, from which his rook will attack the h6 pawn and support the advance of the passed pawn.

69 ... ♔f6
70 ♔d5

Since 70 ♖g1 is parried by the simple 70 ... ♖g7, White is now fully justified in manoeuvring unhurriedly, to strengthen his position to the maximum.

70 ... ♘f8 71 ♖b6+ ♔g7 72 ♔e5 ♖e7+

Black obviously fails to realize that his position is critical, otherwise he would have played 72 ... ♘d7+, pinning his hopes on the drawing tendencies of f- and h-pawns in a rook ending. But it should not be forgotten that this was his last move before the time control, usually not the best moment for the taking of heroic decisions.

73 ♔f4 ♖c7 74 ♗b7 ♖c5 75 ♗f3 ♖a5 76 h5!

This move, depriving the black pieces of the g6 square (after the advance of the f-pawn), essentially decides the game.

76 ... ♖a4+ 77 ♗e4 ♘h7 78 ♔e5 ♘f8 79 ♖b7+ ♔h8 80 ♖b8 ♖a5+ 81 ♗d5 ♔g7 82 f6+ ♔h7 83 ♖b7+

The stalemate after 83 ♖xf8 ♖xd5+ is too obvious for White to fall for it.

83 ... ♔b8 84 ♖c7 ♖b5 85 ♖c8 ♔h7 86 ♔d6 Black resigns

(46) Fischer-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 e6 5 ♘c3 ♕c7 6 ♗e3 ♘f6 7 ♗d3

Fischer had never employed this system of development before, and so to a certain extent the opening came as a surprise to me.

7 ... a6
8 0-0 ♘e5

A manoeuvre introduced by Suetin. Since the immediate 9 f4 ♘fg4 does not promise White any advantage, and the knight at e5 is quite well placed, he is essentially forced to spend a tempo securing control of the g4 square.

9 h3 b5 10 f4 ♘c4 11 ♗xc4 ♕xc4

Since the first days when the Paulsen Variation was revived, I have developed a rather sceptical attitude to it. Indeed, the modern way of handling it often leads to rapid activity by Black on the queenside, at the cost of a delay in the development of his kingside. It is hard to calculate how many times Black has lost on account of this. But again and again, by finding various tactical possibilities, the supporters of this variation have successfully upheld it. It is still not to my taste, but fashion is fashion, even in chess.

12 ♕d3 d5

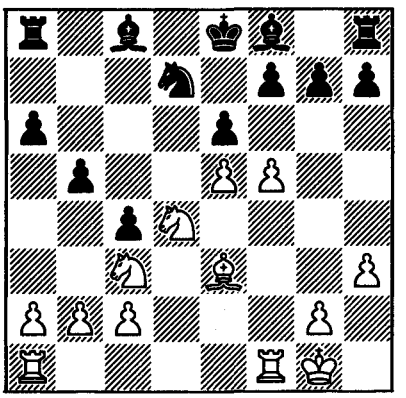
On 12 ... ♗b7 White has the unpleasant 13 a4 ♕xd3 14 cxd3 b4 15 ♘ce2 ♗e7 16 ♘b3!. It should also be mentioned that after 13 a4 ♘xe4 14 ♘xe4 ♕d5 15 axb5 Black's queenside is destroyed before he manages to exploit the h1-a8 diagonal.

13 e5 ♘d7
14 ♕xc4 dxc4

A glance at the position is sufficient to show that the basic defect of the variation – the delay in the development of the black pieces – remains. But White must act quickly and decisively, otherwise Black's pluses may tell, the most important of which may be his two bishops. A particularly brilliant future awaits the light-square one.

15 f5! *(31)*

31



15 ... ♘xe5

A committal decision, but probably correct. In the event of 15 ... ♘c5, by playing 16 ♖ad1 immediately or after first exchanging on e6, White would have developed very strong pressure 'for free'. Now, for the moment, Black at least has a pawn for his troubles.

16 fxe6

16 ♗f4 looks very strong. After the

game it transpired that my opponent had rejected it because of 16 ... f6, a move which did not appeal to me. I had been intending to play 16 ... ♘d7 17 fxe6 ♘f6. It is interesting that the seemingly deadly 17 ♘d5 is parried by the quiet move 17 ... e5.

16 ... ♗xe6 17 ♖ae1 ♘d7 18 ♘xe6 fxe6 19 ♗d4

Black appears to be lost. But the position still holds many defensive resources.

19 ... 0-0-0
20 ♖xe6

White's play is logical, whereas for a long time Black has been balancing on the edge of the abyss. Therefore Fischer took the e6 pawn without much thought, not without reason thinking it was the beginning of the end for the black army.

But, as I have already said, tactical tricks often come to Black's rescue in this variation, and here a curious piece skirmish occurs over the next 3-4 moves.

20 ... ♘c5
21 ♖c6+

If 21 ♖xf8, then 21 ... ♘xe6.

21 ... ♔b7 22 ♖xc5 ♖xd4 23 ♖cf5

This leads merely to the win of a pawn. But White has to be satisfied with this, since the plausible 23 ♖f7+ ♔b6 24 ♖c8 is parried by 24 ... ♗c5.

23 ... ♗d6 24 ♖f7+ ♔c6 25 ♖xg7 b4 26 ♘a4

From here to the end of the game the knight is tied to the edge of the board, but other moves would have been no better.

26 ... ♖d5
27 b3

White was obviously reckoning on 27 ... c3 28 ♖a7, but . . .

27 ... ♗e5! 28 ♖e7 c3 29 ♖e6+ ♗d6 30 ♖e4 ♖f8!

After the exchange of one pair of rooks the black king will feel safe, and White will still be playing essentially a piece down.

31 ♖xf8 ♗xf8 32 ♔f2 ♗d6 33 ♖e2 ♖f5+ 34 ♔e3 a5 35 ♖f2 ♖e5+ 36 ♔f3 ♖f5+ 37 ♔e2 ♖e5+ 38 ♔f1

Now the white king too is out of play. The position is a clear draw.

38 ... h5 39 ♖e2 ♖f5+ 40 ♖f2 Draw Agreed

(47) Spassky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9 ♘bd2 ♘c6 10 ♖d1 ♔e7 11 ♘b3 ♗b6 12 ♗d2 ♖d8 13 ♗c3 ♗d7 14 ♖ac1 ♗e8 15 h3 ♖xd1+ 16 ♖xd1 ♖d8 17 ♖xd8 ♔xd8 18 ♔f1 ♔e7 19 ♔e2 g6 20 ♘d4 ♘xd4 21 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 22 ♘xd4 ½-½

(48) Reshevsky-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 9 ♗d3 b6 10 a3 cxd4 11 exd4 ♗e7 12 ♖e1 ♗b7 13 ♗d2 a6

A new move. Black intends to expand with ... b5 followed by ... ♘b6. On 14 a4, preventing ... b5, 14 ... ♘b8 followed by ... ♘c6 can be suggested.

14 ♕e2 b5 15 ♖ad1 ♘b6 16 ♗g5 ♖c8 17 ♘e5 ♘bd5

After this the position quickly becomes

simplified. 17... ♖c7, intending a possible ... ♕a8, would have retained the tension.

18 ♘e4 ♘xe4 19 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 20 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 21 ♕xe4 ♕d5 22 ♕xd5 ♘xd5

Draw agreed, since after 23 ♘d3 ♖fd8 24 ♘c5 the strong position of White's knight compensates for his isolated d-pawn.

(49) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 ♖c1 ♘bd7 7 e3 c6

When, in our day, the Queen's Gambit occurs in a game between two strong opponents, it usually becomes clear that the player with Black has set himself the aim of not losing. Today the most reliable means of achieving this is considered to be the variation with ... h6 and ... b6, which was introduced by Tartakower but which became established thanks to the many years of theoretical searchings and practical employment by Bondarevsky and Makogonov.

In this game Portisch chooses perhaps the most classical line of the Queen's Gambit – the 'relieving' variation of the Orthodox Defence.

8 ♗d3 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 ♘d5 10 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 11 ♘e4 ♘5f6 12 ♘xf6+

Usually 11 ♘e4 is associated with 12 ♘g3 ♕b4+ 13 ♕d2, transposing into an ending which was subjected to such a detailed testing in the Alekhine-Capablanca match that in our day White does not even attempt to demonstrate the advantages of his position, which are fairly obvious: his extra pawn in the centre and more active light-square bishop ensure him a persistent initiative.

Capablanca demonstrated the viability of Black's position, but that was Capablanca!

In a game with Portisch, who relates very seriously to opening problems and who was obviously well familiar with all the subtleties of the games played by Capablanca with Black, I did not want to follow a well-studied path.

After brief thought, I came to the conclusion that the only move which could give the play even a slightly original character was the exchange on f6.

12 ... ♕xf6
13 0-0 e5

Given the modern level of chess technique, few would be surprised if some later game were to be agreed drawn here. Indeed, after

14 e4 exd4 15 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 16 ♘xd4

it is hard to imagine that continuing the struggle will promise either of the players success. But my experience shows that many games which end in a draw, without essentially managing to begin, are a result not only and not so much of the equality of the position, but mainly of the lack of fighting mood.

I consider the present game to be a typical example, first and foremost for myself. When the tournament position obliged me to aim for a win, the early simplification of the position was no hindrance to the creation of a more or less interesting endgame.

16 ... ♘e5 17 ♗b3 ♖d8 18 ♖fd1 ♗d7 19 ♖c5

19 f4 came into consideration. White carries out a different plan.

19 ... ♘g6 20 ♖c2 ♔f8 21 f3 ♔e8 22 ♔f2

♘f8 23 ♔e3 g6 24 f4

Over the last 7-8 moves White has achieved some significant successes. Though few in number, his minor pieces are actively placed (♗b3 and ♘d4) and exert rather unpleasant pressure on Black's position. His e- and f-pawns are lined up in a phalanx, and with the support of the pieces are ready to advance further.

Black's position has no real weaknesses, and Portisch defends patiently, aiming for the exchange of all four rooks.

24 ... ♔e7 25 h3 ♗e6 26 ♖cd2 ♗xb3 27 ♘xb3 ♖xd2 28 ♖xd2 b6

At the last moment Portisch avoids 28 ... ♖d8, but for no good reason. 29 ♘a5 ♖xd2 30 ♔xd2 ♘e6 31 ♔e3 ♘d8 would have led to further simplification.

29 ♘d4 ♖c8 30 e5 f6 31 exf6+ ♔xf6 32 g4 ♖e8+ 33 ♔f3 ♖d8 34 ♘b3 ♖xd2 35 ♘xd2 h6?

How many times has it been said that one should be cautious about advancing pawns, and yet every now and then in grandmaster games one comes across moves which are unnecessary and sometimes, as in the present case, harmful.

36 ♘e4+ ♔e6
37 ♘g3!

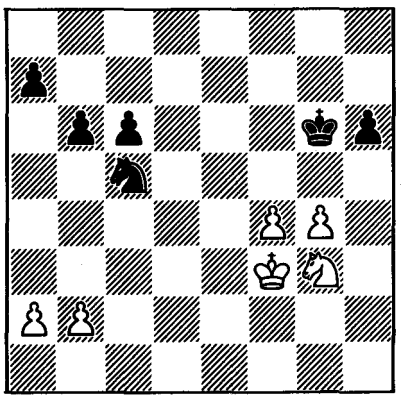
White makes use of the chance offered. He intends to deprive the f5 square of cover and to invade there with his knight, where it will have excellent prospects (the h6 pawn, and Black's queenside pawns at a distance of one check).

37 ... ♔f6
38 h4

38 f5 ♔g5! would have been incautious.

38 ... ♘e6 39 h5 ♘c5 40 hxg6 ♔xg6 *(32)*

32



Here the time control was reached, and I had to seal a move.

There was no great choice: 41 ♘e4 or 41 ♘f5. The first looks more attractive in view of the prospect of erecting a barrier in front of the black king along the sixth rank after 41 ♘e4 and 42 f5. But a simple analysis shows that this is unrealizable: the black knight attacks White's pawns, forcing his knight to withdraw to the defence, after which the black king acquires freedom.

I saw the variation 41 ♘f5 ♘d3 42 ♘e7+ ♔f6 43 ♘xc6 a5 (slightly better is *43 ... ♘xb2 44 ♘xa7*, with winning chances) 44 b4!. It may be asked: why then did I not seal the best move, if I saw it , and saw its advantages?

Alas! This is hard to explain. It is probably an indication of that notorious thing, poor form.

41 ♘e4 ♘d3 42 b3 ♘b4 43 ♘c3 ♔f6 44 ♔e4 ♘c2 45 ♘e2

An attempt to revive again the lost chance. Perhaps the knight is after all destined to reach f5?

45 ... ♘b4 46 a4 c5 47 ♘g3 ♔g6 48 ♘f5 ♘c6

The knight has reached f5, but White

can no longer profit from it.

49 ♘h4+ ♔f6 50 ♘f3 ♘b4 51 ♘e5 ♔e6 52 ♘c4 ♔f6 53 ♘d6 ♘c6 54 ♔d5 ♘e7+ 55 ♔e4

If 55 ♔c4, then simply 55 ... ♔e6 followed by 56 ... ♘c6.

55 ... ♔e6 56 ♘c4 ♘c6 57 g5 hxg5 58 fxg5 ♘b4 59 ♘e5 a6 60 g6 ♔f6 61 ♘d7+ ♔xg6 62 ♘xb6 ♔f7 63 ♘d5 a5!

The concluding finesse. After 64 ♘xb4 cxb4, when the white king heads for the a5 pawn, Black succeeds in reaching the b3 pawn in time.

64 ♘b6 ♔e6 65 ♘c4 ♘c6 66 ♔d3 ♔d7 67 ♔e3 ♔e7 68 ♔d3 ♔d7 69 ♘d2 ♘e5+ 70 ♔c3 ♔c7 71 ♘e4 ♔c6 Draw agreed

(50) Ivkov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 d6 10 ♕c2 f5 11 ♘e1 ♗xg2 12 ♘xg2 ♕d7

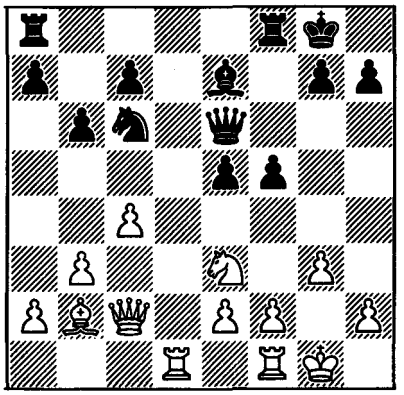
In this very common variation it is surprising, but true, that before the Ivkov-Najdorf game, played two rounds earlier, Black's last move had not occurred in practice. At any rate, Pachman's opening guide, which enjoys a respectable reputation, has nothing to say about it.

13 b3

Against Najdorf, Ivkov continued 13 ♖d1 and did not achieve anything. In the present game too, Ivkov fails to exploit the white pieces to gain an opening advantage. It seems to me that White can hope for an advantage only after 13 ♘f4, aiming at the e6 square, with the intention of answering 13 ... ♘c6 with 14 ♕a4.

13 ... ♘c6 14 ♗b2 e5 15 dxe5 dxe5 16 ♖ad1 ♕e6 17 ♘e3 *(33)*

33



With flexible pawns at e5 and f5, each of which is ready to advance at a convenient opportunity, together with the possibility of deploying comfortably all his pieces, Black can be happy with the outcome of the opening.

The advantages of White's position are: the possibility of occupying d5 with his knight, quite a good bishop, awaiting the chance to release its full power along the long diagonal, and the open d-file, allowing him to look to the future with confidence.

Neither side has any advantage to speak of, but nevertheless Black's position is more to my taste.

17 ... ♖f7 18 ♘d5 ♗c5 19 a3 a5 20 ♔g2 ♖e8 21 f3

The position seems to be full of life, but watch the slaughter of chess forces which occurs over the next few moves. The board will be cleared, and the game concluded.

One could, of course, criticise the two opponents for their rather insipid play. But what was there to do? By the prophylactic ♔g2 and f2-f3 White has nipped in the bud all Black's chances of a kingside

attack, and he intends to take the initiative by preparing b3-b4. Therefore the invasion of the black knight at d4 is natural.

21 ... ♘d4 22 ♗xd4 exd4 23 b4 axb4 24 axb4 ♕xe2+ 25 ♖f2

The most accurate reply, whereas after the natural 25 ♕xe2 ♖xe2+ 26 ♖f2 ♖xf2+ 27 ♔xf2 ♗f8 28 ♖xd4 Black could have exploited the position of king and rook on the same diagonal by 28 ... c5. I should also add that after the rook's withdrawal on move 29, Black could have taken on b4, when the b6 pawn would be immune because of the check on c5.

25 ... ♕xc2 26 ♖xc2 ♗f8 27 ♖xd4 c5 28 bxc5 ♗xc5 29 ♖d1 ♖a7 30 ♖b2 Draw agreed

(51) Petrosian-Donner
King's Indian Attack

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 e5 5 d3 ♘e7 6 ♘bd2 0-0 7 e4 c5 8 exd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘b3

This imparts an unusual character to the game.

9 ... ♘d7 10 ♖e1 ♖b8 11 ♘fd2 ♘c7

Donner adopts a very simple strategic course. He defends everything that is attacked or can be attacked, intending by ... b6 and ... ♗b7 to solve the problem of the development of his light-square bishop.

Here White faced a difficult problem: if he continues routinely with something like 12 a4 or 12 ♘c4, then Black will carry out his idea unhindered. 'In for a penny, in for a pound'. This saying is especially applicable to chess.

12 ♘a5

In this rather artificial way, for the moment White prevents ... b6.

12 ... ♘e6
13 ♘ac4 ♕c7

On 13 ... b6 there would have followed 14 ♘d6 ♗a6 15 a4, and if 15 ... ♕c7 or 15 ... ♕e7, then 16 ♘b5.

14 ♘e4 ♘b6

Here too on 14 ... b6 there would have followed 15 ♘ed6 ♗a6 16 a4 followed by ♘b5 with play on the queenside. It is interesting that on 14 ... b5 too there could have followed a knight expedition to d6, although this time by the other one: 14 ... b5 15 ♘cd6 ♗a6 16 a4, and if 16 ... f5 17 axb5 fxe4 18 ♖xa6!, when the knight at d6 is defended. Perhaps Black should in fact have gone in for this variation, in order to play ... b4 on move 16, after which White could have consoled himself with the hope of occupying c4 with his knight, since otherwise he has nothing to boast of.

15 ♘c3

From here the knight creates the threat of ♘b5, while simultaneously observing the d5 square.

15 ... ♗d7 16 a4 ♗c6 17 ♘b5 ♗xb5 18 axb5 ♘xc4 19 dxc4 b6

To Black's last four moves can be attached a single question mark, but one of solid dimensions. He has parted with his light-square bishop, and now White's king's bishop, which has been left without an opponent, not only has complete domination of the long diagonal, but is also ready at the necessary moment to break up Black's defences by tactical means. The immobilized pawn at a7, deep in the Dutch grandmaster's position, will come under siege – nothing can prevent White from setting up the required con-

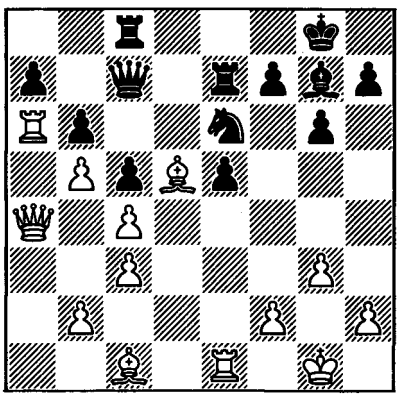
centration of heavy pieces on the a-file. Black has no way of opposing this, which suggests an incorrect assessment of the positional factors on the part of my opponent.

20 c3 ♖fe8 21 ♖a6 ♖e7 22 ♕a4 ♖c8

Black's defensive plan becomes clear: the queen will withdraw to b8, vacating its square to the queen's rook, and the problem of the a7 pawn's defence will be solved . . .

23 ♗d5! *(34)*

34



After this move the outcome of the game is essentially decided. If the knight moves, White will play ♗g5, gaining a decisive tempo for ♖a1, and Black will be unable to set up his planned defensive conception.

23 ... ♕b8
24 ♗xe6

It was not without a certain regret that I exchanged on e6. What if Black should play 24 ... ♖xe6, regarding the loss of the a7 pawn as the lesser evil?

24 ... fxe6

It is not so easy to voluntarily part with a pawn. But now the win for White is a question of choosing the correct plan, which consists of advancing the h-pawn, not only to break up Black's position on the kingside, but also to find 'common ground' with the bishop at g7. It is clear that, by exchanging bishops at the required moment, White can easily concentrate his attention on the black e-pawns.

25 ♕d1 ♖d8 26 ♕g4 ♖ee8 27 h4 ♖d7 28 h5 gxh5 29 ♕xh5 ♖f8 30 ♕g4 ♖f6

30 ... ♖f5 followed by ... h5 would have offered much better chances.

31 ♗e3 ♖g6 32 ♕e4 ♗f8 33 ♖aa1 ♗d6 34 ♖ed1 ♖gg7 35 ♖d2 ♗f8 36 ♖xd7 ♖xd7 37 ♕g4+ ♔f7 38 ♕h3 ♔f6 39 ♖f1

39 ♕h5 was simpler, intending by 40 ♗g5+ and 41 ♗h6+ to complete the plan of realizing the advantage. But just before the time control I suddenly felt the desire to attack the opponent's king by f2-f4.

39 ... ♕e8
40 ♕h4+

These last two moves are typical of my uncertain and somehow chaotic play throughout the tournament. Up to a certain moment I would follow the correct course, but then doubts would creep in, and I would often be deflected from the correct path.

Thus on this occasion too I deviated from the intended path and planned something else, but then changed my mind and returned to the original idea. Fortunately, my advantage was so great that this time nothing unexpected occurred.

40 ... ♔g7 41 ♗h6+ ♔g8 42 ♗xf8 ♔xf8

No better was 42 ... ♕xf8 43 ♕g4+ ♔f7 44 ♕h5+ ♔f6 45 ♖e1.

43 ♖e1 ♕f7 44 ♖xe5 ♕g6 45 ♔g2 ♕f7 46 ♖e4

It is not just a question of White being a pawn up. Black has a 'bad' king and two pawns weaknesses at e6 and h7. By combining threats to the king with possibilities of winning one of these pawns, White wins easily.

46 ... ♔e8 47 ♖f4 ♕e7 48 ♕h5+ ♔d8 49 ♕e5 ♔c8 50 ♕e4 ♔b8 51 ♖h4 ♕f7 52 ♖f4 ♕e7 53 ♕f3 ♕d6 54 ♖f8+ ♖d8 55 ♖f6

Black resigns, since on 55 ... ♖d7 there can follow 56 ♕e4 ♖e7 57 ♖f8+ ♔c7 58 ♕a8.

(52) Unzicker-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6

This popular system of defence, which has served Black faithfully for many years, is today experiencing a serious crisis. Both 6 ♗g5 and the quieter 6 ♗e2 are causing Black considerable trouble.

6 ♗e2 e5 7 ♘b3 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗e3 ♕c7 10 a4 ♗e6 11 a5 ♕c6

11 ... ♘bd7, which is better and more natural, is more often played.

12 ♗f3 ♖c8

Black delays the development of his queen's knight, first putting the c2 pawn under fire.

13 ♖e1!

This apparently modest move essentially refutes Black's plan. Since White's queen's rook will still find work on the a-file (its own pawn at a5, and after ... b5 – the black pawn at a6), the c2 pawn is defended by the other rook from e2, and the invasion of the knight at d5 is again put on the agenda.

13 ... ♘bd7
14 ♖e2 ♕c7

Signalling the retreat without any visible aim is always the first sure sign that a chess battle has been lost.

15 ♖d2 h6 16 ♗e2 ♘c5 17 f3 ♖d8 18 ♔h1 ♘e8 19 ♘xc5 dxc5 20 ♘d5 ♗xd5 21 ♖xd5 ♘f6 22 ♖xd8+ ♖xd8 23 ♕e1 Draw agreed

I have not made any comments on the last few moves, since they would essentially be superfluous. The concluding position is of a type known to be extremely unpleasant for Black. It was all the more surprising that my opponent should unexpectedly offer a draw, to which, of course, I was obliged to agree. A typical example of a draw from a position of strength.

Regarding the purely chess aspect of the position, I should mention that I did not consider the last move before the draw offer to be the best. Stronger was 23 ♕b1, planning 24 ♕a2 and ♗c4, when White has excellent winning chances.

(53) Petrosian-Larsen
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 e3 c6 7 ♘ge2 a5 8 b3 ♘a6 9 0-0 e5 10 ♗b2 ♖e8 11 a3

In the middlegame the drawbacks of this move will tell. But this requires clear-cut, concrete play on Black's part, qualities with which Larsen is richly endowed.

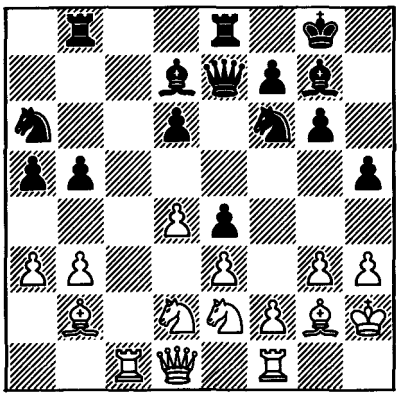
11 ... ♖b8 12 h3 h5 13 ♕c2

The basic difficulty which White experiences is the absence of any clear plan, whereas Black has the possibility of advancing his pawn to e4, with play on the

light squares, or of taking the initiative by ... b5.

13 ... ♗e6 14 ♔h2 ♕c7 15 ♖ac1 b5! 16 cxb5 cxb5 17 ♕d1 ♕e7 18 ♘b1 ♗d7 19 ♘d2 e4! *(35)*

35



Black has succeeded in carrying out both of the aforementioned strategic ideas. White's position is already so bad, that not only during the game, but also now, I find it difficult to offer any advice.

20 ♘f4 d5 21 ♕e2 ♕d6 22 ♖c2 ♖ec8 23 ♖fc1 ♖xc2 24 ♖xc2 h4 25 ♘f1 hxg3+ 26 fxg3 b4 27 a4 ♖c8!

Black is not at all concerned about exchanging the last pair of rooks. On the contrary, without them the advantages of his position are more clearly seen, the main one being the considerably greater activity of his minor pieces.

28 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8
29 h4

Of course, I now criticize myself for exchanging the light-square bishops, but during the game I was hoping for the possibility of regaining even a little space on the kingside by g3-g4.

29 ... ♘c7 30 ♗h3 ♗xh3 31 ♘xh3 ♗f8 32 ♔g2 ♕c6 33 ♕d1 ♗d6 34 ♘f2 ♘e6 35 ♗c1 ♘g7 36 ♗d2 ♘f5 37 ♔h3 ♕c8 38 ♔g2 ♔g7 39 ♘h1 ♘h6 40 ♗e1 ♕a6 41 ♘f2 ♘f5 42 ♕d2 ♗b8 43 ♘d1 ♘g4 44 ♔g1 f6

Black's overwhelming advantage allows him a whole array of possible continuations. After adjournment analysis Larsen settles for the advance of his pawn to g4, after which White is essentially stalemated and must submissively await the decisive blow.

45 ♔g2 g5 46 ♘f2 ♘gh6 47 hxg5 fxg5 48 ♘d1 ♔g6 49 ♘h2 g4 50 ♕c2 ♗d6 51 ♘f1 ♘g8 52 ♘h2 ♘f6 53 ♘f1 ♔h5 54 ♘h2 ♔g5 55 ♘f1 ♘h5 56 ♗f2 ♘f6 57 ♗e1 ♘h5 58 ♗f2 ♕a8 59 ♗e1 ♕h8 60 ♕c6 ♗xg3 61 ♗xg3 ♘hxg3 White resigns

A splendidly played game by Larsen.

(54) Najdorf-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 c5 4 d5 d6 5 ♘c3 ♗g7 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 ♘f3 ♘a6 8 0-0 ♘c7 9 a4 ♖b8 10 h3 b6

This move looks like a loss of time, but on 10 ... a6 there follows 11 a5. The idea of 10 ... b6 very much appealed to me after the game Petrosian-Filip, played at Zagreb 1965, in which the Czech grandmaster obtained an excellent game.

11 e4 a6 12 e5 ♘d7 13 exd6 exd6 14 ♗g5

After the natural 14 ... ♘f6 the position of the bishop at g5 does not promise White any advantage. But after prolonged thought I decided on a plan leading to more complicated play.

14 ... f6

The one obvious defect of this move – the weakening of the e6 square – is insignificant. White's minor pieces cannot

reach there, and against the invasion by a rook it is securely enough defended.

15 ♗f4 ♘e8

A necessary step in the plan of Black, who intends to transfer his knight to an excellent post at f7. The transit square e5 is 'mined', and certain precautions have to be observed before stepping onto it. On 15 ... ♘e5 I did not care for the exchange 16 ♘xe5 dxe5 (*16 ... fxe5* is possible, conceding to the opponent the e4 square and pinning all hopes on ... *b5*, but that is something quite different) 17 ♗e3 a5 18 f4, when White dictates matters.

16 h4

White prevents the possible advance of the g-pawn, and given the opportunity he intends to occupy the h3-c8 diagonal with his bishop.

16 ... ♘e5 17 ♘d2 ♘f7 18 ♖e1

The present game is extremely instructive in that, not only without making a single obvious mistake , but also by all the time making simply 'good moves', White has very quickly ended up in an unpromising situation. I think that this is a good example, demonstrating the importance in complicated modern variations of a clear-cut strategic plan of battle, taking account of tactical elements.

18 ... g5 19 hxg5 fxg5 20 ♗e3 ♘e5 21 ♘ce4 h6 22 ♖a3 ♘g4!

Normally in the King's Indian Defence, if one can succeed in exchanging White's queen's bishop for a knight, this is an achievement for Black. The present game is no exception.

23 ♕c1 ♖b7
24 ♗f3 ♖bf7

Black appears to be not altogether consistent in his plans, not only at the chess board, but also at the writing desk. A few lines above he was talking about the importance of White's queen's bishop, and now he allows the opponent to exchange his king's bishop for the knight at g4.

Despite everything, White does not stand so badly. After all, his secure control of the e4 square means something. And so, when by 24 ♗f3 Najdorf decided to hurry me into exchanging on e3, I gave him the opportunity to retain his dark-square bishop, but captured the other, which seemed to me to be even more important.

25 ♗xg4 ♗xg4
26 ♕b1 a5

The play is concentrated in the centre and on the kingside, and so Black blocks the queenside, so as not to have to reckon with the pawn breaks a4-a5 or b2-b4.

27 ♕c1 ♗e5

After this White finds a curious way of consolidating his position, and of Black's initiative practically nothing remains. More promising was 27 ... ♘f6 28 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 29 ♖b3 ♕g6 30 ♖xb6 ♕h5 with a very strong attack. True, White is not obliged to agree to this variation, and instead of taking on b6 he can play 30 ♔g2. But nevertheless, the exchange of one white knight and the transfer of the queen to the kingside was the correct plan for me.

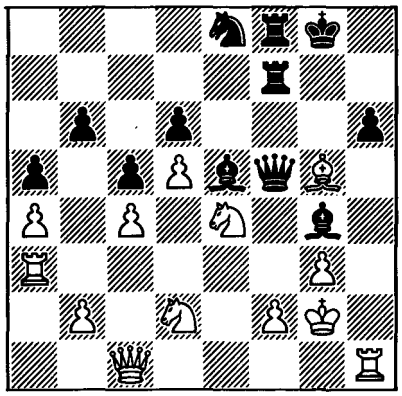
28 ♔g2 ♕d7
29 ♖h1 ♕f5

All seems to be well. 30 ♖xh6 loses a piece to 30 ... ♗f3+. This deadly check remains in force, and Black can calmly consider ... ♘f6 or, after ... ♕g6, the transfer of his knight via g7 to f5 or h5 ... Alas, how many seemingly good plans

have been unrealizable on account of some tactical blow.

30 ♗xg5! *(36)*

36



This is the whole point. The f3 square, which occupied an important place in my calculations, proves to be under the secure control of my opponent.

30 ... hxg5 31 f3 ♘f6 32 fxg4 ♕xg4 33 ♕d1 ♕xd1 34 ♖xd1 ♘xe4 35 ♘xe4 g4 36 ♖d2 ♗d4

Black's position is not at all better, but there is still plenty of play, and in time trouble the struggle continues.

37 ♖a1 ♖e7 38 ♘f2 ♖e3 39 ♘xg4 ♖b3 40 ♘h2 ♖b4 41 ♖e1

The time control had passed, and I sealed my next move. Of the three possible pawn captures my choice fell on the c4 pawn.

41 ... ♖xc4
42 ♖e6

A few hours later, when the game was resumed, the two players arrived after a brief adjournment analysis, which showed me that the game should end in a draw. In the main I had reckoned with 42 ♖e4. On the fourth rank the rook is very well placed, pinning the bishop at d4, which together with the rook at c4 at present comprises Black's main striking force. On 42 ... ♖xa4 there can follow 43 ♖g4+, when it transpires that the black king cannot head over to the queenside – 43 ... ♔f7 44 ♖f4+ ♔e7 45 ♖e2+. By bringing his knight into play via f3, White would have easily maintained the balance.

42 ... ♖xa4 43 ♖xd6 ♖b4 44 ♖c6 a4?

Black wrongly tries to be cunning. After 44 ... ♗xb2 45 d6 ♖d8 he would have had every chance of winning, whereas now the white knight comes to the rescue just in time.

45 d6 ♔f7 46 ♘f3 ♔e6 47 ♘xd4+ cxd4 48 d7+!

The d-pawn cannot be saved, and so it sells its life as dearly as possible, driving the black king onto the 7th rank.

48 ... ♔xd7 49 ♖h6 ♖f5 50 g4 ♖d5

Nothing is achieved by 50 ... ♖fb5 51 ♔f3 ♖xb2 52 ♖xd4+.

51 ♔f3 d3
52 ♖f6

Let us stop for a moment to assess the position. Black is a healthy pawn to the good. True, no clear way of realizing it is apparent, but White's defence is very difficult. An indication of the complexity of the problems facing the two players is the fact that, on each occasion that a time control was approaching, they were both short of time.

52 ... b5 53 ♖f4 ♖c4 54 ♖e4 ♔c6 55 ♔e3 ♖c2 56 g5 ♖c1

For Black to exchange the d3 pawn for the g5 pawn would mean resigning himself to a draw, since the ending with the a- and b-pawns against a pawn at b2 holds no chance of success.

57 ♖g4

A tempting move, since the rook occupies an ideal position behind the passed pawn, simultaneously not allowing the black king across the fourth rank. But 57 ♖d4 was better, getting rid of the d3 pawn.

57 ... ♖e1+ 58 ♔f2 ♖e8 59 g6 ♔c5 60 g7 ♖dd8 61 ♔f1

61 ♔f3 was better, to be able to rush forward, given the opportunity, to the g7 pawn.

61 ... b4 62 ♔f2 ♔b5 63 ♔f3 a3 64 bxa3?

White embarks on a path leading to defeat, whereas 64 b3 would have retained drawing chances. In this case an important role would have been played by the possibility of checks on the g-file, driving back the black king.

It should perhaps be mentioned that this game was played on a Saturday, at one o'clock on the Sunday the last round was due to begin, and this game had to be completed as soon as possible. When Najdorf made his 64th move, the time was two o'clock in the morning, circumstances which are by no means conducive to error-free play.

64 ... bxa3 65 ♔f2 ♖g8 66 ♔e3 ♖d7 67 ♖xd3

In the event of 67 ♖a2 there could have followed 67 ... d2 68 ♖xd2 ♖xd2 69 ♔xd2 a2 70 ♖g1 ♖xg7 71 ♖a1 ♖g2+ 72 ♔c3 ♔a4.

67 ... ♖xd3+ 68 ♔xd3 a2 69 ♖g1 ♖xg7 70 ♖a1 ♖g2 71 ♔c3 ♔a4!

The black king succeeds just in time in blocking the path of its white opponent.

72 ♖h1 ♔a3 73 ♖f1 ♖g8 74 ♖h1 ♖c8+ White resigns

(55) Petrosian-Fischer
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 0-0 d6 6 c4 ♘c6 7 ♘c3

By transposition one of the basic positions of the King's Indian Defence has been reached. Fischer's next move came as a surprise to me, since I had not seen any earlier game in which he played this.

7 ... ♗f5
8 h3

This is no worse than the usual 8 d5, but it does have the advantage of being relatively new.

8 ... e5 9 d5 ♘e7 10 ♘e1 ♗c8!

Typical of the modern understanding of chess strategy. After Black has played ... e5 and the centre has become stabilized, White wishes to carry out the standard plan with his knight at d3, from where it supports his pawn offensive on the queenside while simultaneously playing an important role in the struggle for the central squares. But why does Black withdraw an already developed piece to its initial position? After all, it would seem much better to retreat the bishop to d7, and link its position with some plan. But what plan?

Black's classical plan is to play ... f5. Obviously, the knight must first be moved from f6. But where to? In this lies the point of Black's last move. He could have played 10 ... ♗d7 followed by ... ♘e8 and ...f5. But King's Indian players know how important it is, with their queen's knight at e7, to be able to have some way of countering the influence of the knight at d3, and this is especially important if it is taken into account that White intends, given the opportunity, to turn his attention to the centre and to the kingside. This is why Fischer retreated his bishop to c8,

leaving the d7 square for his king's knight.

11 e4 ♘d7 12 ♘d3 f5 13 ♗d2 ♘f6 14 ♔h2 c6 15 f3

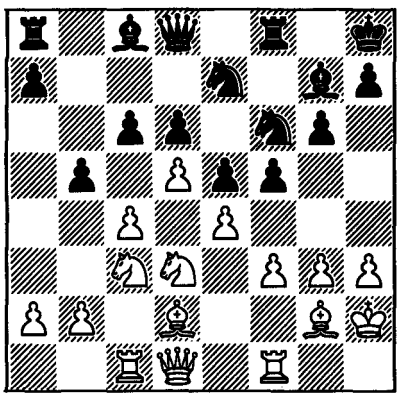
Black tries to break up, and White reinforces, the central pawn wedge e4/d5.

15 ... ♔h8

To be frank, I did not understand the idea behind this move.

16 ♖c1 b5?! *(37)*

37



This is the point! Black is not satisfied with having attacked the White centre by all usual means, ... f5 and ... c6. He includes an additional fighting unit. If now 17 b3, then 17 ... bxc4 18 bxc4 cxd5 19 cxd5 ♗a6! with an unpleasant pin. This once again demonstrates the far-sightedness of Black's plan, begun with the 'strange' move ... ♗c8.

The play has become very lively. In considering their next moves the two players must operate entirely with concrete variations.

17 cxb5 cxd5 18 exd5 ♘fxd5 19 ♘xd5 ♘xd5

Black's position looks most threatening – his central pawns constitute a great potential strength . . .

20 ♘b4!

But also a potential weakness. For example, if 20 ... ♘b6, then 21 ♘c6 and 22 ♗b4 is unpleasant.

20 ... ♗e6
21 ♘xd5 ♗xd5

It is apparent that, by attacking the black queen with his queen's bishop, White can 'create' opposite-colour bishops. This appears to favour him, since his queen ends up at d5, from where it cannot be driven away. And so, 22 ♗a5 ♕xa5 23 ♕xd5, but then comes 23 ... a6, while after 22 ♗g5 ♕xg5 23 ♕xd5 both the positionally logical 23 ... e4 and the sharper 23 ... f4 give Black excellent chances.

22 ♗b4 ♗xa2
23 ♖c6!

Nothing is achieved by the tempting 23 b3 ♕b6, when Black's counter on the b-file enables him to rescue his bishop.

23 ... ♗g8

Here not only is the bishop itself not very brilliantly placed, it also restricts its own king, but I find it hard to suggest a move which is much better.

24 ♗xd6 ♖e8 25 ♖e1 ♖c8 26 ♗b4

Black's position is close to being critical. He is almost immobilized. Exchanging on c6 is risky, e.g. 26 ... ♖xc6 27 bxc6 ♕b6 28 ♕d7 ♖d8 29 ♗e7, or 28 ... ♕xb4 29 ♕xe8 ♕xe1 30 c7. On 27 ... ♕c7 there follows 28 ♕d7 ♕xd7 29 cxd7 ♖d8 30 ♖d1 ♗e6 31 ♖d6 ♗xd7 32 ♗a5.

Fischer finds the best move.

26 ... ♖b8!
27 ♕xd8

Equivalent to the offer of a draw. 27

♕e2 would have led to much more interesting play, but I was not averse to concluding this tournament which had been so unfortunate for me.

27	**...**	**♖exd8**
28	**♗c3**	**e4**

Draw agreed. After 29 ♗xg7+ ♔xg7 30 ♖c7+ ♔h8 31 fxe4 fxe4 etc, the board will be completely empty within a few more moves.

In an interview after the Santa Monica Tournament, to the question "What was the reason for Petrosian's poor performance?" Spassky gave the following reply:

"I think it is not a difficult matter to find the cause of a succesful or unsuccessful performance. But is it always worth doing this? Every grandmaster has his ups and downs, his successes and failures. Often a failure in one event serves as a good spring-board for later successes.

Of course, Petrosian could have played much better. I think that the main reason for his failure was fatigue after the World Championship Match. This is yet another indication that the chess crown is not obtained easily!"

USSR Team Championship
Moscow, September-October 1966

Board 1, +2 –0 =8.

(56) Petrosian-Keres
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 g3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗g2 ♘c6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♘xd5 exd5 9 d4 0-0 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♗g5 f6 12 ♖c1 ♗b6 13 ♗f4 ♗e6 14 ♘e1 ♖e8 15 ♘d3 ♗f7 (15 ... ♗g4 16 ♘c5! ♗xe2 17 ♘xb7 ±;15 ... d4! 16 a3 ♗d5 =) **16 ♖e1 ♖c8 17 a3 ♕e7 18 ♗d2 d4 19 ♕a4 ♕d6 20 ♕b5 ♖ed8 21 a4 ♗e8! 22 ♕f5 ♘e7 23 ♕f4 ♕xf4 24 ♘xf4 ♗xa4 25 ♗xb7 ♖xc1 26 ♖xc1 ♔f7 27 ♗a6 ♗b3 28 ♗c4+ ♗xc4 29 ♖xc4 ♘g6 30 ♘d3 ♘e5 ½-½** (Yudovich)

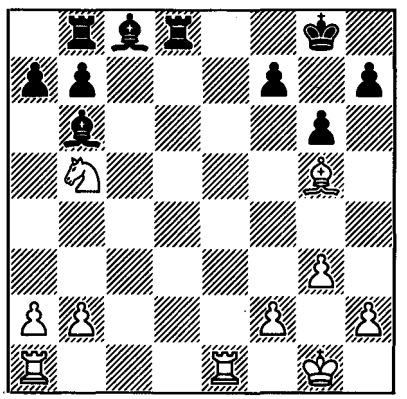
(57) Spassky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 e3 c6 8 ♗d3 0-0 9 0-0 ♘d7 10 ♕e2 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 e5 12 d5 cxd5 13 ♗xd5 ♘b6 14 ♗b3 ♕e7 15 ♘e4 ♗d7 16 ♖fd1 ♗c6 17 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 18 ♖d2 ♖ad8 19 ♖ad1 ♖xd2 20 ♖xd2 g6 21 h3 ♔g7 22 ♕d1 ½-½

(58) Petrosian-Geller
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 g3 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 c5 4 ♘c3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 e6 6 0-0 ♘ge7 7 e3 0-0 8 d4 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 d5 = 10 cxd5 ♘xd5 11 ♖e1 (11 ♘xd5 ♘xd4 =) **11 ... ♘xd4 12 exd4 ♕b6! 13 ♗xd5 exd5 14 ♘xd5 ♕xd4 15 ♕xd4 ♗xd4 16 ♘c7 ♖b8 17 ♘b5 ♗b6 18 ♗h6 ♖d8 19 ♗g5** *(38)*

38



19 ... f6! 20 ♗f4 (20 ♗xf6 ♗xf2+ 21

♔xf2 ♖f8 22 ♘xa7 ♖xf6+ 23 ♔g2 ♗d7 24 ♖e7 ♖f7 =) **20 ... ♖a8 21 ♘c7 ♗xc7 22 ♗xc7 ♖d7 23 ♗a5 b6 24 ♗c3 ♔f7 25 ♖ad1 ♖xd1 26 ♖xd1 ♗e6 27 a3 ♖c8 ½-½** (Yudovich)

(59) Chernikov-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 b6 7 ♗d3 ♗b7 8 ♘ge2 c5 9 0-0 e5 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♘d5 ♘c6 12 a3 ♘d7 13 ♕c2 ♖e8 14 ♖ab1 a5 15 ♕d2 ♖e6 16 ♗c2 ♗a6 17 ♗d3 ♖c8 18 ♖fc1 ♗f8 19 ♗g5 ♕e8 20 ♖c3 ♘d4 21 a4 ♔h8 22 ♘g3 ♗g7 23 b3 ♗b7 24 ♖cc1 ♖d6 25 ♖f1 ♘e6 26 ♗e3 ♕d8 27 ♖bd1 ♘b8 28 ♘e2 ♘c6 29 ♖b1 ♕d7 30 ♖fe1 ♖f8 31 ♗f2 ♕d8 32 ♔h1 ♖d7 33 ♔g1 ♘g5 34 ♕d1 f5 35 exf5 gxf5 36 ♗g3 ½-½

(60) Petrosian-Stein
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 d5 5 e3 0-0 6 c3 ♗f5 7 ♗e2 c6 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕b3 ♕b6 10 h3 ♖fe8 11 ♗f4 ♘e4 12 ♖ad1 ♕xb3 13 axb3 ½-½

(61) Tal-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 c4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗c4 ♘c6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♗f6 11 ♘e4 b6 12 a3 ♗b7 13 ♕d3 ♖c8 14 ♘fg5 ♗xg5 15 ♗xg5 f6 16 ♗d2 ♕d7 17 ♖ad1 ♘ce7 18 ♗a2 ♖fe8 19 ♗b1 ♘g6 20 ♕g3 f5 21 ♕d6 ♖cd8 22 ♕xd7 ♖xd7 23 ♘g5 ♖de7 24 ♗a2 h6 25 ♘f3 ♖c7 26 ♖c1 ♖xc1 27 ♖xc1 ♖c8 28 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 29 h4 ♗b7 ½-½

(62) Smyslov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d5 11 ♕a4 ♕d7 12 ♕xd7 ♘xd7 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♘f4 ♘f6 15 ♖d1 ♖fd8 16 ♗d2 ½-½

(63) Petrosian-Birbrager
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♘f6 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 ♗e7 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♗d3 ♘f8 8 ♘f3 ♘e6 9 ♗h4 g6 10 0-0 0-0 11 b4 a6 12 a4 c6 13 ♕b3 ♘g7 14 b5 axb5 15 axb5 ♗f5 16 ♘e5 ♗xd3 17 ♘xd3 ♘e6 18 ♘e5 g5 19 ♗g3 ♖xa1 20 ♖xa1 c5 21 dxc5 ♘xc5 22 ♕d1 ♘ce4 23 ♘e2 ♕b6 24 ♘d4 ♗c5 25 ♕d3 ♗xd4 26 exd4 ♖c8 27 f3 ♖c3 28 ♕d1 ♘xg3 29 hxg3 h6 30 ♕a4 ♖c8 31 ♔h2 ♕d6 32 ♕a7 ♕c7 33 b6 ♕e7 34 ♖e1 ♖c3 35 ♕b8+ ♔g7 36 ♖a1 ♘e8 37 ♖a8 f6 38 ♕xe8 ♕xe8 39 ♖xe8 fxe5 40 ♖xe5 ♔f6 41 ♖xd5 ♖c6 42 ♖b5 ♖c4 43 ♖d5 ♖c6 44 ♔h3 ♖xb6 45 ♔g4 ♖b2 46 ♖d6+ ♔g7 47 ♔f5 ♖xg2 48 g4 ♖f2 49 ♖d7+ ♔f8 50 ♔g6 ♖xf3 51 ♔xh6 b5 52 ♔xg5 b4 53 ♖b7 b3 54 ♔g6 ♔e8 55 g5 ♔d8 56 ♔h5 ♔e8 57 g6 1-0

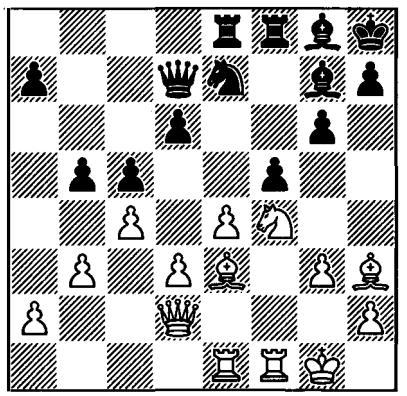
(64) Petrosian-Lutikov
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 c5 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♕c2 ♘c6 9 ♖d1 ♕a5 10 a3 ♖d8 11 ♘d2 d4 12 ♘b3 ♕b6 13 ♘a4 ♗b4+ 14 ♔e2 ♕a6 15 ♘xd4 ♗e7 16 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 17 ♖xd8+ ♗xd8 18 ♔d1 b6 19 ♘c3 ♗a6 20 ♕a4 ♕xa4 21 ♘xa4 ♖c8 22 ♘c3 ½-½

(65) Botvinnik-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 g3 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 d6 4 ♘c3 e5 5 d3 ♘e7 6 e4 0-0 7 ♘ge2 ♘bc6 8 0-0 f5 9 ♘d5 ♔h8 10 ♗e3 ♗e6 11 ♕d2 ♕d7 12 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 13 f4! exf4 14 ♘exf4 ♗g8 15 ♘xe7 ♘xe7 16 ♗h3 ± b5 17 b3 c5 *(39)*

39



18 d4 ♕c6 19 cxb5 ♕xb5 20 dxc5 dxc5 21 ♖c1 ♖d8 22 ♕e2 ♕xe2 23 ♘xe2 c4 24 bxc4 ♘c6 25 ♗g5 fxe4 26 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 27 ♗g2 ♘d4 28 ♘xd4 ♗xd4+ 29 ♔h1 e3 30 ♖fe1 ♗c5 31 ♗f3 ♗e6 32 ♔g2 ♖d2+ 33 ♖e2 ♗f5 34 ♖c3? ♗e4! 0-1 (Yudovich)

17th World Chess Olympiad
Havana, October-November 1966

Board 1, +10 –0 =3.

At the Olympiad in Havana Petrosian achieved a phenomenal result, not losing a single game and in 13 encounters gaining 10 victories! This is what fellow team member Lyev Polugayevsky had to say:

"Tigran Petrosian was in excellent form. In the World Champion's play there was nothing to recall his famed peaceableness. Despite the most difficult task, which always faces the leader of the team, Petrosian strove to contribute no less than the other participants to the overall victory. And he succeeded. He played energetically and confidently."

And this is what Petrosian himself said in an interview after the Olympiad:

"To be honest, I set off to the 17th Olympiad in a dejected frame of mind. The never-ending stream of events had unsettled me. The match with Spassky, then, almost immediately, the difficult tournament in Santa Monica (the result of which, as is known, did not bring me any cheer), and before the Olympiad itself – the USSR Team Championship, with several top grandmasters competing on top board.

Until our Chess Federation comes up with a more sensible calendar, and as long as participation in the endless competitive race is virtually obligatory, it has to be considered how best to maintain one's form for the most important events. Enemy No.1 is chess fatigue, the result of which is routine thinking. And so, in order to force my mind to work, in certain games I deliberately went in for positions uncharacteristic of my chess views. One such game at the Olympiad was my meeting with the leader of the Swedish team, M.Johansson."

(66) Petrosian-Johansson
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗e2

"A cautious move, typical of Petrosian's style", many commentators would explain. Indeed, 6 ♗g5 is considered 'fashionable'. But the variations resulting after this have been so well analyzed that playing strength is of no significance, and the game is transformed into a competition for the

better memory. It is this that explains the choice of 6 ♗e2.

6 ... e6 7 f4 ♘c6 8 ♗e3 ♕c7 9 0-0 ♗d7 10 ♘b3

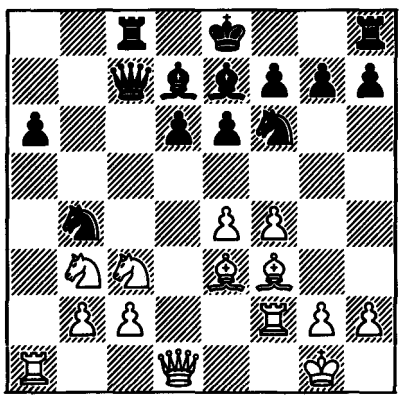
One of the best replies to the Scheveningen set-up chosen by Black is deemed to be 10 ♕e1. By contrast, 10 ♘b3 is not considered dangerous. As the reader will see, this assessment is unfair . . .

10 ... b5 11 a3 ♗e7 12 ♖f2

White's plan is a kingside pawn storm. But Black has not yet castled, and after ... 0-0 the advance g2-g4 gains significantly in strength. So for the moment White makes a useful move. The rook may come in handy for the defence of c2, and, depending on circumstances, it can later go to d2 or can support the advance of the g-pawn from g2.

12 ... b4 13 axb4 ♘xb4 14 ♗f3 ♖c8 (15 e5 was threatened) *(40)*

40



15 g4 h6

This move was made by my opponent after prolonged thought. Of course, it does not solve Black's defensive problems, but what else can be suggested? Perhaps castling? No, this should have been done earlier. It has to be admitted that Black is already in difficulties . . .

16 g5 hxg5
17 fxg5 ♘h7

Now 18 ♕d4 looks tempting, attacking the knight and the pawn at g7. But after 18 ... ♗xg5 19 ♗xg5 ♘xg5 a check at h3 is threatened. If, for example, 20 ♕xb4, then 20 ... ♘h3+ 21 ♔g2 ♘xf2 22 ♔xf2 ♖xh2+ and Black has serious counterplay. On 20 ♕xg7 there would probably have followed 20 ... ♘h3+ 21 ♔g2 ♔e7 or 21 ♔f1 ♔e7 22 ♗g4 ♘xf2. If instead the bishop is retreated to g2, defending the h3 square (20 ♗g2), then 20 ... d5. True, after 21 ♕xb4 ♕xh2+ 22 ♔f1 ♘h3 White could have tried to parry the attack and retain his material advantage, if . . . there had not been a simpler alternative!

18 ♕d2 ♘f8

The relatively best decision was nevertheless to castle. But Black had avoided it in the opening, and I could assume, now that his position on the kingside was compromised, that my opponent would prefer another move.

After 18 ... 0-0 Black would have removed his king to a relatively safe place (for White to switch his heavy pieces to the h-file or to attack h7 is not so simple) and would have retained defensive resources. But now the pieces bunched around his king are unable to organize a defence.

19 ♕d4

In contrast to the variation analyzed in the note to Black's 17th move, the g5 pawn is no longer en prise, and the double attack on the knight at b4 and the g7 pawn quickly decides the outcome.

19 ... ♘c6 20 ♕xg7 ♖h7 21 ♕g8

This may seem to be a committal

decision – the queen is cut off in enemy territory. However, the point is that Black is not able to exploit this, and moreover he has no defence against the attack on f7. An amusing illustration of the strength of White's position is provided by the following variation: 21 ... ♗d8 22 ♖af1 (*22 g6 fxg6 23 ♗h5* is of course the simplest) 22 ... ♘e7 23 ♕xh7! ♘xh7 24 ♗h5, and despite his extra queen Black is helpless.

21 ... ♘e5
22 ♗e2

Unexpectedly, misfortune strikes Black from the other side.

22 ... ♗c6 23 ♖xa6 ♖a8 24 ♖xc6! ♘xc6 25 ♗b5

A 'quiet' move, after which there is no defence against the two threats of 26 ♘d4 and 26 g6. Therefore **Black resigned.**

Apart from 18 ... ♘f8, Black did not make any direct mistakes, and yet he lost quickly. The point is that the opening set-up chosen by him has, not by accident, a poor reputation. Such variations are usually employed when one has found some new possibilities, or a new plan. In the present game this was not the case. Black was unable to obtain any counterplay on the queenside or in the centre, and the passive placing of his forces allowed White to build up a dangerous attack. And one more thing. I am coming to the conclusion that 1 e4 is not such a bad move. Opening with the queen's pawn, it is not often that one succeeds in winning by the early middlegame . . .

(67) Casa-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 f4 ♕b6 8 ♕d2 ♕xb2 9 ♖b1 ♕a3 10 ♗e2 b5 11 f5 ♕c5 12 ♗e3 ♕c7 13 ♘d5 ♘xd5 14 exd5 g6 15 0-0 ♗g7 16 a4 bxa4 17 ♘c6 ♘e5 18 fxg6 hxg6 19 ♗b6 ♕d7 20 ♕f4 0-0 21 ♗d4 a3 22 c4 ♘xc6 23 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 24 dxc6 ♕xc6 25 ♕d4+ e5 26 ♕h4 f5 27 ♖fd1 ♖a7 28 ♕g5 f4 29 h4 ♗f5 30 ♖a1 ♖af7 31 ♔h2 ♕c5 32 ♖a2 ♖b8 33 ♖ad2 ♕f2 34 ♗d3 ♕g3+ 35 ♕xg3 fxg3+ 36 ♔xg3 ♖b3 37 ♔h2 ♖xd3 38 ♖xd3 ♗xd3 39 ♖xd3 a2 40 ♖a3 ♖f4 0-1

(68) Naranja-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 g3 ♘f6 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 ♘f3 c6 7 0-0 ♕a5 8 a3 ♕h5 9 h4 ♕a5 10 e4 ♘g4 11 b4 ♕c7 12 ♗b2 ♘d7 13 ♕e2 e5 14 ♖ad1 ♖e8 15 d5 c5 16 ♖b1 b6 17 ♘b5 ♕b8 18 ♘d2 ♘gf6 19 ♗c1 ♗h6 20 ♘b3 ♗xc1 21 ♖fxc1 ♗a6 22 bxc5 ♗xb5 23 cxb5 ♘xc5 24 ♘xc5 dxc5 25 ♕f3 ♕d6 26 ♗f1 ♕e7 27 ♗c4 ♖f8 28 ♖c3 ♘e8 29 h5 ♘d6 30 hxg6 hxg6 31 ♕g4 ♔g7 32 ♗f1 ♖h8 33 a4 ♖h5 34 ♗g2 ♖ah8 35 ♖e1 ♖h2 36 ♖cc1 ♖8h6 37 f4 c4 38 ♕f3 g5 39 ♕g4 ♖6h5 40 ♖e3 exf4 41 ♖e2 ♕e5 42 ♖ce1 ♔f8 43 ♖f1 0-1

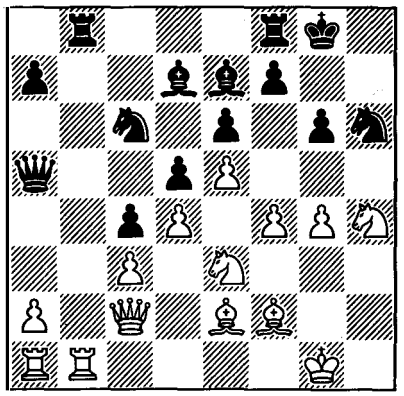
(69) Petrosian-Alvarez
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♘c6 14 ♘b3 a5 15 ♗e3 a4 16 ♘bd2 ♗e6 17 ♗b1 (17 a3!? ♘a5 ∞) **17 ... ♘a5 18 ♘g5 ♗d7 = 19 f4 a3! 20 bxa3 ♘c4 21 ♘xc4 bxc4 22 ♗c2?!** (22 ♘f3!? ∞) **22 ... ♖xa3 23 ♗c1 ♖a5 24 ♔h1 ♖fa8 ∓ ½-½** (Parma)

(70) Petrosian-Bhend
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 g6 4 f4 ♗g7 5 e5 c5 6 c3 ♘c6 7 ♘b3 b6 8 ♗e2 e6 9 ♗e3 h5 10 ♘f3 ♘h6 11 ♗f2 ♘f5 12 d4 c4 13 ♘bd2 b5 14 0-0 ♗d7 15 ♕c2 ♗f8 16 b3 ♗e7 17 ♖fb1 0-0 18 ♘f1 ♕c7 19 bxc4 bxc4 20 h3 ♖ab8 21 g4 hxg4 22 hxg4 ♘h6 23 ♘e3 ♕a5 24 ♘h4 *(41)*

41



24 ... ♗a3 25 ♗d1 ♘e7 26 ♘f3 ♔g7 27 ♗e1 ♕c7 28 ♗h4 ♘hg8 29 ♕h2 f6 30 f5 fxe5 31 ♗g3 ♘c6 32 fxe6 ♗xe6 33 ♘g5 ♗f7 34 ♘xd5 1-0

(71) Petrosian-Jimenez
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 e3 ♗g7 5 d4 cxd4 6 exd4 ♘f6 7 d5 ♘b8 8 d6 0-0 9 dxe7 ♕xe7+ 10 ♗e2 d6 11 ♗g5 ♗e6 12 0-0 h6 13 ♗f4 ♖d8 14 ♘d4 ♘c6 15 ♘xe6 ♕xe6 16 ♘d5 ♖ac8 17 ♗e3 ♘e5 18 ♖c1 b6 19 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 20 ♕d2 ♕e6 21 b3 ♔h7 22 ♖cd1 ♗f8 23 h3 ♖e8 24 ♖fe1 f5 25 f4 ♘d7 26 ♗f3 ♕f6 27 ♗d4 ♕h4 28 ♔h2 ♘c5 29 ♗b2 ♘e4 30 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 31 ♖xe4 fxe4 32 g3 ♕e7 33 ♕d4 ♗g7 34 ♕xg7+ ♕xg7 35 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 36 a4 d5 37 ♖xd5 ♖e8 38 ♔g2 e3 39 ♖e5 ♖xe5 40 fxe5 ♔f7 41 ♔f3 ♔e6 42 ♔xe3 ♔xe5 43 b4 1-0

(72) Larsen-Petrosian
French Defence
(notes by Boleslavsky)

1 e4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 ♘c3

Grandmaster Larsen has this unusual way of playing against the French Defence, although it is not clear what advantage the early development of the knight has over the usual advance of the d-pawn.

3 ... ♘f6

Also possible is 3 ... d4 4 ♘e2 c5 5 c3 ♘c6 6 cxd4 cxd4 7 ♘g3 a6 with a good position for Black.

4 exd5 exd5
5 d4

Such opening play should not lead to an advantage, and for Larsen it is especially risky to choose simple positions.

5 ... c6

Very passive. Black develops his forces such as to allow White's pieces to become too active and his knight to become established at e5. Better was 5 ... ♗b4 6 ♗d3 0-0 7 0-0 ♗g4, after which Black has no difficulties.

6 ♗d3 ♗d6 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♘e2!

On 8 ♘e5 there could have followed 8 ... ♘bd7 9 ♗f4 (*9 f4 ♕b6*) 9 ... ♕c7, when White must agree to the exchange of his knight at e5. From e2 the white knight is aiming for f5, and it is not easy for Black to counter this plan.

8 ... ♖e8
9 ♘g3 ♘bd7

Of course, 9 ... g6 is bad here because of 10 ♗g5, immediately emphasizing the weakness of the dark squares.

10 ♘f5 ♘f8

On general grounds it would have made sense to retreat the dark-square bishop, although Black's position would have remained under threat. The game continuation is refuted by White's 13th move.

11 ♘xd6 ♕xd6
12 ♘e5 ♘6d7

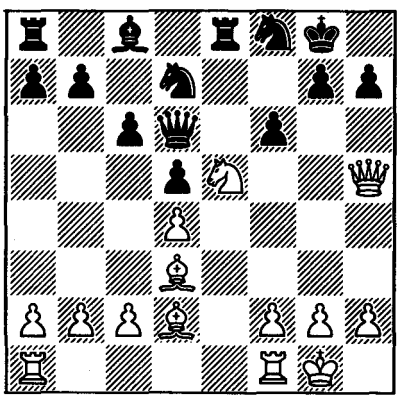
It was for this position that Black was aiming when he made his 10th move. What should White do? To exchange on d7 would favour Black, 13 f4 is undesirable because of 13 ... ♘f6 followed by ... ♘e4, and on 13 ♗f4 there follows 13 ... ♘xe5! 14 dxe5 ♕b4! or 14 ♗xe5 ♕h6, which promises White little. Larsen finds a very strong continuation.

13 ♗d2! f6

After 13 ... ♘xe5 14 dxe5 this pawn is immune: 14 ... ♕xe5 is bad in view of 15 ♖e1, as is 14 ... ♖xe5 15 ♗f4. In making his last move, Black was hoping to eliminate the knight established in the centre, but an unpleasant surprise awaited him.

14 ♕h5! *(42)*

42



With the double threat of 15 ♕xe8 and 15 ♕f7+. The normal continuation here would be 14 ... g6 or 14 ... ♖e7, on which the following variations are possible:

a) 14 ... g6 15 ♗xg6 hxg6 16 ♘xg6, when both 16 ... ♘xg6? 17 ♕xg6+ ♔f8 18 ♗h6+ ♔e7 19 ♖e1+ and 16 ... ♘b6 17 f4! with the very unpleasant threat of 18 ♖f3! are rather bad for Black. On the strongest 16 ... ♖e7 there could follow 17 ♗f4 ♕e6 18 ♘xe7+ ♕xe7 19 ♖fe1 ♕f7 20 ♕h6, when Black's drawing chances are slim.

b) 14 ... ♖e7. After this events do not develop so swiftly: 15 ♘f3 ♘b6 16 a3 a5 17 ♖ae1 ♗e6 18 ♘h4 g6 19 ♕h6 with a persistent initiative.

14 ... ♖xe5!

This exchange sacrifice is the best chance.

15 dxe5 fxe5

The position has changed sharply. By sacrificing the exchange, Black has practically deprived his opponent of any attacking chances. The Danish grandmaster should have sensed the change in the situation and begun play against the e5 pawn. This aim would have been assisted by 16 f3, after which Black's centre would have been in danger.

A similar method of play in an analogous situation was employed by Spassky in one of the games from the 1966 World Championship Match.

16 ♖fe1 e4 17 ♗f1 ♘f6 18 ♕h4 ♗f5 19 ♕g3 ♕e7

Black must avoid the exchange of queens, so as not to give the opponent the chance to exploit his slight material advantage.

20 c3 ♘e6
21 ♗e3

White agrees to the exchange of his dark-square bishop, a decision which must be criticized, since this bishop was

playing an active role in the battle with the opponent's pawns. 21 ♕e5 or 21 h3 would have been better.

21 ... ♘g4 22 h3 ♘xe3 23 ♖xe3 ♖f8

The last few moves have worsened White's position, and Larsen now has difficult problems to solve. The dark-square bishop has been exchanged, and for the moment the light-square bishop has no particular prospects.

24 ♕e5 ♗g6 25 ♖d1 ♕f7 26 ♖d2 ♘f4

The knight is aiming for an ideal post – d3. After White is forced to take it, a strong passed pawn will appear on this square, and his position will sharply deteriorate.

27 b4 h6 28 a4 ♗h7 29 ♕d4

Whereas White has no open lines to exploit the strength of his heavy pieces, Black already has everything prepared for his counter-offensive.

29 ... b6 30 ♖e1 ♕c7 31 ♕e3 c5 32 bxc5 bxc5 33 g3?

A mistake in time trouble. There was no point in driving the knight to the square for which it was aiming. It would have been correct to occupy the b-file with 33 ♖b1.

33 ... ♘d3 34 ♗xd3 exd3 35 ♕e6+?

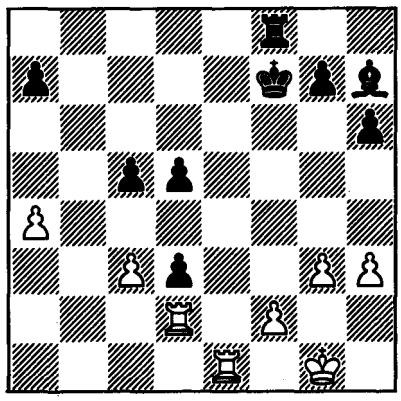
White is playing for a win, otherwise he would immediately have sacrificed back the exchange – 35 ♖xd3, when he could have gained a draw without difficulty.

35 ... ♕f7
36 ♕xf7+

On 36 ♕d6 there would have followed 36 ... ♗e4.

36 ... ♔xf7 *(43)*

43



The ending is very difficult for White, and after the mistake on his next move it ends in his rapid defeat. To be considered was O'Kelly's suggestion of 37 ♖e5!, with some chances of saving the game. Then 37 ... ♖d8 (or *37 ... ♗e4*) is a mistake because of 38 c4!, but 37 ... ♖b8! 38 f3 (the only move) 38 ... ♖b3 39 ♖xd5 ♖xc3 gives Black clearly the better game.

37 ♖b2? c4! 38 f3 d4 39 ♖c1 ♔e6 40 ♔f2 ♗e4! 41 f4 ♖e8

The sealed move. The action of this rook on the e-file decides the outcome. On 42 cxd4 there could have followed 42 ... ♔d5 43 ♔e3 ♗g6+ 44 ♔d2 (f2) ♔xd4, when White is helpless, and 42 ♔e1 dxc3 43 ♖xc3 ♔d5 44 ♔d2 ♗f3 etc leads to the same result.

42 g4

This is hopeless, as is everything else.

42 ... ♗c6 43 ♖e1+ ♔d5 44 ♖xe8 ♗xe8 45 cxd4

White could already have terminated the game here.

45 ... c3 46 ♖b8 d2 47 ♖d8+ ♔c4 48 ♖c8+ ♔d3 White resigns

(73) Petrosian-Pomar
Catalan Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♗g2 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d4 e6 5 0-0 ♘f6 6 c4 dxc4 7 ♕a4 ♗d7 8 dxc5 ♗xc5 9 ♕xc4 ♕b6 10 ♘c3 ♕b4 11 ♕d3 ♖d8 12 a3 ♕g4 13 ♗f4 0-0 14 h3 ♕g6 15 ♕xg6 hxg6 16 ♖fd1 ♖fe8 17 b4 ♗f8 18 ♘e5 ♘xe5 19 ♗xe5 ♗c6 20 ♗xc6 bxc6 21 ♗xf6 ♖xd1+ 22 ♖xd1 gxf6 23 ♘e4 ♔g7 24 ♘d6 ♖b8 25 ♔g2 e5 26 g4 f5 27 ♘c4 fxg4 28 hxg4 c5 29 bxc5 ♗xc5 30 ♖d7 e4 31 ♖c7 ♗b6 32 ♖e7 ♗c5 33 ♖xe4 ♖b3 34 a4 ♖b4 35 ♘d2 ♖b2 36 ♘f3 a5 37 ♘e5 ♖b4 38 f3 f5 39 gxf5 gxf5 40 ♖xb4 axb4 41 ♔f1 b3 42 ♘c4 ♔f6 43 ♔e1 ♗b4+ 44 ♔d1 ♔e6 45 ♔c1 ♗c3 46 a5 ♔d5 47 a6 ♔c6 48 ♘d6 ♗d4 49 ♘xf5 ♗h8 50 e3 b2+ 51 ♔c2 ♔b6 52 ♘d4 ♔xa6 53 ♔xb2 ♔b6 54 ♔c3 ♔c5 55 ♔d3 ♔d5 56 f4 ♗f6 57 e4+ ♔d6 58 ♔e3 ♗h8 59 ♘f5+ ♔e6 60 ♔f3 ♗b2 61 ♘e3 ♗d4 62 ♘c4 ♗g7 63 f5+ ♔f6 64 ♔g4 ♗h6 65 e5+ ♔f7 66 ♘d6+ ♔e7 67 ♔f3 ♗d2 68 ♔e4 ♗c3 69 ♔d5 ♗b2 70 f6+ ♔f8 71 ♘e4 ♔f7 72 e6+ 1-0

(74) Petrosian-Uhlmann
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 c6 4 ♗g2 d5 5 cxd5 cxd5 6 ♘c3 ♘c6 7 ♘f3 ♗g7 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♘e5 ♘xe5?! (9 ... e6!?) **10 dxe5 ♘d7 11 ♘xd5 ♘xe5 12 ♕b3** (12 ♗g5 ♘c6 13 ♕b3 ♗e6 14 ♖fd1 ±) **12 ... ♘c6 13 ♖d1 e6! 14 ♘c3 ♕a5 15 ♗e3 e5 16 ♕b5 ♕xb5 17 ♘xb5 ♗g4 18 ♔f1 a6 19 ♘d6 ♘d4 20 ♖d2 ♖ab8 21 ♗g5 ± ♘f5! 22 ♘xf5 ♗xf5 23 ♗e7 ♖fe8 24 ♗d6 ♖bd8 25 ♗xb7 ♗h6 26 e3 ♗f8 27 ♖ad1 ♖xd6 28 ♖xd6 ♗xd6 29 ♖xd6 ♖b8 30 ♗xa6 ♖xb2 31 ♗c4 ♖b1+ 32 ♔e2 ♗g4+! 33 f3 ♖b2+ 34 ♔d3 ♗xf3 = 35 ♖f6 ♗d1! 36 ♗d5 ♖xh2 37 ♖xf7 ♔h8 38 ♖a7 ♗c2+ 39 ♔c3 ♗f5 40 e4 ♗g4 41 a4 ♖g2 42 a5 ♖xg3+ 43 ♔b4 ♖g1 44 ♖e7 ♗e2 45 ♖xe5 h5 46 ♖e8+ ½-½** (Sokolov)

(75) Petrosian-Hoen
Dutch Defence

1 d4 f5 2 g3 ♘f6 3 ♗g2 e6 4 ♘f3 d5 5 0-0 ♗d6 6 c4 c6 7 b3 0-0 (7 ... ♕e7!?) **8 ♗a3 ♗xa3 9 ♘xa3 ♘bd7 10 ♕c1 ♕e7 11 ♕b2 b6 12 ♖ac1 ♗b7 13 ♘e1! c5 14 dxc5 ♘xc5 15 ♘f3 ♖fd8 16 cxd5 ♗xd5 17 ♘c4 ± ♖ac8 18 ♘e3 a5 19 ♖fd1 g6 20 a3! ♘ce4 21 ♘e5 ♗a8 22 ♘5c4 b5? 23 ♘xa5 ♕a7 24 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 25 ♗xe4 ♘xe4 26 ♕e5! ±± ♗d5 27 ♖f1 ♕xa5 28 ♘xd5 ♔f7 29 f3 ♕xa3 30 fxe4 ♕c5+ 31 ♔g2 exd5 32 exf5 g5 33 ♕e6+ ♔f8 34 ♕h6+ ♔e7 35 ♕xh7+ 1-0** (time) (Sokolov)

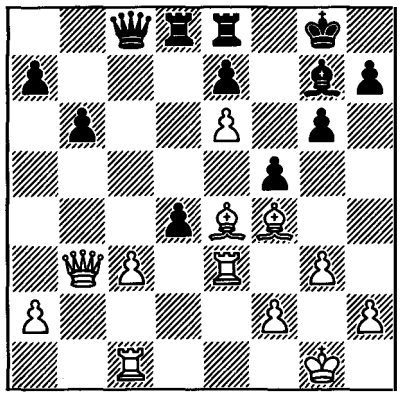
(76) Ivkov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 c3 ♕c7 12 ♗d3 ♗d6 13 h3 ♗d7 14 ♖e1 ♗h2+ 15 ♔h1 ♗f4 16 ♕f3 ♗xc1 17 ♖axc1 0-0 18 c4 ♖fd8 19 ♕e3 ♕c5 20 ♘f3 ½-½

(77) Petrosian-Najdorf
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 g3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗g2 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 0-0 (7 ... c5!?) **8 ♗a3! ♘d7 9 ♘f3 ♘b6?!** (9 ... c5!?) **10 ♘d2 c6 11 0-0 ♗e6 12 ♘b3 ♕c7 13 e4 ♖ad8 14 ♖e1 ♖fe8 15 ♘c5 ± ♗c4 16 e5 ♘d7 17 ♕a4 ♗b5 18 ♕b3 ♘xc5 19 ♗xc5 b6 20 ♗a3 ♗a6 21 e6! f5 22 ♗c1 c5 23 ♗f4 ♕c8 24 ♖ac1 ♗d3 25 ♖e3 ♗e4?! 26 ♗xe4 cxd4** *(44)*

44



27 ♖ee1 d3? 28 ♗d5! ±± d2 29 ♗xd2 ♖xd5 30 ♕xd5 ♖d8 31 ♕b3 ♖xd2 32 ♖cd1 ♗h6 33 c4 ♖xd1 34 ♕xd1 ♕xc4 35 ♕d8+ ♗f8 36 ♕e8 1-0 (Sokolov)

(78) Minev-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 ♘bd7 6 g3 e6 7 ♗g2 a6 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 b3 (9 ♘ce2 0-0 10 c4 ∞) **9 ... 0-0 10 ♗b2 ♖b8 11 ♘b1?!** (11 ♘ce2) **11 ... g6 12 c4 e5 13 ♘c2 ♘c5 14 ♘c3 ♗d7 = 15 f4?!** (15 ♘e3 =) **15 ... ♗c6 16 ♕e2 exf4 17 gxf4 ♖e8! ∓** 18 **♘d5 ♘xd5 19 exd5 ♗f6 20 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 21 ♕d2 ♗d7 22 ♘d4 a5 23 ♖ae1 ♖a8 24 ♔h1 ♖xe1 25 ♖xe1 h6 26 ♔g1?!** (26 a3!? ♔g7 27 b4 ∞) **26 ... ♔g7 27 ♔h1?** (27 a3!) **27 ... ♖h8 28 ♔g1 g5 29 fxg5 hxg5 30 ♖f1 ♕h6 31 h3 g4!** (31 ... ♗xh3? 32 ♗xh3 ♕xh3 33 ♘f5+ ♔f8 34 ♕g2 ∞) **32 ♕xh6+ ♖xh6 33 hxg4 ♗xg4 34 a3 ♗d7 35 b4 axb4 36 axb4 ♘a6 37 ♘f3 ♖g6 38 ♔f2 ♘xb4 ∓ 39 ♖b1 ♘d3+ 40 ♔f1 ♘c5 41 ♖b6 ♗c8 42 ♘d4 ♔f8 43 ♗f3 ♔e7 44 ♔f2 ♖h6 45 ♔e3 ♖h4 46 ♖b1 f5 47 ♖g1 ♗d7 48 ♖g6 f4+ 49 ♔d2 ♖h2+ 50 ♔c3 ♖a2 51 ♗h5 ♖a3+ 52 ♔b2 ♖h3 53 ♖g7+? ∓∓ ♔f8 54 ♖h7 ♔g8 55 ♖h6 ♔g7 56 ♖g6+ ♔h7 57 ♖g5 ♔h6 58 ♘e6 ♗xe6 0-1** (Parma)

1967

Correspondence Game with the Swedish Player Z.Nilsson
January-April 1967

(79) Petrosian-Nilsson
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗a5 6 b4 cxd4 7 ♕g4 ♘e7 8 ♘b5 ♗c7 9 ♕xg7 ♖g8 10 ♕xh7 a6 11 ♘xc7+ ♕xc7 12 ♘e2 ♗d7 13 ♗b2 a5 14 h4 ♗a4 15 ♖h3 ♗xc2 16 ♖c1 ♗xh7 17 ♖xc7 d3 18 ♘d4 axb4 19 ♘b5 ♘bc6 20 ♗xd3 ♗xd3 21 ♖xd3 ♖xg2 22 axb4 ♖a2 23 ♖d2 ♘xb4 24 ♗c3 ♖a4 25 ♗xb4 ♖xb4 26 ♖a2 ♔f8 27 ♘d6 ♖g8 28 h5 ♖h4 29 ♖xb7 ♖xh5 30 ♖aa7 ♖g1+ 31 ♔d2 ♖g2 32 ♖xe7 ♖xf2+ 33 ♔e3 ♖f1 34 ♖xf7+ ♖xf7 35 ♖xf7+ ♔g8 36 ♔f4 1-0

Moscow Team Championship
March-April 1967

+3 –1 =3.

(80) Petrosian-Yudovich
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 c5 7 dxc5 ♘c6 8 ♕c2 ♗xc5 9 a3 ♕e7 10 ♗g5 ♖d8 11 ♖d1 dxc4 12 ♗xc4 ♖xd1+ 13 ♕xd1 h6 14 ♗h4 a6 15 ♗d3 ♕d8! 16 0-0 ♗e7 = 17 ♕e2 ♘d5 (17 ... b5) **18 ♗xe7 ♕xe7** (18 ... ♘xc3 19 ♗xd8 ♘xe2+ 20 ♗xe2 ♘xd8 21 ♘e5 ±) **19 ♘xd5 exd5 20 ♗b1 ♗e6 21 ♖d1 ♕f6 22 h3 ♖d8 23 ♘d4 ♘xd4 24 ♖xd4 ♖c8 25 ♕d2 g6 26 ♗a2 ♕f5! 27 ♗b3!** (27 ♗xd5 ♗xd5 28 ♖xd5 ♖c2! 29 ♖xf5 ♖xd2 =) **27 ... h5 28 ♔h2! ♕b1 29 ♔g3 ♖c5?** (29 ... ♕f5) **30 a4** (30 e4!) **30 ... a5?** (30 ... ♕f5) **31 e4! ♕g1 32 h4 ♔h7 33 ♗xd5 ♗xd5 34 ♖xd5 ♖c6 35 ♖d7 ♖f6 36 ♕d4! 1-0** (Yudovich)

(81) Petrosian-Bronstein
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♗g5 c5!?

Of course, it would have been interesting to learn what Bronstein was hoping for: did he have some trick in store in one of the analyzed lines, or did he want to force his opponent to spend a great deal of time and effort on remembering, at the board, what had been written about this position and what had been played in it? At that point this latter factor seemed of particular importance to me, bearing in mind that the team event in which this game was played had the fast time control of 45 moves in 2 hours 15 minutes.

5 e3

Declining the competition 'for the better memory'.

5 ... cxd4 6 exd4 ♗e7 7 ♖c1 0-0 8 ♘f3 ♘c6 9 c5

The game has transposed into a variation of the Caro-Kann Defence.

In this position opening guides promise Black easy equality with 9 ... ♘e4. After prolonged thought Bronstein, in turn, decides to avoid a possible theoretical debate, and takes the play along relatively unexplored lines.

9 ... h6 10 ♗f4 ♘e4 11 ♗b5

White indirectly intensifies the pressure on e5, since he thought that after the natural 11 ♗d3 g5 followed by ... f5 Black would gain the initiative.

11 ... ♗d7 12 0-0 g5 13 ♗g3 a6 14 ♗xc6 ♗xc6 15 ♘e5 ♗e8 16 ♖e1 ♘xg3 17 hxg3

This position looks to be clearly in favour of White, who has the obvious plan of exploiting his queenside pawn majority. And the black king's position being compromised, the firmly established knight at e5 gives White excellent tactical possibilities. During the game, for example, I was very pleased that Black could not immediately drive the knight away. 17 ... f6 can be met by 18 ♘g4 h5 19 ♘h6+ ♔h7 20 ♖xe6 ♔xh6 (*20 ... ♗d7 21 ♕xh5* or *20 ... ♗g6 21 ♕e2 ♖e8 22 ♖e1*) 21 ♕e2 ♖f7 22 ♖e1, when White regains his piece. Alas, when I came to annotate the game, it transpired that 22 ... ♗b5 would have taken play into a rook ending where White's winning chances are problematic.

Even so, at this point few players would decide that it was already time to abandon any ambitious ideas, and concern themselves with saving the game.

17 ... ♗f6
18 b4 ♗g7

Bronstein realizes that his only real chance of obtaining counterplay involves advancing his e-pawn. Indeed, if one supposes that Black plays ... f6 and ... e5 unhindered, then it transpires that White's position is not after all so good. After the exchange on e5 his knights will be without strong points, and to defend his central pawn base, keeping the position closed, is also not easy: Black threatens not only ... exd4 followed by ... f5, activating his bishop at g7, but also the creation of a mobile pawn phalanx with ... e4 and ... f5.

It can be concluded that White must quickly take positive action.

19 ♖b1!

To me, this seems the most difficult move in the game. White is not tempted into the outwardly attractive advance of his pawns, but first supports his b-pawn, aiming as soon as possible to open a file on which the rook will have an excellent base at b6. Strictly speaking, it is the position of the white rook on the sixth rank which proves to be the decisive factor.

19 ... f6?

Up till now, not all Black's moves would stand up to serious criticism from the viewpoint of 'normal' play, although there has been no particular reason to condemn them, but here he makes a clear mistake. If he was intending to place his queen at c7, he should have done so immediately.

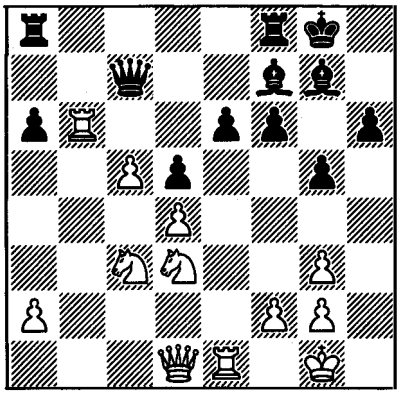
20 ♘d3 ♗f7 21 b5 ♕c7 22 bxa6 bxa6

The capture with the rook would have been no better in view of 23 ♘b5, aiming for d6.

23 ♖b6 *(45)*

White has clearly outstripped his opponent and now threatens to sacrifice the exchange on e6 followed by winning the d5 pawn. This threat, in combination with the no less dangerous plan of building up the pressure on the b-file, leads Black to seek immediate counterplay.

45



23 ... e5
24 dxe5

24 ♕b3 was also quite good, but the decision to force events is perfectly reasonable: there is an obvious disparity between the fighting efficiency of the white and black pieces.

24 ... fxe5
25 ♘xe5 ♕xc5

One variation, the assessment of the final position of which caused me some doubts when considering my 24th move, was the following: 25 ... ♗xe5 26 ♘xd5 ♖fd8 27 ♘xc7 ♖xd1 28 ♖xd1 ♗xc7, when White faces a pleasant, but nevertheless not so simple choice between two possibilities – 29 ♖b7 and 29 ♖xh6. As it transpired after the game, Bronstein did not even consider this variation . . .

It is hard to criticize him, since it now appears that White has been too impetuous. Indeed, the possible continuations 26 ♘a4 ♕a5 27 ♘c6, somewhat unexpectedly trapping the queen, and 26 ♘xf7 ♕xb6 27 ♘xd5 ♕b7 28 ♘e7+, with an immediate win, are unconvincing, for all their showiness. 26 ♘a4 is met simply by 26 ... ♕c7, and 26 ♘xf7 by 26 ... ♖xf7.

26 ♖c6 ♕a7

The only move which defends the d5 pawn, but now Black loses almost by force. 26 ... ♕a5 was relatively best, agreeing to 27 ♘xf7 ♖xf7 28 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 (not *28 ... ♗xc3 29 ♖g6+*) 29 ♘xd5 ♗d4 with some compensation for the lost pawn.

27 ♘g4!

Retribution strikes for the pawn weaknesses created earlier. The h6 pawn cannot be defended, and with its fall it is clear that the black king's fortress will collapse.

27 ... ♔h8

On 27 ... d4 the simplest is 28 ♘e4, while if 27 ... ♗h5 28 ♘xh6+ ♗xh6 29 ♕xh5 ♕xf2+ 30 ♔h2 ♕xe1 31 ♖xh6 or 30 ... ♗g7 31 ♖e7 ♖f7 32 ♘xd5 (*32 ♘d1* is also good) with a decisive attack.

28 ♘xh6 ♗e8 29 ♖xe8 ♕xf2+ 30 ♔h2 ♖axe8 31 ♕h5!

Curiously enough, this is the white queen's first move!

31 ... ♕e1 32 ♘f5+ ♔g8 33 ♘xg7 ♖f1

Black could have managed without this, although any other continuation would have been decisively met by 34 ♖h6.

34 ♕xe8+ Resigns

(82) Petrosian-Liberzon
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 d4 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 ♗c4 cxd4 8 exd4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 a6 11 a4 ♘cb4 12 ♘e5 ♗d7 13 ♘xd5 exd5 14 ♗b3 ♗e6 15 ♗d2 ♖c8 16 ♗c3 a5 17 ♖e3 ♖e8 18 ♕f1! f6 19 ♘g6 ♗d6 20 ♖ae1 ♕d7 21 ♕e2 hxg6 (21 ... ♗f7 22 ♘e7+ ♖xe7 23 ♖xe7 ♗xe7

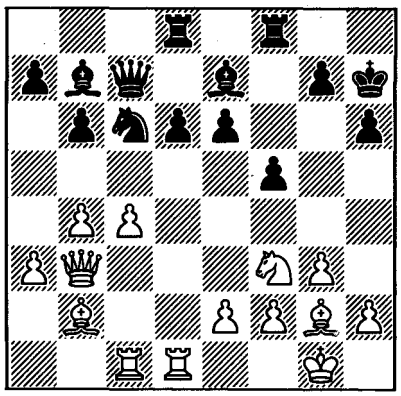
24 ♕xe7 ±) **22 ♖xe6 ♖xe6 23 ♕xe6+ ♕xe6 24 ♖xe6 ♖d8 25 ♗xb4 ♗xb4** (25 ... axb4 26 g3) **26 ♖b6 ♖d7 27 h4 ♔f8 28 ♖b5 ♔e7 29 ♗xd5 b6 30 ♔f1 ♔d6! 31 g4 ♔c7 32 ♔e2 ♖d8 33 ♔f3 ♖h8! 34 ♔g3 ♖d8 35 g5 fxg5 36 hxg5 ♗e1! 37 b3 ♗d2 38 ♗f7** (38 f4 ♖f8) **38 ... ♖xd4 39 ♗xg6 ♖b4 ½-½** (Yudovich)

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 e6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♗d3 ♗e7 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 b5 9 ♗d3 b4 10 ♘e4 ♘xe4 11 ♗xe4 ♗b7 12 b3 0-0 13 ♗b2 ♘f6 14 ♗d3 c5 15 dxc5 ♗xc5 16 ♕e2 ♕e7 17 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 18 e4 ♗b6 19 ♘e5 ♘d7 20 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 21 ♗c4 ♕e7 22 ♕g4 e5 23 ♖cd1 ♖cd8 24 ♕f5 ♗c7 25 ♖fe1 ♗c8 26 ♕f3 ♗e6 ½-½

(83) Smyslov-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 ♗b4+ 4 ♘d2 c5 5 dxc5 ♗xc5 6 ♗g2 ♘c6 (6 ... ♗xf2+? 7 ♔xf2 ♘g4+ 8 ♔e1 ♘e3 9 ♕b3 ♘xg2+ 10 ♔f2) **7 ♘gf3 b6 8 0-0 ♗b7 9 a3 0-0** (9 ... a5) **10 b4 ♗e7 11 ♗b2 ♖c8 12 ♕b1! ± h6 13 ♖d1 ♕c7 14 ♘e4 ♘xe4 15 ♕xe4 f5 16 ♕d3 ♖cd8 17 ♖ac1 d6 18 ♕b3 ♔h7** *(46)*

46



19 c5! dxc5 20 ♕xe6 ♕c8! 21 ♕b3 ♖xd1+ 22 ♕xd1 cxb4 (22 ... ♕e6) **23 axb4 ♖d8** (23 ... ♗xb4 24 ♖xc6!) **24 ♕b3 ♗xb4 25 ♘h4! ♗f8** (25 ... ♕d7 26 ♗xc6 ♗xc6 27 ♕xb4 ♕d1+ 28 ♕e1 ±) **26 ♗h3 1-0** (Yudovich)

(84) Petrosian-Botvinnik
Slav Defence

International Tournament
Moscow, May-June 1967

1 Stein 11; 2-5 Bobotsov, Gipslis, Smyslov, Tal 10; 6-8 Bronstein, Portisch, Spassky 9½; 9-12 Geller, Keres, Najdorf, **Petrosian** (+3 –3 =11) 8½; 13 Gheorghiu 8; 14 Gligorić 7½; 15-18 Bilek, Filip, Pachman, Uhlmann 6.

(85) Bilek-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗c4 e6 7 ♗b3 ♗e7 (7 ... b5!) **8 f4 0-0 9 f5** (9 ♕f3 ♘c6) **9 ... e5** (9 ... exf5! ∞) **10 ♘de2 ♘bd7 11 ♘g3 b5 12 ♗g5 b4!?** (12 ... ♘b6 ±) **13 ♗xf6!? bxc3 14 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 15 bxc3 ♘f6 16 0-0 ♗b7 17 ♕f3 a5 18 a4 ♔h8 19 ♖fe1 g6 20 ♖ad1 h5 21 h3 h4 22 ♘f1 ♖g8?!** (22 ... ♖ac8!? ⩲) **23 ♘e3! ± ♗xe4 24 ♕f2 ♘h5 25 f6! ♕xf6 26 ♕xf6+ ♘xf6 27 ♖xd6 ♔g7** (27 ... ♘h5 28 ♘g4) **28 ♖f1 ♘h5 29 ♖xf7+ ♔h6 30 ♗d5** (30 ♘g4+ ♔g5 31 ♖e7!?) **30 ... ♗xd5 31 ♘g4+ ♔g5 32 ♖xd5 ♘g3 33 ♖xe5+ ♘f5 34 ♘h2** (34 c4!?) **34 ... ♖ge8 35 ♘f3+ ♔h6 36 ♖b5 ♖ad8 37 ♖bb7?** (37 ♖fxf5! gxf5 38 ♘xh4) **37 ... ♖d1+ 38 ♔f2 ♖h8** ⩲ **½-½** (Minić)

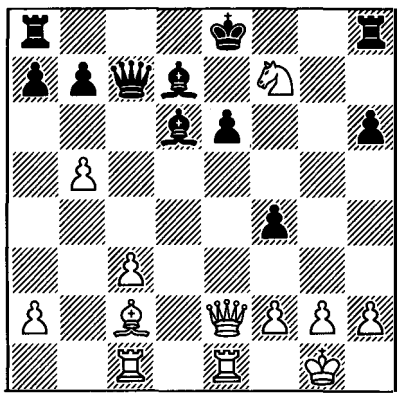
(86) Petrosian-Gipslis
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♘bd2 d5 5 ♕a4+ (5 e3) **5 ... ♘c6 6 a3 ♗e7 7 e3 ♗d7 8 ♕c2 0-0 9 b3 a5 10 ♗b2 ♘a7 11 ♗d3 h6 12 0-0 ± ♖c8 13 ♘e5** (13 c5!?) **13 ... c5 14 dxc5 ♗xc5 15 ♘df3** (15 ♘xd7!?) **15 ... dxc4 16 bxc4 ♗e8 17 ♖fd1 ♕c7 18 ♗c3 ♗e7 19 ♕d2 ♗a4 20 ♖db1 b6 21 ♗d4 ♗c5** (22 ♕b2 ♖b8 =) **½-½** (Minić)

(87) Bronstein-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 c3 ♘gf6 6 ♘g3 e6 7 ♘f3 c5 8 ♗d3 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗e7 (9 ... ♘e5 10 ♗c2 ♗d7) **10 0-0 ♘e5 11 ♗c2 ♗d7 12 ♖e1 ♘c6 13 ♘f3 ♕c7 14 ♕e2 h6 15 ♗d2 g5!? 16 ♖ac1! ♘d5** (16 ... g4 17 ♘d4) **17 b4 ♘f4 18 ♗xf4 gxf4 19 ♘f5 ♗f8** (19 ... exf5 20 b5 ♖g8!) **20 b5 ♘e7 21 ♘xe7** (21 ♘e5!) **21 ... ♗xe7 22 ♘e5 ♗d6 23 ♘xf7!?** *(47)*

47



23 ... ♔xf7 24 ♗b3 ♔f6 25 ♖cd1 ♖ad8 26 ♕g4 ♖hg8 27 ♕h5 ♔g7 28 ♗xe6 ♔h7 29 ♕f5+ ♖g6 30 ♕f7+ ♖g7 31 ♕f5+ ♖g6 32 ♕f7+ ♖g7 33 ♕f5+ ♖g6 ½-½ (Yudovich

(88) Petrosian-Stein
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 a5 8 0-0 ♘a6 9 ♗g5 h6 10 ♗h4 ♕d7 11 ♘d2 c5 12 a3 ♘e8 13 f3 ♗f6 14 ♗f2 ♗g5 15 ♘b3 ♕d8 16 ♘c1 ♗d7 17 ♘d3 ♖c8 18 g3 f5 19 exf5 gxf5 20 f4 ♗f6 21 ♗e3 ♗g7 22 ♕d2 e4 23 ♘f2 ♘f6 24 h3 ♕e8 25 ♔h2 h5 26 ♖g1 ♘c7 27 a4 ♕g6 28 ♖g2 ♖f7 29 ♖h1 ♗f8 30 ♔g1 ♖g7 31 ♔f1 ♖e8 32 ♖hg1 ♕h7 33 ♕d1 ♘a6 34 ♘a2 ♔f7 35 ♔e1 ♗e7 ½-½

(89) Tal-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♘c6 12 ♘bd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♗b7 14 ♘f1 ♖e8 15 ♘g3 g6 16 ♗h6 ♗f8 17 ♕d2 ♗xh6 18 ♕xh6 ♘xd4 19 ♘xd4 exd4 20 ♖ad1 ♖c8 21 ♗b1 ♖e6 22 ♖xd4 ♕e7 23 ♕g5 ♖c5 24 ♕e3 ♖c4 25 ♖xc4 bxc4 26 ♘e2 ♕c7 27 ♘d4 ♖e5 28 ♘f3 ♖c5 29 ♖c1 ♕c6 30 ♘d4 ♕e8 31 ♖e1 ♖e5 32 ♘f3 ♖e6 33 ♕h6 ♗xe4 34 ♘d4 ♘d5 35 ♕xa6 ♖e7 36 ♕c6 ♘f6 37 ♕xd6 ♖e6 38 ♘xe6 1-0

(90) Petrosian-Uhlmann
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 d4 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 ♘bd7 8 ♕c2 a5 9 0-0 ♘e8 10 g3 ♘c5 11 ♘h4 ♗h3 12 ♖e1 ♗f6 13 ♘f3 ♗e7 14 ♗e3 b6 15 a3 f5 16 exf5 ♗xf5 17 ♕d1 ♗f6 18 b4 axb4 19 axb4 ♖xa1 20 ♕xa1 ♘d3 21 ♖b1 ♘g7 22 ♘b5 ♗g4 23 ♕a2 ♘f5 ½-½

(91) Petrosian-Pachman
Sicilian Defence

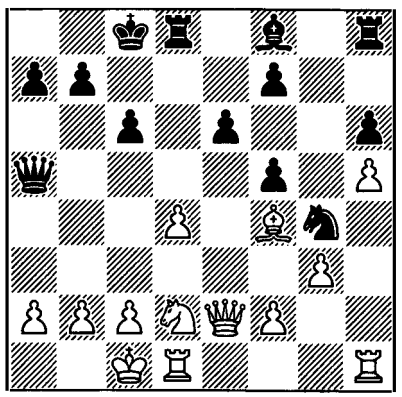
1 g3 g6 2 f4 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 c5 4 e4 ♘c6 5 d3 e6 6 ♘d2 ♘ge7 7 ♘h3! d5 8 0-0 0-0 9 e5 ±

f6 10 exf6 ♗xf6 11 ♘f3 ♕d6 (11 ... ♗g7!?) **12 c3 ♗d7 13 ♘f2 e5 14 ♖e1! ♖fe8** (14 ... ♗g7) **15 c4! ♗g7 16 cxd5 ♘xd5 17 ♘e4 ♕e7 18 ♘eg5 ♘b6 19 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 20 fxe5 ♗xe5 21 ♔h1 ♗a4** (21 ... ♗c6!) **22 b3 ♗c6 23 ♗xc6 bxc6 24 ♘f3 ♕d6** (24 ... ♕g7 25 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 26 ♖f1 ±) **25 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 26 ♗b2 ♖xe1+ 27 ♕xe1 ♖f8 28 ♔g1 ♘d5 29 ♖d1 h5 30 ♕d2 ♕e6** (30 ... h4? 31 ♕h6) **31 ♖e1 ♕f5 32 ♗a1 h4 33 ♕b2 ♖f6 34 ♕e2 hxg3!** (34 ... ♖f8 35 ♕e6+ ±) **35 ♗xf6 gxh2+ 36 ♕xh2 ♕xf6 37 ♕e5 ♕f3 38 ♕e6+ ♔g7 39 ♕e5+ ♔g8 40 ♖e4 ♕d1+?** (40 ... ♕xd3 ⩱) **41 ♔f2 ♕d2+** (41 ... ♕xd3 42 ♕e8+ ♔g7 43 ♕d7+ ♔h6 44 ♖h4+ ♔g5 45 ♕g4+ ♔f6 46 ♕f3+ ±±) **42 ♖e2 ♕d1** (42 ... ♕xd3 43 ♕e4) **43 ♕b8+ ±± ♔g7 44 ♕xa7+ ♔h6 45 ♕xc5 ♕xd3 46 ♕c1+ ♔g7 47 ♕b2+ 1-0** (Matanović)

(92) Geller-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 ♘f3 ♘d7 7 h4 h6 8 h5 ♗h7 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 ♕c7 11 ♗d2 e6 12 0-0-0 ♘gf6 13 ♘e4 (13 ♕e2 0-0-0 14 ♘e5 ♘xe5 15 dxe5 ♘d7 16 f4 ±) **13 ... 0-0-0 14 g3 ♘g4** (14 ... ♘xe4 15 ♕xe4 ♗d6 16 c4 c5) **15 ♕e2 ♘df6 16 ♗f4 ♕a5 17 ♘xf6! gxf6** (17 ... ♘xf6 18 ♔b1 ±) **18 ♘d2! f5** *(48)*

48

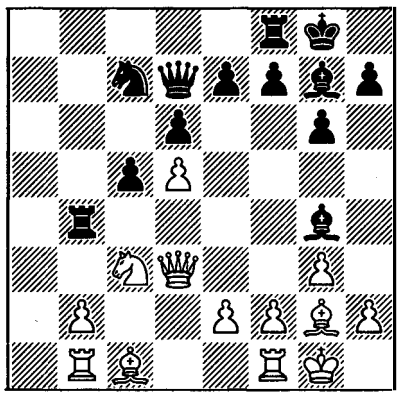


19 ♔b1 (19 f3! ♘f6 20 ♘b3 ±) **19 ... ♕a6! 20 c4 ♖g8 21 ♘b3** (21 f3 ♘f6 22 ♕e5 ♘e8) **21 ... ♗d6 22 ♗xd6 ♖xd6 23 f3 ♘f6 24 ♕e5 ♘e8 25 ♖c1 b6 26 d5** (26 ♕f4) **26 ... c5 27 dxe6 ♖xe6!** (27 ... fxe6 28 ♖hd1 ±) **28 ♕xf5 ♘d6 29 ♕f4 ♕b7 30 ♖hd1 ♕e7 31 g4** (31 ♖d5) **31 ... f5! 32 ♖d5 fxg4 33 ♖cd1?** (33 fxg4) **33 ... g3** (33 ... ♖f6!) **34 ♘c1 g2 35 ♖g1** (35 ... ♖e1 36 ♖xe1 ♕xe1 37 ♕xd6 g1=♕ 38 ♕c6+ =; 35 ... ♖f6 ∓) **½-½** (Yudovich)

(93) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 g3 c5 5 d5 d6 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 ♘f3 ♘a6 8 0-0 ♘c7 9 a4 ♖b8 10 ♘e1 b6 11 ♖b1 a6 12 ♘c2 b5 13 axb5 axb5 14 ♘e3 ♘g4 15 ♘xg4 ♗xg4 16 ♕d3 bxc4 17 ♕xc4 ♖b4 18 ♕d3 ♕d7 *(49)*

49



19 ♖a1 ♖fb8 20 ♖a7 ♕d8 21 h3 ♗d7 22 ♖a2 ♘b5 23 ♖e1 ♖b3 24 ♗d2 ♘d4 25 e3 ♗f5 26 e4 ♗d7 27 ♗c1 ♗b5 28 ♕d1 ♗c4 29 ♖a1 ♖3b4 30 ♖a3 ♗b3 31 ♕d2 ♕b6 32 ♗h1 ♖c4 33 e5 dxe5 34 d6 ♕xd6 35 ♖a7 ♘c2 36 ♘d5 ♖d4 37 ♘xe7+ ♔h8 38 ♕a5 ♘xe1 0-1

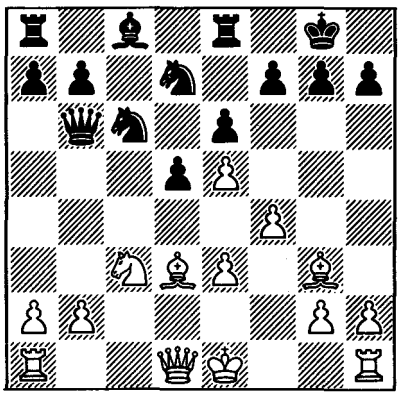
(94) Keres-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♗c4 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 c3 ♕c7 8 ♘e2 e6 9 ♗f4 ♗d6 10 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♘g3 c5 13 dxc5 ♕xc5 14 ♗e2 ♕c7 15 ♗f3 ♗d7 16 ♕d4 ♗c6 17 ♗xc6 ♕xc6 18 ♖fd1 ½-½

(95) Portisch-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 cxd5 cxd5 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 0-0 9 ♗d3 ♖e8 (9 ... ♗xg3 10 hxg3 ♕d6 11 g4 ±) **10 ♘e5 ♗xe5 11 dxe5 ♘d7 12 f4 ♕b6?** (12 ... ♘c5 13 ♗b1 b6 =) *(50)*

50



13 0-0! ♕xe3+ (13 ... ♘c5) **14 ♔h1 ♕b6 15 ♕h5 ♘f8 16 ♖f3! ♘g6** (16 ... ♕xb2 17 ♖b1 ±) **17 ♗f2 ♕d8 18 ♘b5 ♘ce7 19 ♘d6 ♗d7 20 ♗h4 ♕b6 21 ♖h3 h6 22 ♗f6! ♕xb2 23 ♖f1 ♘f5 24 ♗xf5 1-0** (Yudovich)

(96) Petrosian-Smyslov
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 a6 9 ♗d3 ♗xg3 10 hxg3 ♕d6 11 ♕e2 ♗d7 12 0-0-0 b5 13 e4 ♕c7 14 exd5 b4 15 dxc6 ♗xc6 16 ♕e5 ♖a7 17 ♔b1 bxc3 18 ♖c1 ♕xe5 19 dxe5 ½-½

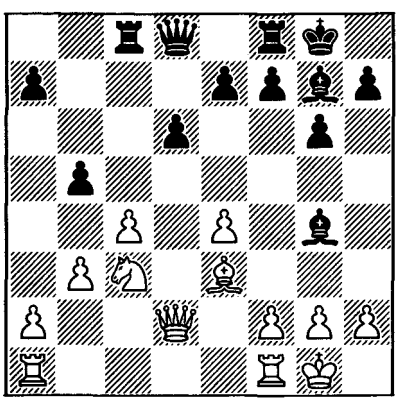
(97) Filip-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♗e3 c6 5 ♕d2 b5 6 f3 ♘d7 7 h4 h5 8 ♘h3 a6 9 ♘g5 ♘b6 10 a4 ♗d7 11 a5 ♘c8 12 g3 ♕c7 13 ♗h3 ♗xh3 14 ♘xh3 ♘f6 15 ♘f2 e6 16 ♔f1 ♘d7 17 ♔g2 ♘e7 18 ♖hd1 ♖c8 19 ♗f4 ♘g8 20 ♘e2 ♘gf6 21 ♘d3 e5 22 dxe5 dxe5 23 ♗e3 c5 24 b3 0-0 25 c4 b4 26 ♕a2 ♘h7 27 ♕d2 ♖fd8 28 ♕c2 ♘hf8 29 ♘f2 ♘e6 30 ♘h3 ½-½

(98) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 d6 5 c4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 ♘xd4 7 ♕xd4 g6 8 ♗e2 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♘g4 = 11 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 12 0-0 ♖c8 13 b3 b5! *(51)*

51



14 ♘xb5!? ♗xa1 15 ♖xa1 a6 16 ♘c3 f6 17 f4 ♖f7 18 ♖f1 ♗d7 19 f5 ♕a5 20 ♕d3 ♗c6 21 ♗h6 ♔h8 22 a4? ♖b8 (22 ... gxf5!; 22 ... ♕b6+ 23 ♔h1 ♕xb3 24 ♖b1 ♗xe4 [*24 ... ♕a3 25 fxg6 hxg6 26 ♕h3!* ±] 25 ♕xe4 ♕xc3 26 ♕e6 =) **23 ♖b1 ½-½** (Yudovich)

(99) Petrosian-Najdorf
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e3 ♘c6 7 ♗d3 ♗e7 8 0-0 cxd4 9 exd4 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♘f6 11 ♗g5 b6 12 ♕e2 ♗b7 13 ♖ad1 ♘b4 14 ♗b1 ♖c8 15 ♘e5 ♘fd5 16 ♗d2 ♘f6 17 ♕e3 ♘fd5 18 ♕h3 f5 19 a3 ♘a6 20 ♗a2 ♘ac7 21 ♘e2 ♗g5 22 ♕d3 ♗xd2 23 ♕xd2 ♘e8 24 ♘d3 g5 25 ♘c3 ♘g7 26 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 27 ♗xd5 exd5 28 ♖e5 a5 29 ♖de1 f4 30 h4 h6 31 hxg5 hxg5 32 ♕e2 f3 33 ♕e3 g4 34 ♖g5 ♖e8 35 ♘e5 1-0

(100) Bobotsov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e3 ♘c6 7 ♗d3 cxd4 8 exd4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♘f6 11 ♗g5 b6 12 ♕e2 ♗b7 13 ♖ad1 ♘b4 14 ♗b1 ♖c8 15 ♘e5 ♘bd5 16 ♖d3 ♗a6 17 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 18 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 19 ♖h3 ♗xe2 20 ♗xh7+ ♔h8 ½-½

(101) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
English Opening
(notes by Simagin)

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 g3

4 d4 is regarded as the main variation.

4 ... ♗b4 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 0-0 ♖e8

6 ... e4 7 ♘g5 ♗xc3 8 bxc3 ♖e8 came into consideration, as in Sliwa-Smyslov, Polanica Zdroj, 1966.

7 d3 h6

A poor move. 7 ... ♗xc3 8 bxc3 d6 was more in the spirit of the position.

8 ♘d5 ♗f8

The strategic contours of the position are already apparent. White is active on the queenside, whereas Black must build up an initiative on the kingside. But the black pieces are badly placed for an attack.

9 ♘xf6+!

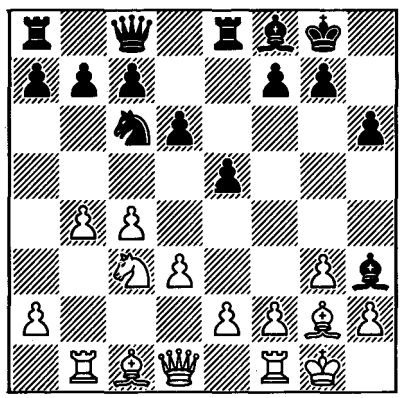
9 ♖b1 would have been routine play. Petrosian exchanges knights, since he has in mind a specific plan. It consists in playing for 'the better minor piece', which is what the active white knight later becomes against Black's passive dark-square bishop.

9 ... ♕xf6 10 ♘d2 d6 11 ♘e4 ♕d8 12 ♘c3 ♗d7 13 b4!

Beginning an offensive on the queenside. After 13 ... ♘xb4 14 ♖b1 ♘c6 15 ♖xb7 White has the better position.

13 ... ♕c8
14 ♖b1 ♗h3 *(52)*

52



15 e4!

A subtle positional continuation, which, in my opinion, is more noteworthy than many a spectacular combination. White consistently carries out his strategic plan of 'suffocating' the opponent's dark-square bishop. The weakening of the d4 square is

of no significance, since White still has his dark-square bishop.

15 ... ♗xg2?

15 ... ♗e6! was more astute, hindering the opponent's plan.

16 ♔xg2 g6
17 h4! ♗g7

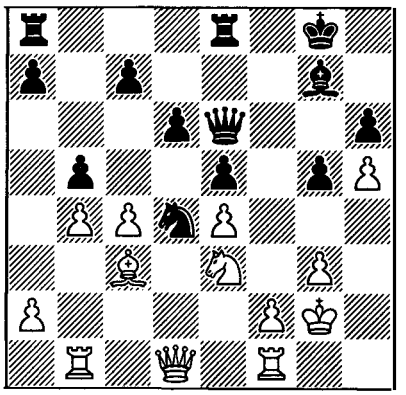
17 ... h5 was much stronger.

18 h5! g5 19 ♘d5 ♘d4 20 ♘e3 f5

This move is already forced. 21 ♗b2 was threatened, and after exchanging the opponent's knight, White would have seized control of the f5 square.

21 ♗b2 fxe4 22 dxe4 ♕e6 23 ♗c3 b5 *(53)*

53



Strategically, Black's game is lost. Gheorghiu therefore decides to go in for tactical complications, even though they favour White.

24 cxb5 ♕xa2

Or 24 ... ♘xb5 25 ♕d3 ♘xc3 26 ♕xc3 ♕xa2 27 ♕xc7.

25 ♕d3 ♕e2

There is nothing better. 26 ♗xd4 and 27 ♘d5 was threatened.

26 ♕xe2 ♘xe2 27 ♘d5 ♖ab8 28 ♖fe1 ♘d4 29 ♗xd4 exd4 30 ♖bc1! ♖b7 31 ♘xc7 ♖e5 32 ♖c6 g4 33 ♘d5 ♖xb5 34 ♖xd6 ♖b7

On 34 ... ♖xh5 White has the very strong 35 ♖d7! with the threat of 36 ♖c1.

35 ♖g6 ♔h7
36 ♖xg4 ♖d7

This accelerates Black's defeat, although he would also have been in a bad way after 36 ... ♖xh5 37 f4.

37 ♖h1 ♖e6 38 ♖d1 ♖c6 39 ♖d2 ♗e5 40 f4 ♗h8 41 f5 Black resigns

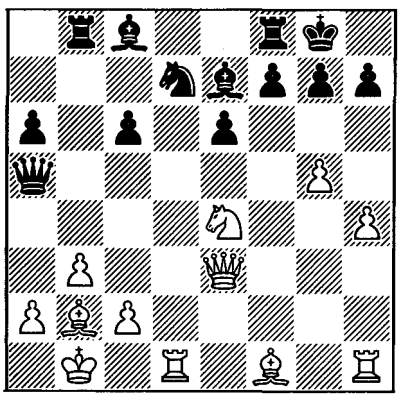
4th USSR Peoples' Spartakiad
Moscow, July-August 1967

Board 1, +3 –2 =3.

(102) Petrosian-Danov
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 f4 e6 7 ♕f3 ♕c7 8 g4 ♘c6 9 ♘xc6 bxc6 10 g5 ♘d7 11 b3 ♗e7 12 h4 d5 13 ♗b2 ♕a5 14 0-0-0 0-0 15 ♔b1 ♖b8 16 f5 dxe4 17 ♘xe4 ♕xf5 18 ♕e3 ♕a5 *(54)*

54



19 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 20 gxf6 ♕h5 21 ♗d3 e5 22 ♖dg1 1-0

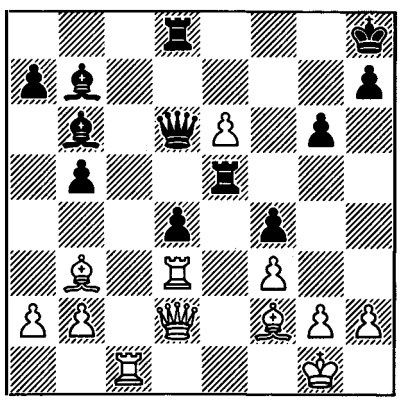
(103) Kudryashov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 dxc5 ♗xc5 6 ♘gf3 ♘f6 7 ♗c4 ♕c6 (7 ... ♕d8) **8 ♕e2 0-0 9 0-0 a6 10 ♘e5 ♕c7 11 ♘df3** (11 a4) **11 ... b5 12 ♗d3 ♗b7 13 a4** (13 ♗f4) **13 ... b4 14 ♗g5** (14 ♗f4) **14 ... ♘bd7 15 ♖ad1** (15 ♘xd7) **15 ... ♘xe5 16 ♘xe5 ♘d5 17 ♗c1 ♗d6 18 ♖fe1 ♖fe8 19 h3 ♖ad8 20 ♘f3 a5 ∓ 21 ♕e4** (21 ♗b5) **21 ... ♘f6 22 ♕b4 ♗xf3 23 gxf3 ♗e5 24 ♔h1 ♔f8 25 ♕c4 ♕b7 26 ♔g2 ♗d4 27 c3 bxc3 28 bxc3 ♗b6 29 ♗g5 h6 30 ♗xf6 gxf6 31 ♗e4 ♕a7! 32 ♖xd8** (32 ♗c6 ♖xd1 33 ♖xd1 ♖c8) **32 ... ♖xd8 33 ♖e2 f5 34 ♗c2 ♔g7 35 ♕f4 ♖g8! 36 ♖d2 ♗c7 37 ♕e3 ♕a6 38 ♖d1 ♔h7+ 39 ♔h1 ♖g7?** (39 ... ♕c4! ∓) **40 ♗d3 ♕d6? 41 ♗xf5+ 1-0**

(104) Petrosian-Bagirov
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c6 2 e4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 d4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗d3 b6 (8 ... ♘c6; 8 ... 0-0) **9 ♘e5! 0-0 10 ♕h5 f5 11 0-0 ♗b7 12 ♗c4! ± ♘d7 13 ♘xd5 exd5 14 ♗b3 ♘xe5 15 dxe5 ♔h8 16 ♖d1 ♕d7 17 ♖d3 g6 18 ♕d1 f4 19 ♗d2!** (19 ♗xd5 ♖ad8 20 ♗e4 ♕b5) **19 ... d4** (19 ... ♖ad8) **20 e6 ♕c6 21 f3 ♗c5** (21 ... ♖ad8) **22 ♗e1 ♕d6 23 ♗f2 ♖ad8 24 ♗c4! b5 25 ♗b3 ♖f5 26 ♖c1 ♗b6 27 ♕d2 ♖e5** *(55)*

55

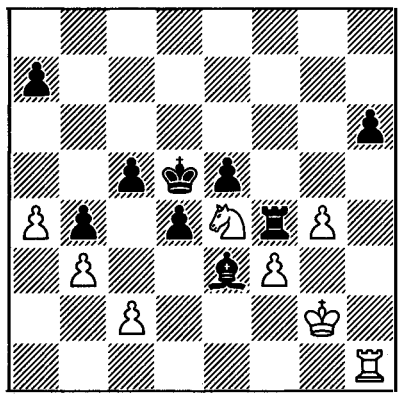


28 ♕xf4! ♖xe6 (28 ... ♖e1+ 29 ♖xe1 ♕xf4 30 ♗g3 ±±) **29 ♕xd6 ♖exd6 30 ♗g3! ♔g7 31 ♗e5+ ♔f8 32 ♗xd6+ ♖xd6 33 ♔f1 ♗c6 34 ♖e1 ♗d7 35 ♖e5 ♖c6 36 ♖d1 ♖c7 37 ♔e1 ♗a5+ 38 ♔e2 ♗b6 39 ♗e6 ♗e8 40 ♔d3 ♖c6 41 ♗d5 ♖c7 42 ♖de1 ♗d7 43 g4 a5 44 ♖1e2 1-0** (Yudovich)

(105) Gurgenidze-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♗b5+ ♗d7 4 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5 0-0 ♘f6 6 e5 dxe5 7 ♘xe5 ♕c8 8 d4 e6 9 ♘c3 ♘c6 10 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 11 ♗g5 0-0-0 12 ♗xf6 gxf6 13 d5 exd5 14 ♕f3 ♖d6 15 ♖fe1 d4 16 ♕f5+ ♔b8 17 ♘e4 ♖e6 18 ♘g3 ♗e7 19 ♕h5 ♕e8 20 ♘f5 ♗d8 21 ♖xe6 fxe6 22 ♕xe8 ♖xe8 23 ♖e1 ♔c7 24 ♘g7 ♖e7 25 ♘h5 f5 26 h3 ♔d6 27 g4 fxg4 28 hxg4 e5 29 ♘g3 ♔d5 30 f3 ♖f7 31 ♖f1 ♗g5 32 ♔g2 b5 33 ♘e4 ♗e3 34 ♖h1 h6 35 b3 ♖f8 36 ♖b1 ♖f4 37 a4 b4 38 ♖h1 *(56)*

56



38 ... ♖xe4 39 fxe4+ ♔xe4 40 ♖d1 a5 41 ♔g3 ♔d5 42 ♖f1 ♗f4+ 43 ♔f3 c4 44 ♔e2 cxb3 45 cxb3 ♔e4 46 ♖f3 ♗g5 47 ♖f7 d3+ 48 ♔d1 ♔d4 0-1

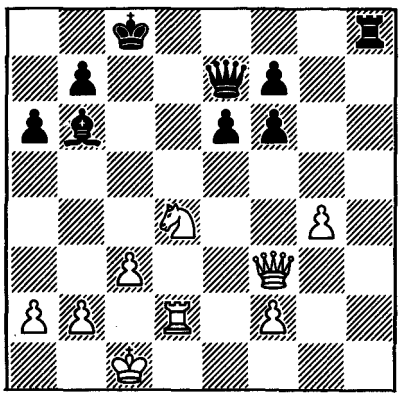
(106) Petrosian-Stein
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 a5 8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 ♘a6 10 ♘d2 ♕e8 11 0-0 ♗d7 12 b3 (12 a3 a4) **12 ... ♘h7 13 f3** (13 ♖b1 h5 14 f3 ♗h6) **13 ... h5! 14 ♗f2 ♗h6 15 a3 ♕e7 16 ♕c2 h4 17 ♖fd1 f5 18 ♖ab1 ♕g5 19 b4 axb4 20 axb4 ♘f6 21 f4! ♕xf4** (21 ... exf4 22 ♘f3 ±) **22 g3 hxg3 23 hxg3 ♕g5 24 ♘f3 ♕h5 25 ♘xe5 ♕h3 26 ♗f1** (26 ♘xg6 ♗e3!) **26 ... ♕h5 27 ♗e2 ♕h3 28 ♗f1 ♕h5 ½-½** (Yudovich)

(107) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♘bd7 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♘f3 c5 8 ♗b5+ (8 ♗c4) **8 ... ♗d7 9 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 10 ♗xf6 gxf6 11 c3 cxd4** (11 ... 0-0-0) **12 ♘xd4 ♗c5 13 ♕f3! 0-0-0** (13 ... ♗xd4 14 0-0-0) **14 0-0-0 ♕e7 15 ♘b3 ♗b6 16 g4! ♖xd1+** (16 ... f5! 17 gxf5 ♕g5+ 18 ♔c2 ♕xf5+ 19 ♕xf5 exf5 =) **17 ♖xd1 h5 18 h3 hxg4 19 hxg4 ♖h2?** (19 ... ♖d8) **20 ♘d4 a6 21 ♖d2 ♖h8** *(57)*

57



22 b4 ♔b8 (22 ... ♗xd4) **23 ♘b3 ♖c8 24 ♔b2 ♖c4 25 a4 e5 26 a5 ♗a7 27 ♕d3! ♖f4** (27 ... ♖xg4 28 b5! with attack) **28 f3 e4 29 fxe4 ♖xe4 30 ♖h2 ♗e3 31 ♕d5 ♖e5 32 ♖h8+ ♔a7 33 ♕d3 ♖e4 34 ♖g8 ♗g5** (34 ... ♖e6) **35 ♘d4 ♗e3 36 b5!** (36 ♘f5 ♕e5) **36 ... ♗xd4 37 ♕xd4+! 1-0** (Yudovich)

(108) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 dxc4 7 ♕a4 a6 8 ♕xc4 b5 9 ♕c2 ♗b7 10 ♗f4 ♘d5 11 ♗d2 ♘d7 12 ♘c3 c5 13 dxc5 ♘xc5 14 ♖ad1 ♖c8 15 ♕b1 ♘f6 16 ♗e3 ♕c7 17 a3 ♕b8 18 ♗d4 ♖fd8 ½-½

(109) Suetin-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 ♗b5 a6 6 ♗xc6+ bxc6 7 0-0 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 c5 9 ♘c6 ♕c7 10 exd5 exd5 11 ♖e1+ ♗e6 12 ♘e5 ♗d6 13 ♘df3 ♘e7 14 c4 0-0 15 cxd5 ♘xd5 16 ♘c4 ♗f4 17 ♗xf4 ♘xf4 18 ♕c2 h6 19 b3 ♖fd8 20 ♖ad1 ♗d5 21 ♖e3 ½-½

International Tournament
Venice, October-November 1967

1 Donner 11; 2-3 Evans, **Petrosian** (+7 -0 =6) 10; 4-5 Janošević, Pachman 8; 6-7 Lengyel, Robatsch 7½; 8 Tatai 6; 9 Canal 5½; 10 Kupper 5; 11 Zinser 4½; 12 Paoli 3½; 13 Calapso 3; 14 Magrin 1½.

(110) Pachman-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♘c3 c6 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 e3 ♗f5 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 a5 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖fc1 ♘d7 13 ♘a4 ♗e7 14 ♕b3 ♖a7 15

♘e1 ♗d6 16 ♘d3 ♕h4 17 g3 ♕h3 18 ♘f4 ♕g4 19 ♕d1 ♕g5 20 ♕f3 ♖e8 21 ♘d3 ♘f6 22 ♘ac5 h5 23 h4 ♕g6 24 ♘f4 ♕f5 25 ♔g2 ♖e7 26 ♘h3 ♕g6 27 ♘f4 ♕h7 28 ♖c3 ♕f5 29 ♘h3 ½-½

(111) Petrosian-Magrin
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 ♘e4 6 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 a5 10 0-0 0-0 11 b3 d5 12 ♗b2 ♘d7 13 ♖ac1 c6 14 ♖c2 ♖a7 15 ♖fc1 ♕b8 16 cxd5 cxd5 17 ♕b5 ♖d8 18 ♘e5 ♘xe5 19 dxe5 h6 20 ♖c6 ♖b7 21 h3 ♔h8 22 b4 axb4 23 axb4 g6 24 ♗d4 ♖g8 25 f4 ♕e8 26 ♕a6 ♕a8 27 b5 g5 28 ♖c7 ♖xc7 29 ♖xc7 ♕d8 30 ♕b7 ♖e8 31 ♖d7 1-0

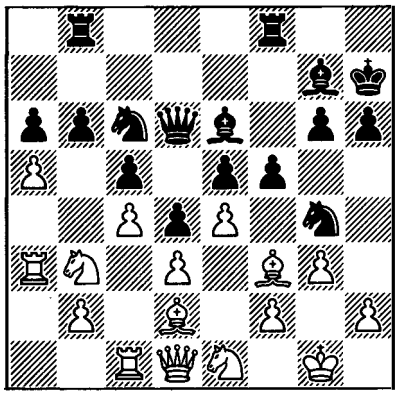
(112) Evans-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗d3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 9 a3 cxd4 10 exd4 ♗xc3 11 bxc3 ♕c7 12 ♕b3 b6 13 ♗e2 ♗b7 14 c4 ♖fe8 15 ♗b2 ♘g4 16 g3 ½-½

(113) Canal-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d3 ♘c6 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♗g7 6 0-0 ♘ge7 7 c3 d5 8 ♕e2 h6 9 ♖d1 b6 10 ♕c2 0-0 11 ♘bd2 e5 12 ♘b3 ♗e6 13 ♕e2 ♖e8 14 ♗e3 ♕d7 15 ♘e1 d4 16 ♗c1 ♖ad8 17 c4 a6 18 ♗d2 ♕d6 19 ♖dc1 ♘b8 20 ♕d1 ♘d7 21 a4 ♖b8 22 ♖a3 ♔h7 23 ♗f3 f5 24 ♘g2 ♘f6 25 ♘e1 ♖f8 26 ♗g2 ♘g4 27 ♗f3 ♘c6 28 a5 *(58)*

58



28 ... ♘xf2 29 ♔xf2 fxe4 30 dxe4 b5 31 ♘xc5 ♕xc5 32 cxb5 ♕xb5 33 ♔g2 ♕xb2 34 ♖aa1 ♕b7 35 ♖ab1 ♕d7 36 ♘d3 ♖xb1 37 ♖xb1 ♗c4 38 ♗e2 ♕f7 39 ♗e1 ♗b5 40 ♘c1 ♘a7 41 ♗xb5 ♘xb5 42 ♕e2 ♖c8 43 ♘d3 ♘c3 44 ♗xc3 dxc3 45 ♕c2 ♕c4 46 ♖b4 ♕c6 47 ♘c1 ♕c5 48 ♖b3 ♕xa5 49 ♘e2 ♕a4 50 ♔f3 a5 51 ♘xc3 ♕d4 52 ♕b2 ♕g1 53 ♖b8 ♕f1+ 54 ♔e3 h5 55 ♔d2 ♕f2+ 0-1

(114) Petrosian-Tatai
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 c5 7 0-0 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♘c6 9 ♗e3 ♘xd4 10 ♗xd4 ♘d7 11 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 12 ♕d4+ ± f6?! 13 ♖ad1 ♕a5 14 ♘d5 ♖f7 15 b4 ♕d8 16 f4 a5 17 c5 e6 18 ♘b6 ♘xb6 19 cxb6 axb4 20 ♕xb4 ♖xa2 21 ♗c4 ♖c2 22 ♕b3 ♖xc4 23 ♕xc4 ♕xb6+ 24 ♕d4?! ♕xd4+ 25 ♖xd4 d5! 26 exd5 exd5 27 ♖xd5 ♗e6 28 ♖d6 ♗c4 29 ♖fd1 b5 30 ♔f2 ♖e7 (30 ... h5!) 31 ♖1d2 ♔f7 32 ♖b6 ♔g7 (32 ... h5!) 33 g4 ♖a7 34 ♖dd6 ♖f7 35 h4 ♖f8 36 ♖d7+ ♖f7 37 ♖xf7+ ♔xf7 38 ♖b7+ ♔g8 39 g5 fxg5 40 hxg5 ♗d3 41 ♔e3 ♗c4 42 ♔d4 1-0

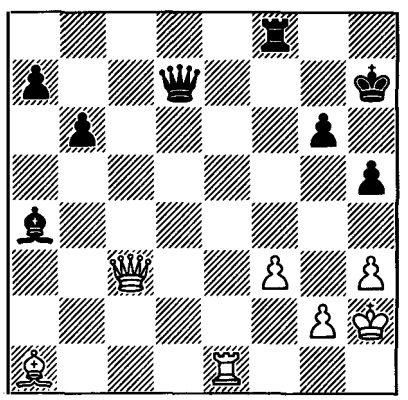
(115) Calapso-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 d6 6 0-0 ♗e7 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗d7 9 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 10 ♗e3 ♘f6 11 ♖e1 0-0 12 h3 ♕c7 13 ♕e2 b5 14 a3 ♕b7 15 ♗d2 ♖ac8 16 f4 ♖c7 17 ♘a2 ♕c8 18 ♗a5 ♖d7 19 ♖ad1 ♗b7 20 ♔h2 ♕a8 21 ♘c3 ♗c6 22 e5 dxe5 23 fxe5 ♘d5 24 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 25 ♗xd5 ♖xd5 26 ♕g2 ♖xd1 27 ♖xd1 ♕a7 28 ♕e2 h6 29 ♗b4 ♗c5 30 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 31 c3 a5 32 ♖d4 ♖b8 33 ♔g2 ♕c7 34 ♕e4 ♖d8 35 ♔f3 a4 36 ♔e3 ♕c5 37 g4 ♖d5 38 ♔d2 ♖xd4+ 39 cxd4 ♕c8 40 h4 g6 41 g5 hxg5 42 hxg5 ½-½

(116) Petrosian-Janošević
Sicilian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 ♘f3 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘c6 5 ♘c3 g6 6 ♘c2 ♗g7 7 e4 0-0 8 ♗e2 d6 9 0-0 ♘d7 10 ♗d2 ♘c5 11 b3 f5 12 exf5 ♗xf5 13 ♖c1 ♘d3 14 ♖b1 ♘cb4 15 ♘xb4 ♘xb4 16 ♖c1 ♕d7 17 a3 ♘d3 18 ♗xd3 ♗xd3 19 ♖e1 ♖f7 20 ♗e3 ♗f5 21 ♕d2 b6 22 f3 ♖c8 23 a4 h5 24 ♗d4 ♗f8 25 ♖e2 ♔h7 26 ♖ce1 e5 27 ♗f2 ♗e7 28 ♘e4 ♕c6 29 ♖d1 ♖d8 30 h3 ♖d7 31 ♔h2 ♗e6 32 ♘g5+ ♗xg5 33 ♕xg5 ♖f5 34 ♕e3 d5 35 cxd5 ♖xd5 36 ♖de1 ♕d6 37 ♗g3 ♖d3 38 ♕c1 ♕c5 39 ♖c2 ♕e7 40 ♖c7 ♖d7 41 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 42 ♗xe5 ♗xb3 43 ♗a1 ♗xa4 44 ♕c3 ♖f8 *(59)*

59



45 ♖e6 ♕f7 46 ♕a3 ♖e8 47 ♖f6 ♕c7+ 48 f4 ♗b5 49 ♕g3 ♖g8 50 ♗e5 ♕e7 51 f5 ♗e8 52 ♖e6 ♕f8 53 ♕g5 ♗f7 54 ♖e7 1-0

(117) Robatsch-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d8 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♘b3 ♘f6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 a4 ♕c7 12 b3 ♗d6 13 h3 0-0 14 ♗b2 b6 15 ♘f3 ♗b7 16 ♕e2 ♕c6 17 ♖fd1 ♖fe8 18 ♗xf6 gxf6 19 ♖d4 ½-½

(118) Petrosian-Donner
French Defence

Who could have expected that Johannes Donner would win 9 games?! This was frankly something of an accident. I thought that 'plus 8' would be more than enough for first place. True, I was one win short of my 'minimum programme', but really, in any reasonable tournament 10 out of 13 is always sufficient for first place. Tournaments with participants of mixed strength obviously demand special tactics.

When after 6 rounds Janošević and Donner had both gained 5 points, I was not dismayed: I still had to play both grandmasters, and besides, with White . . . I was not even especially upset after my draw with the 65-year-old Italian Calapso, a player who, frankly speaking, is not of international standard.

"How did you contrive only to draw with him?", exclaimed Dragoljub Janošević. "I'll show you how to play against outsiders".

A day later the Calapso-Janošević encounter took place. By the 20th move Black had already lost his entire queenside, and soon the Yugoslav grandmaster had

to admit defeat . . .

In round 7 I fulfilled my first task, by forcing Janošević to resign. I still had to halt Donner, who was a point ahead of me. Our meeting took place in round 9.

1 e4

I am gradually coming to the conclusion that, if one is playing for a win, this is the only way to begin.

1 ... e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 f4 c5 6 ♘f3 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♘b6

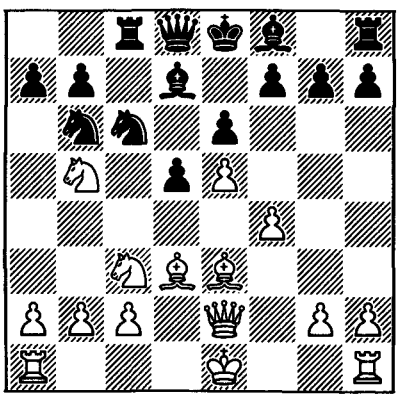
A poor move. 8 ... ♘c5 is better, although the opening variation chosen by Black is hardly good enough for equality.

9 ♗d3 ♗d7
10 ♕e2

For the moment White does not disclose his intentions, but retains the option of both kingside and queenside castling.

10 ... ♖c8
11 ♘db5! *(60)*

60



A very unpleasant move for Black. White intends 12 ♕f2 with the threat of 13 ♘xa7. If 11 ... ♘c4, then 12 ♗xc4 dxc4 13 0-0-0 with a great positional advantage. Black can defend by 11 ... a6, but then comes 12 ♕f2 ♘a8 13 ♘d4, and his knight at a8 has absolutely no future.

Donner therefore sacrifices a pawn, hoping for some counterplay.

11 ... ♘a5 12 ♘xa7 ♖a8 13 ♘ab5 ♘ac4 14 ♗c1 ♗b4 15 0-0 ♘a4

Black gives up a second pawn. However, he no longer had any choice. After a quiet continuation such as 15 ... 0-0, the reply 16 b3 would have deprived him of the slightest hope.

16 ♗xc4 dxc4 17 ♕xc4 ♗c5+ 18 ♔h1 ♘xc3 19 ♘xc3 ♕b6 20 ♘e4 ♗e7

20 ... ♗b5 is not dangerous in view of 21 ♕xc5 ♕xc5 22 ♘xc5 ♗xf1 23 ♘xb7, when the avalanche of white pawns on the queenside cannot be halted.

21 ♕e2 0-0

White is simply two pawns to the good, and Black's slight pressure could have been neutralized by 22 c3 followed by 23 ♗e3 (22 ... ♗b5 23 c4). Instead of this I began to make poor moves, the reason for which is still unclear to me.

22 b3? ♗c6 23 ♗b2 ♖fd8 24 ♘d6?

The series of mistakes continues. White's last move, as will later be seen, is based on a miscalculation. The soundest was 24 ♘d2 followed by 25 ♘f3, consolidating the position.

24 ... ♕c5
25 a4 ♗xd6

Only here did I notice that on the intended 26 ♗a3 there would follow simply 26 ... ♕xa3.

26 exd6 ♕xd6
27 ♖ad1

Confusion. Better was 27 ♕g4 ♕f8, and only then 28 ♖ad1.

27 ... ♕e7
28 ♕e5

Here too 28 ♕g4 was better, although White's winning chances have become microscopic.

28 ... f6 29 ♕e3 ♖d7 30 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 31 h3 ♕d5 32 ♖f2 ♖d8 33 ♔h2 ♕f5 34 ♗d4 h5 35 ♖d2 ♕e4 36 ♕f2 ♖d5 37 ♗e3 ♖xd2 38 ♕xd2 e5 39 fxe5 ♕xe5+ 40 ♗f4 ♕d5 41 ♕xd5+

If 41 ♕f2, then 41 ... h4 with a simple draw.

41 ... ♗xd5 42 c4 ♗e4 43 a5 g5 44 ♗c7 h4 45 ♗d8 ♔f7 46 ♔g1 ♗c2 47 b4 ♗d3 48 c5 ♗b5, and on move 63 the game ended in a **draw.**

I will not hide the fact that this game unsettled me, not so much by the result as by the nature of my mistakes.

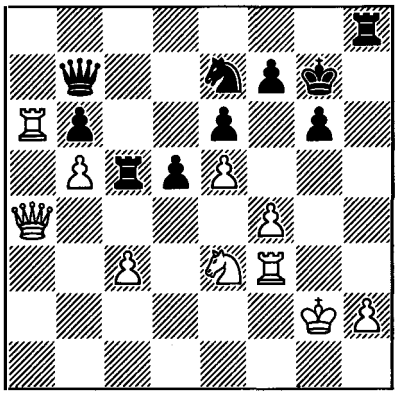
(119) Petrosian-Lengyel
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 e3 d5 5 cxd5 exd5 6 d4 ♘c6 7 ♗e2 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗d6 9 ♘f3 a6 10 0-0 0-0 11 b3 ♗c7 12 ♗b2 ♕d6 13 ♖c1 ♗g4 14 g3 ♗h3 15 ♖e1 ♖fe8 16 ♘d4 ♗a5 17 ♘xc6 bxc6 18 ♗f1 ♗xf1 19 ♖xf1 ♗xc3 20 ♖xc3 ♘e4 21 ♖c2 a5 22 ♕g4 f6 23 ♖fc1 ♖a6 24 ♗d4 ♘g5 25 h4 ♘f7 26 ♖c3 ♕e6 27 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 28 a3 h5 29 ♔g2 ♔h7 30 ♔f3 ♔g6 31 ♔e2 ♘h6 32 ♖c5 ♘f5 33 ♔d3 ♘xd4 34 ♔xd4 ♔f7 35 f3 f5 ½-½

(120) Kupper-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 a3 ♗f8 6 f4 ♘e7 7 ♘f3 ♘f5 8 ♗d3 (8 g4 ♘h4 ∓) **8 ... h5 9 0-0 ♗a6 10 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 11 ♕d3 ♘b8 12 ♘d1?!** (12 ♘e2 ±) **12 ... c5 13 ♘e3 ♘xd4 14 ♘xd4 cxd4 15 ♕xd4 ♗c5 16 ♕d3 ♘c6 17 ♔h1 ♘e7 ∓ 18 ♘d1 a5 19 ♗e3 ♔f8 20 ♖b1 h4 21 b4 axb4 22 axb4 ♗xe3 23 ♘xe3 g6 24 ♖a1 h3 25 c3 hxg2+ 26 ♔xg2 ♔g7 27 b5 ♕c7 28 ♖a6 ♖ac8 29 ♖f3 ♕b7 30 ♕d4 ♖c5 31 ♕a4** *(61)*

61



31 ... d4! ∓ 32 ♖a7 ♖xh2+! 33 ♔xh2 ♕xf3 34 ♕xd4 ♘d5 35 f5 ∓∓ ♘xe3 36 ♖xf7+ ♔h6 37 ♕h4+ ♕h5 38 ♕xh5+ gxh5 39 ♖f6+ ♔g5 40 ♖xe6 ♖xb5 41 f6 ♘g4+ 42 ♔g3 ♘xe5 43 ♔h2 ♘g4+ 0-1

(121) Petrosian-Zinser
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 c6 6 e3 ♗e7 7 ♗d3 ♘bd7 8 ♕c2 ♘f8 9 ♘ge2 ♘e6 10 ♗h4 g6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖ae1 ♘h5 13 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 14 f3 ♕d8 15 g4 ♘hg7 16 ♘g3 ♕h4 17 ♕g2 ♔h8 18 ♔h1 ♗d7 19 ♘ge2 f5 20 gxf5 ♘xf5 21 ♗xf5 gxf5 22 ♕g3 ♕f6 23 ♕d6 ♖ad8 24 ♘f4 ♘g7 25 ♕a3 a6 26 ♕b4 ♗c8 27 ♘ce2 ♕d6 28 ♕d2 b6 29 b4 ♖f7 30 ♖g1 ♖e8 31 ♘d3 ♖fe7 32 ♘ef4 ♕h6 33 a4 ♗e6 34 ♖g3 ♗f7 35 ♘e5 c5 36 bxc5 bxc5 37 ♘xf7+ ♖xf7 38 dxc5 ♕f6 39 ♖eg1 ♖d8 40 ♕g2 1-0

1968

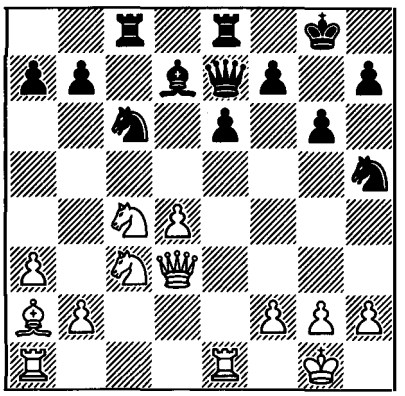
International Tournament
Bamberg, April 1968

1 Keres 12; 2-3 **Petrosian** (+5 –0 =10), Schmid 10; 4-5 Teschner, Unzicker 9½; 6 Ivkov 9; 7 Westerinen 8½; 8 Donner 8; 9 Pfleger 7½; 10 Bobotsov 7; 11 Kestler 6; 12-13 Dückstein, Szabo 5½; 14 Teufel 4½; 15 Klundt 4; 16 Toran 3½.

(122) Szabo-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 c5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 a3 cxd4 9 exd4 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♗e7 11 ♖e1 ♗d7 12 ♗a2 ♖c8 13 ♕d3 ♖e8 14 ♘e5 (14 ♗f4!) **14 ... g6 15 ♗g5** (15 ♗h6) **15 ... ♘h5 16 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 17 ♘c4?** (17 d5; 17 ♖ad1) *(62)*

62



17 ... b5 ∓ 18 ♘e3 (18 ♘xb5 ♘b4 19 axb4 ♗xb5 ∓) **18 ... b4 19 ♘e4 ♘f6 20 ♘c4 ♖cd8 21 ♘xf6+?** (21 ♘ed6 ♖f8 22 ♖ad1) **21 ... ♕xf6 22 ♘d6 ♖e7 23 ♖ad1 ♗e8 ∓∓ 24 ♘xe8 ♖exe8 25 ♕a6 ♘xd4 26 ♕xa7 b3 27 ♗b1 ♘c2 28 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 29 ♖f1 ♕xb2 30 ♕b6 ♖d5 31 a4 ♕c3 32 h3 ♔g7 33 g3 ♖a5 34 h4 ♖xa4 35 h5 gxh5 36 ♕d8 h6 0-1** (Ivkov)

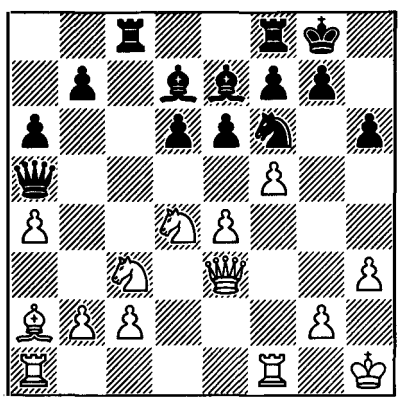
(123) Petrosian-Unzicker
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 e3 ♘c6 6 a3 a6 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗e2 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗d6 10 ♗f3 ♗e5 11 ♘xc6 bxc6 12 ♘a4 0-0 13 ♕c2 a5 14 0-0 ♗a6 15 ♖d1 ♗c4 16 ♖b1 ♗a2 17 ♖a1 ♗c4 18 ♖b1 ♗a2 ½-½

(124) Dückstein-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♗c4 ♕a5 8 ♕d2 e6 9 a4!? h6 10 ♗e3 ♘e5 11 ♗a2 ♘eg4 12 0-0 ♗d7 13 h3 ♘xe3 14 ♕xe3 ♗e7 15 f4 0-0 16 ♔h1 ♖ac8 17 f5? (17 ♖f3) *(63)*

63



17 ... ♖xc3! 18 bxc3 ∓ e5 19 ♘e2 ♖c8 20 ♖fd1 ♖c5! 21 ♖d3 ♔f8 22 ♗b3 ♗c6 23 ♘g3 b5 24 ♗d5 ♗e8! 25 ♕f3 bxa4 ∓ 26 c4 ♕b4 27 ♘h5 ♘xd5! 28 cxd5 ♗g5 29 ♕g4 ♖c4 30 ♘g3 ♖xc2 31 h4 ♗f6 32 ♘h5 ♖c4 33 ♖e3? (33 ♘xf6 gxf6 34 ♖e3 ∞) **33 ... ♖c3 34 ♖xc3 ♕xc3 ∓∓ 35 ♖a2 ♕e1+ 36 ♔h2 ♕xh4+ 37 ♕xh4 ♗xh4 38 ♘g3 ♗d8 39 ♘e2 ♗a5 40 ♔g3 ♗b4 41 ♔f3 0-1** (Ivkov)

(125) Petrosian-Donner
Slav Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 d5 3 c4 c6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 ♗f5 7 e3 e6 8 ♗b5 ♘d7 9 ♘e5 ♘cxe5 10 ♗xe5 a6 11 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 12 0-0 b5 13 ♖c1 f6 14 ♗g3 ♖c8 ½-½

(126) Kestler-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 ♘c3 d6 5 e4 ♗g7 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e5 8 0-0 ♘e8 9 ♘e1 f5 10 exf5 gxf5 11 f4 ♘d7 12 ♗e3 ♕e7 13 ♕d2 ♘ef6 14 ♘c2 e4 15 ♗f2 ♖f7 16 ♖ab1 ♘f8 17 a3 ♘g6 18 b4 b6 19 bxc5 bxc5 20 ♖b3 ♗h6 21 ♗e3 ♗a6 22 ♘b5 ♖af8 23 g3 ♕d8 24 ♗f2 ♔h8 25 ♔h1 ♖g8 26 ♗e1 ♗c8 27 ♘e3 a6 28 ♘c3 ♗g7 29 ♘a4 ♘d7 30 ♕a5 ½-½

(127) Petrosian-Toran
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 ♘f3 d6 6 0-0 a6 7 ♘c3 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 ♖b8 11 b3 b5 12 ♗b2 bxc4? (12 ... e5; 12 ... e6) **13 bxc4 ± ♗h6?! 14 ♘cb1 e5 15 ♗c3 ♗d7 16 ♘a3 ♖b4?! 17 ♗xb4 cxb4 18 ♘ab1 ♕b6 19 ♘b3 ♘b7 20 ♘1d2 ♖c8 21 a3! ±± a5 22 axb4 a4 23 ♘a5 ♘xa5 24 bxa5 ♕xa5 25 e3 ♗g7 26 ♖a2 ♘e8 27 ♖fa1 ♖a8 28 e4 ♕c5 29 ♕c3 ♖c8 30 ♗f3 ♗h6 31 ♖b1 ♗xd2 32 ♕xd2 ♕xc4 33 ♖b4 ♕c1+ 34 ♕xc1 ♖xc1+ 35 ♔g2 ♔g7 36 ♗e2 ♘f6 37 f3 g5 38 g4 h5 39 h3 hxg4 40 hxg4 ♘e8 41 ♖b6 1-0** (Ivkov)

(128) Keres-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 8 ♕d2 c5 9 dxc5 ♘xc5 10 ♕e3 ♕a5+ 11 c3 ♘d7 12 ♗e2 ♗xg5 13 ♘xg5 ♘f6 14 0-0 ♗d7 15 ♖fd1 ♕c7 16 ♖d4 ♗c6 17 ♗f3 ♗xf3 18 ♕xf3 0-0 19 ♘e4 ♘xe4 20 ♕xe4 ♖ad8 21 ♖ad1 h6 22 g3 b6 ½-½

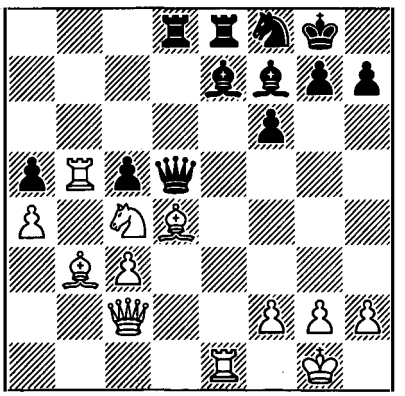
(129) Petrosian-Pfleger
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♘c6 14 ♘b3 a5 15 ♗e3 a4 16 ♘bd2 ♗d7 (16 ... ♗e6!) **17 ♖c1 ♖fc8 18 a3 ♕b7 19 ♗b1 b4 20 ♘c4 ± bxa3 21 bxa3 exd4 22 ♗xd4!** (22 ♘xd4 ♘e5) **22 ... ♘xd4 23 ♕xd4 ♖a6 24 ♗d3 ♕a7 25 ♖b1 ♖c5 26 ♖b4 ♖b5 27 ♖xb5 ♗xb5 28 ♖b1 ♗e8 29 ♘b6 ± ♖a5 30 ♘c8 ♕c7 31 ♘xe7+ ♕xe7 32 ♖b6! d5 33 e5 ♘d7 34 ♖b4 h6?** (34 ... g6) **35 ♗f5! ♘f8 36 ♕b2 ♖c5 37 ♗c2 ♖c4 38 ♖b8 g6 39 ♗d3 ♖c5 40 ♔h2 ♘e6** (40 ... ♔g7 41 ♖a8!) **41 ♗b5 ±± ♘c7 42 ♗xa4 ♔h7 43 ♗xe8 ♘xe8 44 ♕b4 ♘c7 45 ♖b7 ♔g7 46 g3 ♕f8 47 ♕b6 ♕e7 48 ♔g2 d4 49 e6! fxe6 50 ♘xd4 ♔f6 51 a4 ♖c4 52 ♕b2 ♔f7 53 ♘f3 ♖c5 54 ♘e5+ ♔g8 55 ♘xg6 1-0** (Ivkov)

(130) Ivkov-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 a4 b4 9 d3 d6 10 ♘bd2 ♗e6 11 ♘c4 ♘d7 12 ♗e3 a5 13 c3 bxc3 14 bxc3 d5 15 exd5 ♗xd5 16 ♖b1 ♖e8 17 ♗a2 f6 18 ♖b5 ♗f7 19 ♕c2 ♘f8 20 d4 exd4 21 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 22 ♗xd4 ♕d7 23 ♖d1 ♖ad8 24 ♖bb1 ♕e6 25 ♖e1 ♕d5 26 ♖b5 c5 27 ♗b3 *(64)*

64



27 ... ♕a8 28 ♘b6 ♕c6 29 ♗xf7+ ♔xf7 30 ♕b3+ ♘e6 31 ♗e3 ♔f8 32 ♘c4 ♗d6 33 ♖b6 ♕d5 34 ♘xd6 ♖xd6 35 ♕xd5 ♖xd5 36 ♖b5 ♖a8 37 g3 ♔f7 38 ♔f1 ♖a7 39 ♔e2 ♖e5 40 ♖eb1 ♖e4 41 ♖a1 f5 ½-½

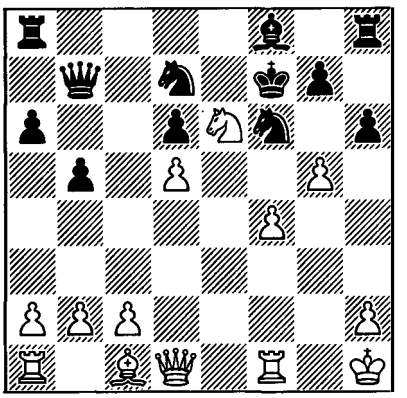
(131) Petrosian-Schmid
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 ♘c6 5 0-0 e6 6 ♘c3 ♘ge7 7 d3 d5 8 ♗d2 0-0 9 ♕c1 b6 10 ♖d1 ♗b7 11 ♖b1 ♕d7 12 a3 ♘d4 13 ♗h6 ♘xf3+ 14 ♗xf3 ♗xh6 15 ♕xh6 ♘f5 16 ♕f4 ♘d4 17 ♗g2 dxc4 18 dxc4 ♗xg2 19 ♔xg2 ♕c6+ 20 f3 ♖ad8 21 ♔f2 ♔g7 22 e3 ♘f5 23 g4 ♘d6 24 ♖d2 f6 25 ♖bd1 ♘f7 26 h4 ♖xd2+ 27 ♖xd2 ♖d8 28 ♖xd8 ♘xd8 29 ♔e2 e5 30 ♕e4 ♕xe4 31 ♘xe4 f5 32 ♘c3 ♘c6 33 g5 h6 34 ♔d2 hxg5 35 hxg5 ♔f7 36 ♘d5 ♔e6 37 b4 ♔d6 38 ♔c3 cxb4+ 39 axb4 ♘d8 40 f4 ♘e6 41 ♔b3 exf4 42 exf4 b5 ½-½

(132) Klundt-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗c4 a6 7 ♗b3 b5 8 0-0 ♗b7 9 ♗xe6!? fxe6 10 ♘xe6 ♕d7 11 ♘d5 ♗xd5 12 exd5 ♔f7 (12 ... h5!?) **13 g4! h6 14 f4 ♕a7+ 15 ♔h1 ♘bd7 16 g5 ♕b7!?** (16 ... ♘e8 ∞) *(65)*

65



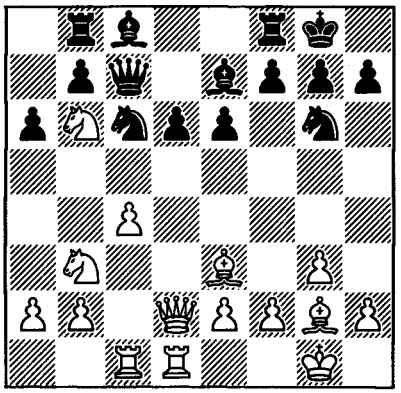
17 gxf6 ♘xf6 18 ♕f3 (18 f5) **18 ... ♕xd5 19 f5 ♗e7 20 ♗e3 g5 21 ♖ad1 ♕xf3+ 22 ♖xf3 ♖ac8 23 c3 ♘e8 24 ♗d4 ♗f6 25 ♖e3 ♗xd4 26 ♖xd4 ♔f6 27 a4 ♖b8 28 ♖b4 ± ½-½** (Ivkov)

(133) Petrosian-Bobotsov
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 e6 6 g3 ♗e7? (6 ... ♗c5! 7 ♘b3 ♗e7; 7 ... ♗b4) **7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 a6!?** (8 ... ♘xd4; 8 ... h6!?) **9 ♘b3** (9 e4!) **9 ... d6 10 ♗f4 ♘g4?** (10 ... ♘h5 11 ♗e3 ♘e5 12 c5 d5 13 ♗d4 ♘c6 14 e4 ♘f6!? 15 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 16 exd5 exd5 17 ♕xd5 ♗e6 ⩱) **11 ♖c1**

♘ge5 12 ♘a4! ± ♘g6? (12 ... ♕c7 13 c5 d5 ±) 13 ♗e3 ♗f6 14 ♕d2 ♕c7 15 ♖fd1 ±± ♗e7 16 ♘b6 ♖b8 *(66)*

66



17 ♘d5! exd5 18 cxd5 ♗d7 19 ♘d4 ♘ge5 20 f4 ♕a5 21 dxc6 ♕xd2 22 ♖xd2 ♘xc6 23 ♗xc6 ♖fc8? 24 ♗xd7 ♖xc1+ 25 ♔f2 g6 26 ♖d3 ♖c7 27 ♗h3 ♗f6 28 ♗g2 ♖e8 29 b3 1-0 (Ivkov)

(134) Westerinen-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 h4 h6 7 ♘f3 ♘d7 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 ♕c7 10 ♗d2 e6 11 0-0-0 0-0-0 12 c4 ♘gf6 13 ♔b1 ½-½

(135) Petrosian-Teufel
Reti Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♗g2 g6 3 c4 c6 4 ♕c2 ♘f6 5 b3 ♗g7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 ♘f3 ♗g4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 d3 ♗xf3! 10 ♗xf3 e6 11 ♘d2 ♘e8 12 ♗xg7 ♘xg7 13 b4 ♘e5 14 ♗g2 ♘f5 15 ♕b2 ♕f6 16 ♖ab1 h5 17 e4 ♘e7 18 b5 ± ♖fd8 19 bxc6 bxc6 20 exd5 cxd5 21 ♕a3 ♖ab8! 22 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 23 cxd5 exd5 24 ♘b3 h4 25 ♕xa7 ♖c8 26 d4 ♘f3+ 27 ♔h1 ♖c2 28 a4?? ♘xh2 ∓∓ (29 ♔xh2 hxg3+ 30 ♔xg3 [*30 ♔h3 ♕e6+!*] 30 ... ♕d6+! 31 ♔h3 ♖c3+ 32 f3 ♘f5; 31 ♔f3 ♖c3+; 31 ♔g4 f5+ 32 ♔h3 g5) ½-½ (Ivkov)

(136) Teschner-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 cxd4 12 cxd4 ♗b7 13 a4 ♖c8 14 axb5 axb5 15 ♗d3 ♖xc1 16 ♕xc1 ♘b3 17 ♕d1 ♘xa1 18 ♘bd2 ♕b6 19 ♕xa1 ♘d7 20 ♘b3 ♖a8 21 ♕d1 ♖a4 22 ♗c2 ♗f6 23 ♘c1 ♖a1 24 d5 ♗d8 25 ♕e2 g6 26 ♘d3 ♖a8 27 ♘b4 ♕c5 28 ♘d3 ♕c4 29 ♖c1 ♘f6 30 ♘d2 ♕d4 31 ♖e1 ♖c8 32 ♗b3 ♕a7 33 ♔h2 ♔g7 34 ♘f3 ♗b6 35 ♖d1 ♘d7 36 ♕f1 ♘f6 37 ♖a1 ♕b8 38 ♕e1 ♕c7 39 ♔g1 ♘d7 40 ♖c1 ♘c5 41 ♕e2 ♕d7 42 ♘xc5 ½-½

46th Moscow Championship
May-June 1968

1-2 Bronstein, **Petrosian** (+6 –0 =9) 10½; 3 I.Zaitsev 10; 4 Averbakh 9; 5 Liberzon 8½; 6-9 Gulko, Khasin, Kholmov, Suetin 8; 10 Simagin 7; 11 Ageichenko 6½; 12 Bykhovsky, Shamkovich, Volovich 6; 15 Moiseyev 5; 16 Estrin 3.

(137) Petrosian-Khasin
Reti Opening

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 b3 ♘f6 4 ♗b2 ♘bd7 5 g3 ♗d6 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 0-0 b6 (7 ... c6 =) 8 cxd5 exd5 9 ♘d4! ♗b7 10 ♘f5 ♘e8 11 ♘c3 ♘df6 12 ♘b5 c6 13 ♘bxd6 ♘xd6 14 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 15 ♖e1 ♖ad8 16 e3 ♖fe8 17 ♖c1 ♕e6 18 b4! ♕f5 19 ♕f3 ♕xf3 20 ♗xf3 ♘e4 21 d3 ♘g5 22 ♗g4 f5 23 ♗e2 ♘f7 (23 ... ♘e6!) 24 ♖c2 ♖d6 25 ♖ec1 ♘e5? (25 ... ♘d8) 26 b5! d4 27 exd4 ♘g4

28 ♗f3 ♘f6 29 bxc6 ±± ♗a6 30 ♖e2 ♔f7 31 ♖xe8 ♔xe8 32 d5! ♘xd5 33 ♗a3 ♖d8 34 c7 ♘xc7 35 ♖xc7 ♖xd3 36 ♖e7+ ♔d8 37 ♖e3 ♖xe3 38 fxe3 ♗c4 39 ♗b2 ♗xa2 40 ♗xg7 a5 41 ♗c3 1-0 (Kholmov)

(138) Zaitsev-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 h4 h6 7 ♘f3 ♘d7 8 h5 ♗h7 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 e6 11 ♗d2 ♕c7 12 0-0-0 0-0-0 13 ♘e4 ♘gf6 14 g3 ♘c5 15 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 16 ♔b1 ♗d6 17 c4 c5 18 ♖c1 b6 19 ♕e2 ♕b7 20 ♖h4 ♖d7 ½-½

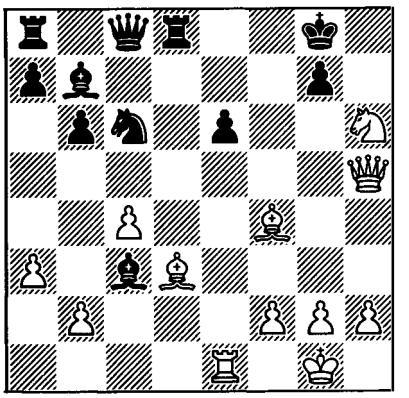
(139) Petrosian-Ageichenko
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 d4 d5 4 ♘f3 e6 5 e3 ♗e7 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 ♘bd7 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♕e2 ♗d6 11 e4 dxe4 12 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 13 ♕xe4 ♘f6 14 ♕h4 h6 15 ♖ad1 ♕e7 16 ♖fe1 ♖ad8 17 ♗c1 ♘h7 18 ♕g4 ♔h8 19 ♕h3 ♗c8 20 ♘e5 ♗xe5 21 dxe5 ♖d7 22 ♗e4 ♘g5 23 ♗xg5 ♖xd1 24 ♖xd1 ♕xg5 25 ♗xc6 ♕xe5 26 ♕d3 g6 27 g3 ♔g7 28 h4 h5 29 a4 ♕c5 30 ♕c3+ ♔g8 31 ♗g2 ♖e8 32 b4 ♕c7 33 c5 bxc5 34 bxc5 e5 35 ♖d6 e4 36 ♕d4 ♗f5 37 ♗f1 ♕a5 38 c6 ♔h7 39 ♕f6 ♔g8 40 ♗c4 ♕e1+ 41 ♔g2 1-0

ʃ(140) Petrosian-Bykhovsky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♗f4 ♘f6 5 e3 0-0 6 ♖c1 c5 7 dxc5 ♘c6 8 ♘f3 ♗xc5 9 a3 d4 (better 9 ... dxc4) **10 exd4 ♘xd4 11 ♘e5! b6 12 ♗d3 ♗b7 13 0-0 h6?! 14 ♖e1 ♘c6 15 ♖c2 ♕c8** (better 15 ... ♘xe5) **16 ♘g4! ♗e7 17 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 18 ♘e4 ♗e7 19 ♕h5 ♖d8 20 ♖c3 f5 21 ♘g3 ♗f6 22 ♘xf5! ♗xc3 23 ♘xh6+!** *(67)*

67



23 ... gxh6 24 ♕g6+ ♗g7 25 ♗xh6 ♖d7 26 ♕h7+ ♔f8 27 ♖xe6 ♖e7 28 ♖f6+ ♔e8 29 ♕g8+ 1-0 (Flohr)

*(141) Petrosian-Averbakh
Ruy Lopez

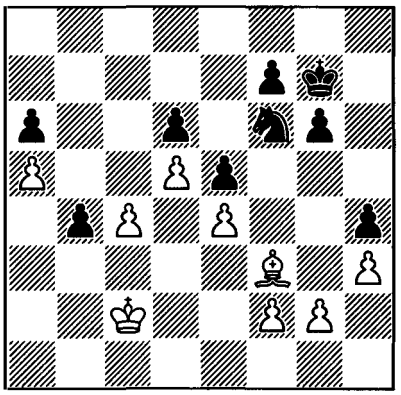
1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 a4 ♘a5 9 ♗a2 c5 10 d3 ♗d7 11 ♘bd2 0-0 12 ♘f1 ♘c6 13 ♘e3 ♘d4 14 c3 ♘xf3+ 15 ♕xf3 ♗e6 16 ♘f5 b4 17 cxb4 cxb4 18 ♗c4 ♕d7 19 ♗g5 ♖fc8 20 ♖ec1 ♗d8 21 h4 ♖c5 22 ♗xe6 ♖xc1+ 23 ♖xc1 fxe6 24 ♘h6+ ♔h8 25 ♘g4 ♘g8 26 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 27 ♖c4 a5 28 b3 ♖c8 29 ♘e3 ♘f6 30 ♖xc8+ ♕xc8 31 ♘c4 ♕c7 32 ♕e3 ♔g8 33 f3 ♘d7 ½-½

(142) Moiseyev-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 d4 c5 4 d5 d6 5 e4 ♘f6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e5 8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 ♘bd7 10 0-0 ♖e8 11 ♘e1 h5 12 ♗g5 ♘f8 13 h3 ♘8h7 14 ♗e3 ♘d7 15 a3 h4 16 ♕c2 ♖f8 17 b4 b6 18 ♗g4 ♗a6 19 ♘b5 ♘df6

20 ♗e2 ♘e8 21 ♗g4 ♘g5 22 ♖d1 ♗f6 23 bxc5 bxc5 24 ♖b1 ♖b8 25 a4 ♖b7 26 ♘f3 ♘xf3+ 27 ♗xf3 ♗g5 28 ♕d2 ♗xe3 29 ♕xe3 ♔g7 30 ♖b3 ♘f6 31 ♗e2 ♕e7 32 ♖fb1 ♖fb8 33 ♗f3 ♖b6 34 ♕c3 ♗c8 35 ♘a3 ♖xb3 36 ♖xb3 ♖xb3 37 ♕xb3 ♕c7 38 ♕c3 ♕b8 39 ♔f1 ♗d7 40 a5 ♗a4 41 ♔e2 ♕b4 42 ♔d2 a6 43 ♔d3 ♗b3 44 ♕xb4 cxb4 45 ♘c2 ♗xc2+ 46 ♔xc2 *(68)*

68



46 ... ♘d7 47 ♔b3 ♘c5+ 48 ♔xb4 f5 49 exf5 gxf5 50 g3 e4 51 ♗e2 e3 52 gxh4 exf2 53 ♔c3 ♘e4+ 54 ♔d3 ♘g3 55 ♔e3 f1=♕ 56 ♗xf1 ♘xf1+ 57 ♔f4 ♔f6 58 h5 ♘d2 59 c5 dxc5 60 d6 ♘e4 61 d7 ♔e7 62 h6 ♘d6 63 h7 ♘f7 64 ♔xf5 ♔xd7 65 h4 c4 66 ♔e4 ♔c6 67 ♔f5 c3 68 ♔f6 ♘h8 69 ♔g7 c2 70 ♔xh8 c1=♕ 71 ♔g7 ♕c3+ 0-1

(143) Petrosian-Estrin
English Opening
(notes by Suetin)

1 c4 e5 2 g3 ♘c6 3 ♗g2 d6 4 ♘c3 ♗e6 5 d3 g6 6 b4! ♕d7 7 b5 ♘d8 8 ♘f3 ♗g7

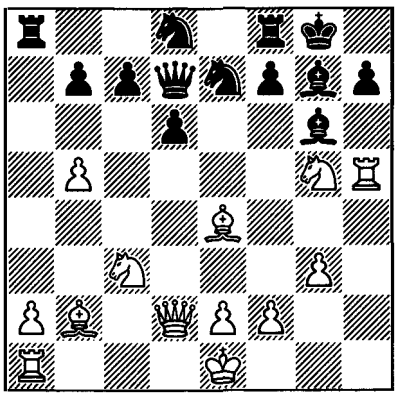
Having seized the initiative on the queenside, White devises an interesting plan of attack on the kingside.

9 ♘g5! e4 10 ♗b2 exd3 11 ♕xd3 a6 12 h4! axb5 13 cxb5 ♘e7 14 ♕d2 0-0

Black already has a very difficult position. 14 ... h6 15 ♘xe6 fxe6 (or *15 ... ♕xe6 16 ♘d5!*) 16 h5! is unattractive.

15 h5 gxh5 16 ♖xh5 ♗f5 17 ♗e4 ♗g6 *(69)*

69



18 ♖xh7!

With great rapidity White has switched the spearhead of his actions to the kingside, where he now begins a spectacular concluding attack. By this exchange sacrifice he clears the way to the enemy king. Black's position is indefensible.

18 ... ♗xh7

18 ... ♗xe4 is very strongly met by 19 ♖xg7+! etc.

19 ♗xh7+ ♔h8
20 0-0-0!

A late but timely moment to castle. White brings his queen's rook into play, infusing new life into the attack.

20 ... ♘g8 21 ♖h1 ♘h6 22 ♘d5 f6 23 ♘e4 ♖xa2

On 23 ... ♔xh7 there follows 24 ♘xf6+! etc.

24 ♖xh6! ♗xh6 25 ♕xh6 ♕g7 26 ♕h4!
Black resigns

(144) Petrosian-Bronstein
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 d3 a6 6 ♗e3 ♘c6 7 ♕c1 ♖b8 8 ♗h6 b5 9 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 10 ♘f3 b4 11 ♘d5 e6 12 ♘xf6 ♕xf6 13 h4 h5 14 0-0 ♗b7 15 e3 ♘e5 16 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 17 d4 ♕f5 18 d5 exd5 19 cxd5 ♗xd5 20 ♗xd5 ♕xd5 21 ♕xc7 ♖bc8 22 ♕b6 ♖c2 23 ♕xb4 a5 24 ♕f4 ♖xb2 25 ♖fd1 ♖d2 ½-½

(145) Liberzon-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 f4 c5 6 ♘f3 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 ♕b6 8 ♘a4 ♕a5+ 9 c3 cxd4 10 b4 ♕d8 11 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 12 ♗xd4 ♘b8 13 a3 ♘c6 14 ♗e3 g6 15 ♗d3 ♗g7 16 0-0 0-0 17 ♘c5 f6 18 exf6 ♗xf6 19 ♕d2 b6 20 ♘b3 e5 21 ♗b5 ♗b7 22 ♗xc6 ♗xc6 23 fxe5 ♗xe5 24 ♗d4 ♗d6 25 ♕h6 ♕c7 26 ♖ae1 ♗b5 27 ♖xf8+ ♖xf8 28 ♕h3 ♕e7 29 ♕e3 ♕f7 30 g3 ♖e8 31 ♕f2 ½-½

(146) Shamkovich-Petrosian
Old Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 ♗g4 4 ♘c3 c6 5 e4 e6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♗e3 ♘bd7 9 ♘d2 ♗xe2 10 ♕xe2 e5 11 d5 c5 12 g3 ♘e8 13 ♖ae1 ♗f6 14 f4 a6 15 ♘f3 b5 16 cxb5 axb5 17 ♕xb5 exf4 18 ♗xf4 ♗xc3 19 bxc3 f6 20 ♖f2 ♖f7 21 ♕d3 ♘f8 22 ♗c1 ♕c8 23 ♘h4 ♘d7 24 ♘f3 ♘b6 25 a3 ♕a6 26 ♕xa6 ♖xa6 27 ♖b2 ♘c4 28 ♖b8 ♖e7 29 ♖e2 ♔f7 30 g4 ♘xa3 31 ♖a2 ♖ea7 32 ♘d2 ♘c4 33 ♖xa6 ♖xa6 34 ♖b7+ ♔f8 35 ♘xc4 ♖a1 36 ♔f2 ♖xc1 37 ♖b8 ½-½

(147) Petrosian-Gulko
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 d4 ♗b4 5 ♕b3 c5 6 a3 ♗xc3+ 7 ♕xc3 ♗b7 8 dxc5 bxc5 9 b4 d6 10 e3 ♘bd7 11 ♗e2 0-0 12 0-0 ♘e4 13 ♕c2 f5 14 ♘e1 ♕f6 15 f3 ♘g5 16 ♗b2 ♕h6 17 ♖d1 e5 18 f4 ♘e4 19 ♘d3 ♕e6 20 ♘f2 ♘df6 21 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 22 b5 g5 23 ♗d3 gxf4 24 exf4 ♖ae8 25 ♖de1 ♖f6 26 ♖e2 ♖g6 27 ♗xe4 1-0

18th World Chess Olympiad
Lugano, October-November 1968

Board 1, +9 -0 =3.

(148) Petrosian-Morelos Castro
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Boleslavsky and Konstantinopolsky)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 c6

Premature. After 5 ... 0-0 White would have been obliged to disclose somewhat his opening plans. But now he advantageously transposes into the Four Pawns Attack.

6 f4 h5?

Fearing e4-e5, Black makes a move which seriously weakens his kingside. The lesser evil was castling, or else 6 ... e5, although after 7 dxe5 dxe5 8 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9 ♘f3 White holds the initiative.

7 ♘f3 ♗g4
8 ♘g5

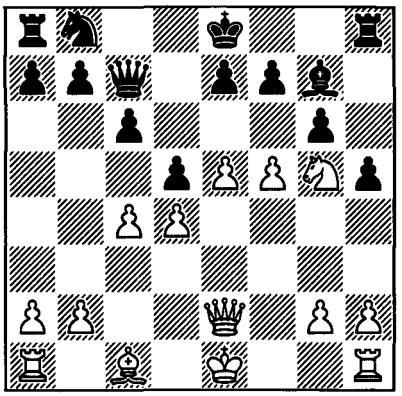
Immediately probing a weak point in the opponent's position.

8 ... ♕c7 9 e5 ♗xe2 10 ♕xe2 ♘h7 11 ♘xh7 ♖xh7 12 ♘e4

The second knight aims for g5, and in passing 13 ♘xd6+ is threatened.

12 ... d5 13 ♘g5 ♖h8 14 f5! *(70)*

70



After this blow Black's pawn chain is broken up.

14 ... gxf5 15 e6 f6 16 ♘f7 ♖h7 17 0-0

The black king is surrounded, and no defence is apparent against the threat of ♖xf5 followed by ♖xh5.

17 ... dxc4 18 ♖xf5 ♕b6 19 ♗e3 c5 20 d5 ♘d7 21 ♖xh5 ♖xh5 22 ♕xh5 ♕xb2 23 ♘d6++ ♔d8 24 ♕e8+ Black resigns

(149) Giustolisi-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗c4 e6 7 ♗b3 (7 ♕e2! intending ♗e3, 0-0-0) **7 ... ♗e7 8 0-0 b5 9 ♕e2** (9 f4!) **9 ... 0-0 10 a3 ♗b7 11 ♖d1** (11 ♗g5 ♘xe4) **11 ... ♘bd7 12 ♗g5 ♖c8** (intending ... ♖xc3, ... ♘xe4) **13 f3 ♕b6 14 ♔h1 ♘c5 15 ♗a2 ♖fe8 16 ♗e3 ♕c7 17 ♕f2 ♘cd7 18 ♕g3 ♗f8** (18 ... ♘e5 19 ♗xe6? fxe6 20 ♘xe6 ♘h5) **19 ♖d2 ♘e5 20 ♖ad1 ♕b8 21 ♘de2 ♘c4 ∓ 22 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 23 ♗g5 ♘d7 24 ♗h6! ♘e5 25 h4 f6 26 ♗e3 ♖c7 27 b3 ♖f7?! 28 ♘d4 ♘c6 29 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 30 ♗f4 ∓ e5 31 ♗e3 ♖c8 32 ♘d5??** (32 ♖e2! intending ♘d5) **32 ... ♗xd5 33 exd5 ♖c3 ∓∓ 34 ♖e2 ♕c8 35 ♖dd2 a5!** (35 ... ♖fc7 36 ♗b6) **36 h5 a4 37 bxa4 bxa4 0-1** (Ivkov)

(150) Czerniak-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 exd5 exd5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘e2 ♘ge7 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 bxc3 0-0 10 ♗f4 ♕d7 11 ♕d2 ♘a5 12 ♘g3 ♘c4 13 ♕c1 ♖ae8 14 h3 ♗f5 15 ♕b1 ♗xd3 16 cxd3 ♘g6 17 ♗c1 ♘d6 18 ♕b3 ♕c6 19 ♗d2 ♖e7 20 f4 ♕a6 21 ♕c2 f5 22 ♖f2 ♖fe8 23 ♘f1 b6 24 ♘h2 c5 25 ♘f3 c4 26 dxc4 ♘e4 27 cxd5 ♘xf2 28 d6 ♖f7 29 d7 ♘xh3+ 30 gxh3 ♖xd7 31 ♕xf5 ♖f7 32 ♕d5 ♕b7 33 ♕xb7 ♖xb7 34 ♘e5 ♘e7 35 ♔f2 ♖c7 36 ♔f3 ♘c6 37 ♖g1 ♘a5 38 f5 ♖f8 39 ♔e4 ♘b7 40 ♘g4 ♘d6+ 41 ♔d3 ♘xf5 42 ♗f4 ♖c6 43 ♘e5 ♖cc8 44 ♘d7 ♖f7 45 ♘e5 ♖fc7 46 c4 ♖d8 47 ♘f3 ♖c5 48 a4 g6 49 ♗d2 ♘g7 50 d5 ♘f5 51 ♗b4 ♖cc8 52 ♘g5 a6 53 ♘e6 ♖d7 54 ♘f4 a5 55 ♗a3 ♖e8 56 ♗c1 ♖de7 57 ♘e6 ♖xe6 58 dxe6 ♖xe6 59 ♗f4 ♔f7 60 ♖c1 ♖c6 61 c5 bxc5 62 ♔c4 ♔e6 63 ♖e1+ ♔d7 64 ♖b1 ♘d6+ 65 ♔d5 c4 66 ♗xd6 ♖xd6+ 67 ♔xc4 ♔c6 68 ♖b8 ♖f6 69 ♖c8+ ♔b7 70 ♖e8 ♖f4+ 71 ♔c5 ♖f5+ 72 ♔c4 ♖h5 73 ♖e3 ♔c6 74 ♖e6+ ♔d7 75 ♖e3 ♔d6 76 ♖b3 ♔c6 77 ♖g3 ♖h4+ 78 ♔b3 ♖b4+ 79 ♔a3 ♖f4 80 ♔b3 ♔d5 81 h4 ♔e4 82 ♖g5 ♖f5 83 ♖g1 ♖h5 0-1

(151) Petrosian-Kottnauer
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Boleslavsky and Konstantinopolsky)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d5 a5

Since the basic idea of the Petrosian Variation is a pawn offensive on the

queenside, Black prepares a blockade of the critical c5 and b4 squares, by playing his pawn to a5 and his knight to a6.

8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 ♘a6 10 0-0 ♕e8

The pin on his knight was preventing Black from developing his forces.

11	**♘d2**	**♘h7**
12	**a3**	**h5**

Black vacates the h6 square for his bishop, and in passing creates the threat of ... g5 and ... h4, trapping the white bishop.

13	**f3**	**♗h6**

A significant inaccuracy, which influences the course of the game to a considerable extent. 13 ... ♗d7 was correct, when the positional threat of 14 ... a4 forces White to waste a tempo on 14 b3. Then 14 ... ♗h6 15 ♖b1 ♘c5 is possible, and if 16 b4 axb4 17 axb4 ♘a4 with sufficient counterchances.

14 b4! ♗d7 15 ♖b1 ♗e3+ 16 ♔h1

16 ♗f2 is also possible, but White thinks that the position of the bishop at e3 will be insufficiently secure.

16	**...**	**f5**
17	**exf5**	

As Petrosian remarked, 17 ♕e1 was also quite good, with the possible continuation 17 ... f4 18 ♗f2 ♗xf2 19 ♕xf2 and then c4-c5. By exchanging on f5 the World Champion is counting on exploiting the weakening of the opponent's kingside.

17 ... gxf5 18 ♕e1 ♕g6 19 ♗f2 ♕h6 20 ♗xe3 ♕xe3 21 ♘b5 axb4 22 ♖b3!

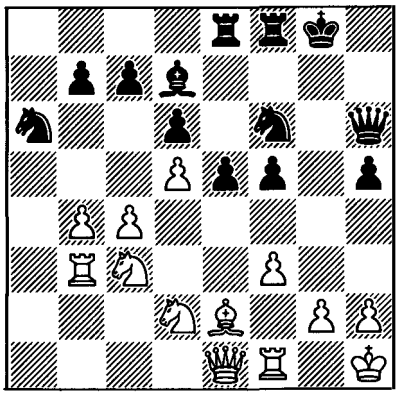
An essential finesse. On 22 axb4 there would have followed 22 ... ♘xb4 23 ♖xb4 ♖a2!.

22	**...**	**♕h6**

The attempt to win a pawn by 22 ... ♕c5 would have given White a strong attack after 23 f4.

23	**axb4**	**♖ae8**
24	**♘c3**	**♘f6** *(71)*

71



25 c5!

Now the unfortunate position of the knight at a6 tells.

25 ... dxc5 26 ♗xa6 bxa6 27 bxc5 ♗b5 28 ♘xb5 axb5 29 d6 cxd6 30 cxd6

At first sight Black's position seems safe, but his king does not have a secure shelter.

30 ... ♖b8 31 ♖e3 ♘d7 32 f4 e4

Obviously, 32 ... exf4 33 ♖e6 would be too dangerous.

33	**♖g3+**	**♔h8**
34	**♖g5**	

White's threats are irresistible: on 34 ... ♕h7 there follows 35 ♕a1+ ♘f6 (♖f6) 36 ♖c1 etc, and so Black is forced to give up a pawn.

34 ... ♘f6 35 ♖xf5 ♕h7 36 ♖e5 ♖fe8 37 ♕a1 ♖xe5 38 fxe5 ♘g4 39 e6+ ♕g7 40 ♘xe4 b4 41 e7 Black resigns

(152) Cleopas-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♗g2 ♘f6 3 d3 c6 4 ♘f3 ♗g4 5 h3 ♗h5 6 ♘bd2 e6 7 b3 a5 8 0-0 a4 9 a3 axb3 10 ♘xb3 ♘bd7 11 ♗b2 ♗e7 12 a4 0-0 13 ♘e5 ♘xe5 14 ♗xe5 ♘d7 15 ♗b2 e5 16 ♕d2 f6 17 e4 d4 18 ♔h1 ♗f7 19 f4 ♕b6 20 ♖fb1 ♖a7 21 ♗f3 ♕b4 22 ♕xb4 ♗xb4 23 ♗g4 ♗xb3 24 cxb3 ♘c5 25 ♖d1 ♔f7 26 ♗a3 ♗xa3 27 ♖xa3 ♔e7 28 ♗e2 ♖fa8 29 ♖c1 ♔d6 30 ♖c2 b5 31 ♖b2 exf4 32 gxf4 bxa4 33 b4 ♘e6 34 f5 ♘c7 35 ♗d1 ♘b5 36 ♖a1 a3 37 ♖b3 ♘c3 38 ♗c2 a2 39 ♖b2 ♖b7 0-1

ʃ(153) Bobotsov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit
(notes by Kholmov)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 cxd5

Many regard this continuation as a formidable weapon for White. The aim of it is to prepare a minority pawn attack on the queenside. But in recent times several ways of neutralizing this plan have been found, and I consider the present game to be a superb example.

4 ... exd5 5 ♘c3 c6 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 ♕c2 g6 8 e3

8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 e3 ♗f5 10 ♗d3 ♗xd3 11 ♕xd3 is also possible, but after 11 ... ♗e7! it is not so easy for White to carry out the planned b2-b4-b5.

8 ... ♗f5 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 ♘bd7!

Not immediately 10 ... 0-0 because of 11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 b4!, when White is ready for his offensive.

11 ♗h6

Against Petrosian in the 26th USSR Championship, Spassky played the sharper 11 h4, but after 11 ... 0-0 12 ♗h6 ♖e8 13 h5 ♘e4 14 hxg6 hxg6 15 ♔f1 ♗f8 16 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 17 g3 ♔g7 18 ♔g2 ♕e7 the position became drawish.

11	**...**	**♘g4**
12	**♗f4**	**0-0**

In the game Spassky-Ivkov (Belgrade, 1964) Black did not risk this continuation, evidently fearing 13 h3 ♘f6 14 g4 or 14 ♘e5 followed by g2-g4, and played instead 12 ... ♘gf6, which after 13 h3 a5 14 0-0 0-0 15 ♗h2 ♖e8 16 ♖ad1 ♗f8 17 ♘d2 ♘b6 18 ♖fe1 ♗d6 19 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 20 ♘e2 ♘e4 21 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 22 ♖c1 ♖e7 23 ♕c3 ♕b4 24 ♘f4 ♕xc3 led to an equal ending. The World Champion's move shows that he is prepared to "draw the enemy fire".

13 0-0

The sharp 13 h4!? came into consideration.

13	**...**	**♖e8**
14	**h3**	

Should the knight have been driven away? At g4 it wasn't particularly well placed. White evidently rejected 14 ♖ab1 because of 14 ... a5 15 a3 a4 16 ♕c2 ♕a5, but here 16 b3 axb3 17 a4! was possible, initiating play on the queenside. There was also another interesting possibility: 14 a3 a5 15 ♖ae1 f5 16 ♘d2 followed by f2-f3 and e3-e4.

14	**...**	**♘gf6**
15	**♘e5**	**♘b6**

It would appear that White had set himself just one aim – to exchange as many pieces as possible, so as to achieve a draw. But Petrosian strives to avoid exchanges.

16 ♗g5

And here 16 ♖ad1 ♗d6 17 b3 ♘e4 18 f3 ♘xc3 19 ♕xc3 f6 20 ♘d3 would have been better, with an acceptable position.

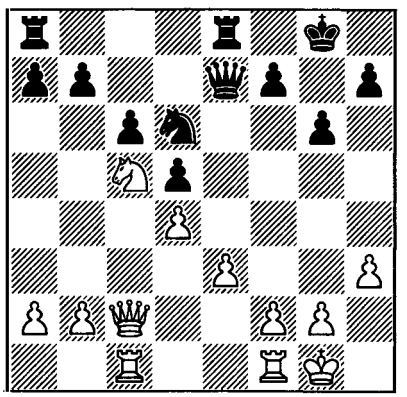
16 ... ♘e4! 17 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 18 ♕c2

After 18 ♘xe4 dxe4 19 ♕b3 ♔g7 White begins to get into difficulties, e.g. 20 f3 f6 21 ♘c4 ♘xc4 22 ♕xc4 exf3 23 ♖xf3 ♖ad8.

18 ... ♘d6 19 ♘a4 ♘bc4 20 ♘xc4 ♘xc4 21 ♘c5 ♘d6 22 ♖ac1 *(72)*

There is nothing for the rook to do here! 22 ♖ae1 was essential, in order to answer 22 ... ♕g5 with 23 ♕c3, and if 23 ... ♘f5 24 e4 ♘h4 25 ♕g3!. True, Black is not obliged to force events, and after 23 ... ♖e7 24 ♖e2 ♖ae8 he maintains the pressure.

72



22 ... ♕g5!

Exploiting his opponent's passive tactics, the World Champion begins harassing the enemy king. The threat is 23 ... ♖e7 and then ... ♘f5-h4.

23 ♕d1 h5 24 ♔h1 ♖e7 25 ♘d3 ♘e4 26 ♘c5?

White still continues chasing after the enemy pieces! It was not yet too late to think about organizing counterplay by the advance of his queenside pawns.

26 ... ♘d6 27 ♘d3 ♕f5 28 ♘e5 f6 29 ♘f3 ♖g7

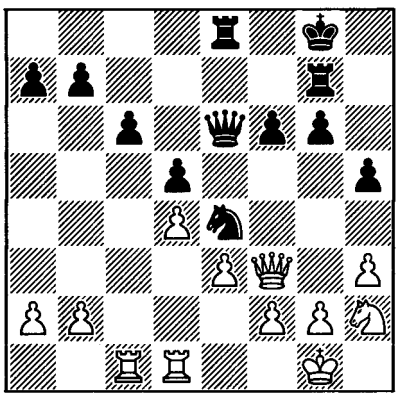
While White has been standing still, Black has been preparing to storm the kingside.

30 ♘h2 ♖e8 31 ♔g1 ♘e4 32 ♕f3?

White should have considered 32 f3 ♘g3 33 ♖e1 ♖ge7 34 ♖c3 ♕g5 35 ♕d2. Now in the event of 35 ... f5 36 f4 he can hold on, since Black cannot play 36 ... ♕xf4 37 exf4 ♖xe1+ 38 ♕xe1 ♖xe1+ 39 ♔f2 etc. If instead 36 ... ♕f6, then 37 ♘f3 ♘e4 38 ♕c1 ♘xc3 39 ♕xc3 and it is not clear whether Black will be able to breach this 'stone wall'. 37 ♕c1 is also possible. In this case Black advances ... g5, after which White faces a difficult defence.

32 ... ♕e6
33 ♖fd1 *(73)*

73



33 ... g5!
34 ♕xh5

White is forced to accept the 'gift', since 34 ... g4 was threatened. In the event of 34 g4 Black would have built up an irresistible attack by continuing 34 ... ♖f8, with the threat of 35 ... f5.

34 ... f5 35 ♖e1 g4 36 hxg4 fxg4 37 f3

Of course, 37 ♘xg4 ♖xg4 38 f3 did not

work because of 38 ... ♘f6 etc.

37 ... gxf3
38 ♘xf3

White also fails to save the game after 38 ♕xf3 ♖f8 39 ♕e2 ♖f2 40 ♕xf2 ♘xf2. After the move in the game, Black traps the enemy queen in the middle of the board!

38 ... ♖h7! 39 ♕e5 ♕c8 40 ♕f4 ♖f8 41 ♕e5 ♖f5!

An amusing finish! Despite the open nature of the position, the queen has no retreat square. **White resigns.**

(154) Petrosian-Hort
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 a5 8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 ♘a6 10 0-0 ♗d7 11 ♘d2 ♕e8 12 ♔h1 ♘h7 13 f3 h5 14 ♘b3 b6 15 ♘c1 ♗h6 16 ♘d3 ♗e3 17 ♖e1 ♘c5 18 ♗f1 ½-½

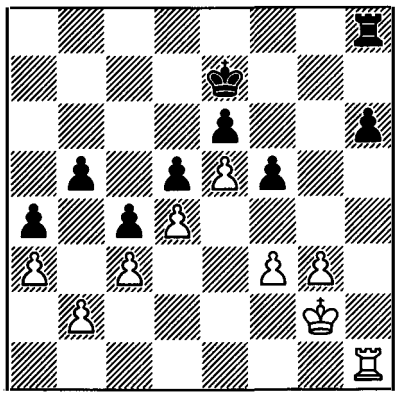
(155) Gheorghiu-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘f6 5 exd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗b5+ ♗d7 7 ♗xd7+ ♘xd7 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♕e2 0-0 10 ♘b3 ♕c7 11 c4 ♘5f6 12 dxc5 ♘xc5 13 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 14 ♗g5 ♗e7 15 ♖fd1 h6 16 ♗h4 ♖fd8 ½-½

(156) Petrosian-Reshevsky
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♗f4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 ♗e7 6 ♘bd2 ♘h5 7 ♗g3 ♘xg3 8 hxg3 h6 9 ♕e2 c5 10 c3 ♘c6 11 g4 ♕c7 12 a3 d5 13 g5 0-0-0 14 gxh6 ♖xh6 15 ♖xh6 gxh6 16 ♗a6 f5 17 g3 c4 18 ♗xb7+ ♔xb7 19 ♘g1 ♗d6 20 ♕h5 ♕g7 21 ♘e2 ♘e7 22 ♘f4 ♗xf4 23 exf4 ♘g8 24 ♕f3 ♔c7 25 0-0-0 ♘f6 26 ♕e2 ♔d7 27 ♖h1 ♘g4 28 ♘f3 ♖e8 29 ♔d2 ♖b8 30 ♔e1 b5 31 ♔f1 a5 32 ♔g2 a4 33 ♘e5 ♘xe5 34 ♕xe5 ♕xe5 35 fxe5 ♖h8 36 f3 ♔e7 *(74)*

74



37 g4 fxg4 38 fxg4 ♖g8 39 ♔h3 ♖f8 40 ♔g3 ♖h8 41 ♔h4 ♖g8 42 ♖f1 1-0

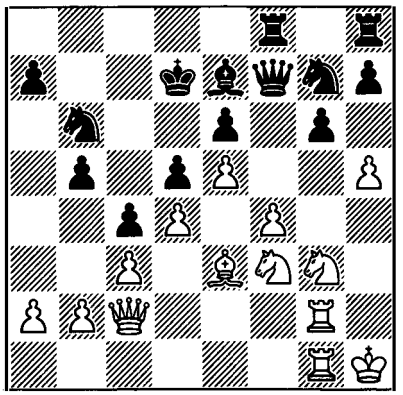
(157) Petrosian-Gligoric
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 e6 6 e3 d5 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗e2 ♗d6 9 ♘f3 0-0 10 0-0 ♖e8 11 b3 a6 12 ♗b2 ♗g4 13 ♘d4 ♗d7 ½-½

(158) Bednarski-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 ♗d3 b6 6 c3 c5 7 ♘e2 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 0-0 ♘c7 10 f4 f5! 11 ♘f3 ♗e7 12 ♗e3 c4! 13 ♔h1 b5 14 ♖g1! ♘b6!? (14 ... h5! 15 ♘g5 ♘f8! intending ... ♗xg5, ... ♘g6) **15 g4 fxg4 16 ♖xg4 g6 ∞ 17 h4 ♔d7! 18 ♕c2 ♕f8 19 ♖ag1 ♘e8 20 ♖4g2 ♘g7 21 ♘g3 ♕f7 22 h5 ♖af8** *(75)*

75



23 hxg6? (23 ♖h2 g5?! 24 h6 ♘e8 25 f5 g4! ∞) **23 ... hxg6+ 24 ♖h2 g5! 25 ♖xh8 ♖xh8+ 26 ♘h2 gxf4 ∓∓ 27 ♖f1 ♗g5 28 ♕f2 ♘f5 29 ♘xf5 fxe3 30 ♕g2 e2! 0-1** (Ivkov)

(159) Petrosian-Uhlmann
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Boleslavsky)

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 e4 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 ♘bd7

In recent years this move has been associated not with the ... e5 advance (as was played earlier) but with the undermining ... c5.

7 ♗d3

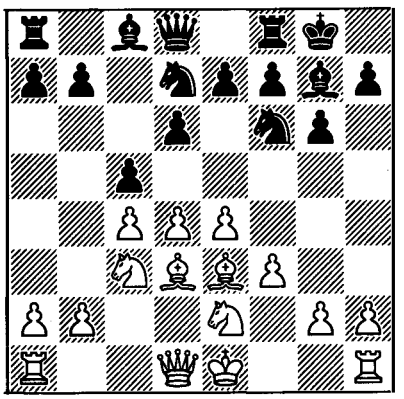
Petrosian avoids the well known sharp variation arising after 7 ♘ge2 c5 8 ♕d2 a6 9 0-0-0 ♕a5 10 ♔b1 b5. He prefers a quieter, non-forcing course of events.

7 ... c5
8 ♘ge2

(diagram 76)

8 ... a6

76



This move was evidently made 'just in case', and is a loss of time. 8 ... cxd4 was more advisable, and if 9 ♘xd4 e6!, gaining equilibrium in the centre by a subsequent ... d5, while if 9 ♗xd4 ♘e5, exchanging one of the white bishops.

9 0-0 ♘e8

With the aim of playing ... ♘e8-c7-e6, intensifying the pressure on d4.

10 ♕e1

To counter Black's plan, White prepares the overprotection of his d4 point (♕f2 plus ♖ad1). A less shrewd player would have continued routinely - 10 ♕d2.

10 ... ♘c7
11 ♖d1 cxd4

This is inconsistent, and leads to a difficult game for Black. On 11 ... ♘e6 the reply 12 dxc5 dxc5 (the capture with the knight transposes into the game) 13 ♕f2 possibly did not appeal to Uhlmann, but this would have given Black more counter-chances than 11 ... cxd4.

12 ♘xd4 ♘e5 13 ♗e2 ♗d7 14 a3

A prophylactic move, aimed against ... b5 (the a2 pawn could have come under attack).

14 ... ♘e6
15 f4

The start of an offensive in the centre – by provoking the exchange of knights and then the dark-square bishops, White stabilizes his advantage.

15 ... ♘xd4 16 ♗xd4 ♘c6 17 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 18 ♕f2 f6

Passive, but it is not easy for Black to find a plan of counterplay.

19 ♘d5 ♖b8 20 ♘b6 ♗e6 21 c5

Up till here White's threats have only been remote, but now he sets about attacking the weak pawn at d6.

21 ... ♕c7 22 cxd6 exd6 23 ♖d2 ♖bd8 24 ♖fd1 ♕e7 25 ♗f3 ♘a5

Uhlmann seeks counterplay on the b3 and c4 squares, but with his next move White cuts short all his opponent's attempts.

26 ♘d5 ♗xd5 27 ♖xd5 ♕c7 28 ♕d4 ♖f7

The d6 pawn is indirectly defended – after the exchanges on d6 there follows ... ♘c4. But White exploits the advantages of his position in a different way – by the advance of his rook's pawn he breaks up the black king's shelter.

29 h4! b5 30 ♕f2 ♘c4 31 h5 ♕a7 32 ♖5d4

In view of the knight's active position, for the moment the exchange of queens is undesirable for White.

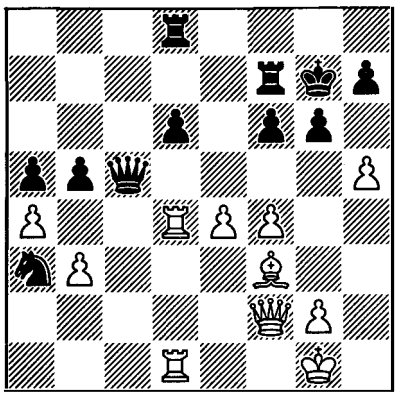
32 ... a5

A positional blunder, which encounters an immediate refutation. 32 ... ♖e7 would have given better chances.

33 a4! ♕c5

34 b3 ♘a3 *(77)*

77



35 ♖xd6!

The answer to 34 ... ♘b6 would have been the same.

35 ... ♕xf2+

35 ... ♕xd6 36 ♖xd6 ♖xd6 fails to 37 ♕c5.

36 ♔xf2 ♖xd6
37 ♖xd6 ♖c7

A pawn down and with his knight badly placed, Black can no longer hope to save the game.

38 h6+! ♔xh6

No better was 38 ... ♔f7 39 e5, bringing the bishop into play.

39 ♖xf6 bxa4 40 bxa4 ♖c4 41 e5

Here **Black resigned**, a by no means premature decision. On 41 ... ♖xa4 there follows 42 e6, when this pawn will cost Black at least a knight, and 41 ... ♔g7 does not help in view of 42 ♗d5 ♖xa4 43 ♖f7+ etc.

In an interview after the victory in Lugano, Petrosian had this to say:

The number of countries participating – 53 – is impressive, but it is not just the figure itself which is so imposing. Who would have thought, fifteen or twenty years ago, that teams would come to the Chess Olympiad from tiny Andorra or, say, the Virgin Islands? Or that players from the Philippines would break through into the strongest group? Today some of the most 'non-chess' countries are experiencing a thirst for the development of our game and a desire to learn its secrets. It was no accident that a representative of the Virgin Islands declared that he was intending in the near future to invite to his country some master of world renown to pass on his experience. I should say that, although the directors of FIDE are frequently subjected to quite severe criticism, as regards popularizing chess the International Federation has undoubtedly done a great deal.

In Lugano the Soviet players gained a more than convincing victory. How would you explain the ease (perhaps apparent?) with which first place was achieved?

Of course, it cannot be asserted that our performance at Lugano was a trouble-free triumphal parade. However, what is certain is that the Soviet grandmasters, whose strength is in any case unquestioned, prepared particularly well for the 18th Olympiad. The good practice of organizing an out-of-town training session prior to the Olympiad was at last revived. It is true that, for personal reasons, I was unable to participate in it, but my colleagues said that the two weeks spent before the Olympiad in Sukhanovo, on the outskirts of Moscow, helped them to acquire good form. There was another, apparently slight, but important detail. In Lugano we lived in a small hotel in the higher part of the town, away from the centre and far from the noise of the town. It was a working environment, conducive to good relaxation and a fighting mood.

But it stands to reason that the gap in points would not have been so imposing had it not been for the mastery and sense of responsibility shown by each member of the Soviet team. If I am not mistaken, throughout the Olympiad there were not more than one or two games in which we stood badly.

How did the main rivals to the Soviet team perform?

It seemed to me that the Yugoslavs were simply fortunate in being able to confirm their reputation as the 'second chess power', a title which they greatly value and of which they are very proud. In my opinion, today the position of the vice-champions is not so secure. The Bulgarians, for example, could well have battled for second place, had they genuinely believed in their strength from the very start. The great success of the Bulgarian team is justified: third place in the Olympiad was a worthy reward for the many years of persistent effort by the Bulgarian Chess Federation.

The Americans, of course, disappointed. The jump from second to fourth place was not a pleasant one. True, in the USA chess is becoming more popular every year, and the team from this country still has to be reckoned with. But in Lugano the USA team was forced to admit that without Fischer they do not constitute a formidable force.

International Tournament
Palma de Mallorca
November-December 1968

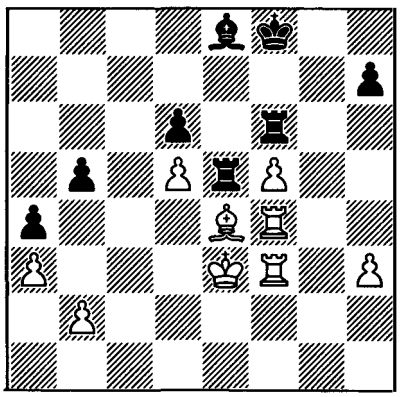
1 Korchnoi 14; 2-3 Larsen, Spassky 13; 4 **Petrosian** (+7 –1 =9) 11½; 5 Gligorić 10½;

6 Ivkov 10; 7 Benko 9½; 8 Pomar 9; 9 Gheorghiu 8½; 10 Matanović 8; 11 Lehmann 7; 12 Medina 6½; 13-14 D.Byrne, Toran 6; 15-16 Diez del Corral, Visier 5½; 17 Westerinen 5; 18 Calvo 4½.

(160) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 c6 7 ♗d3 e5 8 d5 cxd5 9 cxd5 a6 (9 ... ♘bd7) **10 ♘ge2 ♘bd7 11 0-0 ♘h5 12 ♔h1! f5 13 exf5 gxf5 14 ♕b1** (14 g4! fxg4 15 fxg4 ♘f4 16 ♗f5 ±; 14 g4! e4 15 gxh5 exd3 16 ♘f4 ±) **14 ... ♘c5 15 ♗c2 a5 16 f4 ± exf4? 17 ♘xf4 ♘xf4 18 ♗xf4 ± ♖a6 19 ♕e1** (19 a4) **19 ... ♖b6 20 ♖b1 ♕f6 21 a3 ♗d7 22 ♖f3 a4 23 ♗e3 ♕e5 24 ♕f2 ♖a6 25 ♖d1 ♕e7 26 ♗d4 ♗xd4 27 ♕xd4 ♕f6 28 ♕b4 ♖aa8 29 ♖df1 ♕e5 30 ♕h4 ♖ae8 31 h3 b5 32 ♖f4** (32 ♕h5) **32 ... ♖e7 33 g4 ♕f6 34 ♕xf6 ♖xf6 ±± 35 gxf5 ♖e3 36 ♔g2 ♔f8 37 ♖1f3 ♖e7 38 ♘e4 ♘xe4 39 ♗xe4 ♖e5 40 ♔f2 ♗e8 41 ♔e3** *(78)*

78

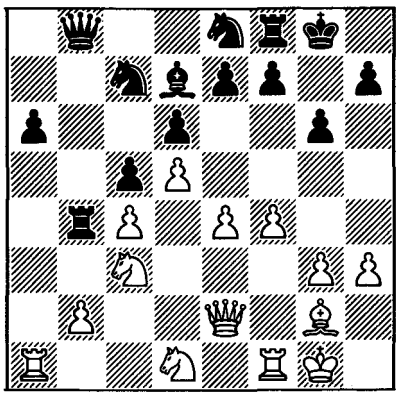


41 ... ♗h5? 42 ♖f1 ♗e8 43 ♖c1 ♗d7 44 ♔d4 ♔e7 45 ♖c7 ♔d8 46 ♖a7! h5 47 ♖f1 ♖f7 48 ♗d3 ♗e8 49 ♖a8+ ♔c7 50 f6 ♖f8 51 f7 1-0 (Gligorić)

(161) D.Byrne-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 e4 d6 6 ♘ge2 c6 7 0-0 a6 8 d4 ♘bd7 9 h3 ♖b8 10 d5 c5 11 a4 ♘e8 12 f4 ♘c7 13 ♕d3 ± ♘f6 14 ♗d2 ♗d7 (14 ... b5? 15 axb5 axb5 16 cxb5 ♗d7 17 ♖a5!) **15 a5 b6 16 axb6 ♖xb6 17 ♕c2 ♕b8 18 ♘d1** (intending ♗c3, ♘e3) **18 ... ♘fe8 19 ♗c3 ± ♗xc3 20 ♘exc3 ♖b4 21 ♕e2** *(79)*

79



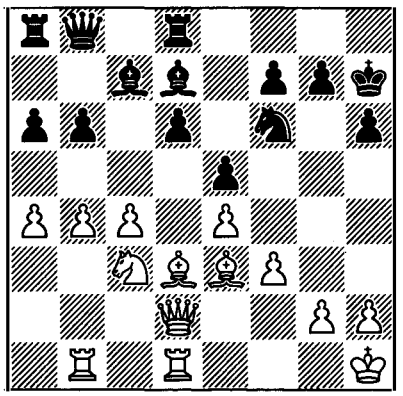
21 ... e5 22 f5? (22 ♖f2! intending ♘e3, ♖af1) **22 ... ♘f6 23 ♖f2 ♔h8 24 ♔h2?! g5 25 ♘e3 ♖g8 26 ♗f3 ♖b6** (intending ... ♘ce8-g7) **27 ♔h1 ♔g7! 28 h4 h6 29 ♖g1 ♔f8! 30 ♘g4?! ♘xg4 31 ♗xg4 ♘e8 32 f6 ♗xg4 33 ♕xg4 ♖g6!** (33 ... ♖xb2? 34 ♖xb2 ♕xb2 35 ♖b1 intending ♖b8) **34 ♖gf1?** (34 hxg5!) **34 ... gxh4 35 ♕xh4 ♖xb2 36 g4 ♖xf2 ∓∓ 37 ♖xf2 ♕b3 38 ♖f3 ♔g8 39 g5 hxg5 40 ♕g4 ♘xf6 0-1** (Matanović)

(162) Ivkov-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 e6 5 ♘b5 d6 6 c4 ♘f6 7 ♘1c3 a6 8 ♘a3 ♗e7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♗d7 (10 ... b6!) **11 ♗e3 ♕b8!?** (11 ... ♘a7 12 ♗d3 ♕b8 13 ♕e2 ♖e8 14 ♖ac1 ♗d8 15 ♔h1 ♗c7 16 f4 ±; 11 ... ♕a5 12 ♕b3 ♖fc8 13 ♖fd1 ♗e8 14 c5 ±) **12 f3 ♗d8?! 13 ♕d2 ♗c7 14 ♔h1! b6 15 ♖fd1 ♘e8 16 ♘c2 ± ♘e7** (intending ...

b5) **17 ♘d4 ♘c6 18 a4! ♘xd4 19 ♕xd4 h6 20 b4 ♘f6 21 ♕d2 ♔h7?? 22 ♖ab1 ♖d8 23 ♗d3! ±± e5** (23 ... ♔g8 24 ♗xh6 gxh6 25 ♕xh6 ♘h7 26 e5 ♘f8 27 ♘e4) *(80)*

80



24 c5! bxc5 25 bxc5 ♕c8 26 ♘d5! ♗xa4 27 cxd6 ♖xd6 28 ♖dc1 ♗c6 (28 ... ♖c6 29 ♖xc6 ♗xc6 30 ♖c1 ♕d7 31 ♕c3 ±±) **29 ♗c5 ♖e6 30 ♗c4 ♕d8 31 ♖d1?** (31 ♕c2!) **31 ... ♖e8??** (31 ... ♗a4) **32 ♕c2! ♘h5 33 ♘e7 1-0** (Ivkov)

5 (163) Petrosian-Larsen
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 c5 5 d5 exd5 6 cxd5 g6 7 ♘c3 ♗g7 8 ♗g5 0-0 9 e3

In the given situation 9 e4 would involve a certain risk.

9 ... d6 10 ♘d2 h6 11 ♗h4 ♘a6 12 ♗e2 ♘c7 13 e4

Now this is stronger, since the standard advance of the b-pawn does not bring Black any real gains.

13 ... b5 14 0-0 ♕d7 15 ♕c2 ♖e8 16 ♖fe1 ♗b7

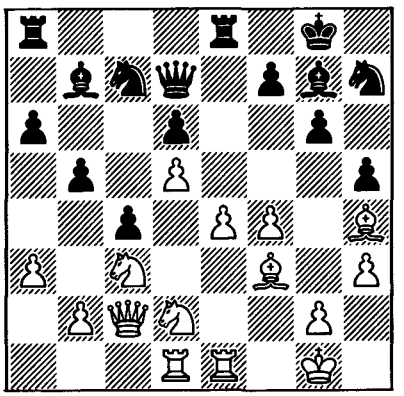
Against White's clear plan of e4-e5 Larsen counters with the timid reinforcement of his queenside. 16 ... a5 and 17 ... b4 would have been perhaps more consistent.

17 h3 a6 18 f4 c4 19 ♗f3 h5

Despair, but Black's position was already very difficult.

20 ♖ad1 ♘h7 *(81)*

81



21 e5 dxe5 22 ♘de4 ♕f5 23 ♕f2 ♖ad8

Apart from anything else, 24 ♘d6 was threatened.

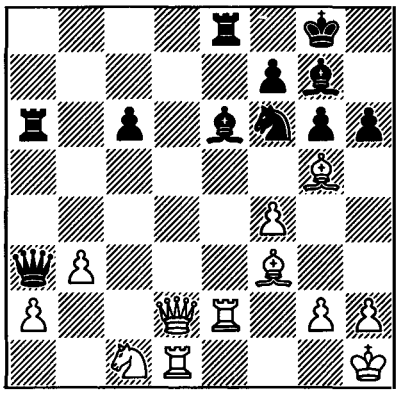
24 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 25 ♕b6 ♕c8 26 ♘c5 e4 27 ♕xb7 exf3 28 ♕xc8 ♖xc8 29 d6 ♗f8 30 ♘b7 ♘e6 31 d7 ♖b8 32 ♖xe6 Black resigns

(164) Petrosian-Westerinen
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 ♖b8 8 ♕d2 ♖e8 9 ♖d1 a6 10 ♘c1 e5 11 dxe5 ♘xe5 (11 ... dxe5 12 ♕f2 ±) **12 ♗e2** (12 c5?! d5 13 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 14 ♕xd5 ♕f6) **12 ... ♗e6 13 b3 b5** (13 ... c6 14 ♕xd6 ♕a5 15 ♗d2 ♖ed8 16 ♘a4) **14 cxb5 axb5 15 ♗xb5** (15 ♘xb5!) **15 ... c6 16 ♗e2 ± d5! 17 exd5 ♘xd5 18 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 19 0-0 ♕e7 20 ♗g5 ♕a3 21 ♕c2** (21 f4!? intending f4-f5) **21 ... ♖a8 22 ♔h1 ♖a5?! 23 ♕d2 ♗e6 24 f4 ♘d7**

25 ♗f3 ♖a6 26 ♖fe1 ♘f6 27 ♖e2 h6? (27 ... ♖c8) *(82)*

82

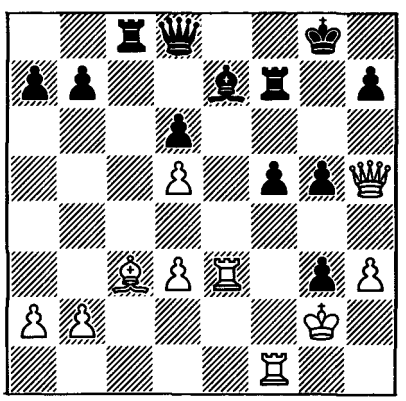


28 f5 ±± hxg5 29 fxe6 ♖xe6 30 ♖xe6 fxe6 31 ♕xg5 ♔f7 32 ♘d3 ♘d7 33 ♗e4 ♘f8 34 ♗xg6+ ♔g8 35 ♖f1 ♖a7 36 ♘e5 ♗xe5 37 ♗f7++ ♔h7 38 ♕h5+ ♔g7 39 ♕xe5+ ♔h7 40 ♕h5+ ♔g7 41 ♕g5+ 1-0 (Matanović)

(165) Calvo-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 f4 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 ♗e7 8 ♗d3 0-0 9 0-0 ♘xd4 10 ♗xd4 e5 11 ♗e3 ♘g4 12 ♗d2 exf4 13 ♘d5 g5 14 h3 ♘e5 15 ♕h5 f6 16 ♗c3 ♗e6 17 ♖ae1 ♖f7 18 g3 fxg3 19 ♔g2 ♖c8 20 ♖e3 ♗xd5 21 exd5 ♘xd3 22 cxd3 f5 *(83)*

83



23 ♖e6 ♖xc3 24 bxc3 ♕a5 25 c4 f4 26 ♕e2 ♕c3 ½-½

(166) Matanović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘f6 5 exd5 ♘xd5 6 g3 ♘c6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♘e4 ♗e7 9 ♗g2 f5 10 ♘ed2 e5 11 ♘b3 e4 12 ♘fd4 ♘xd4 13 ♘xd4 0-0 14 0-0 ♗c5 15 c3 ♔h8 16 f3 ½-½

(167) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 ♘e2 ♘e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♗f4 ♗g4 8 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 9 c3 ♘d7 10 ♘d2 ♖ae8 11 ♖e1 ♗f5 12 ♘f3 ♗xd3 13 ♕xd3 ♘g6 14 ♘g3 ♘f6 15 ♘f5 ♕b6 ½-½

(168) Petrosian-Pomar
Slav Defence

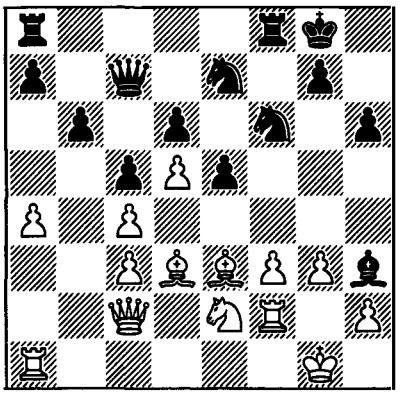
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♘f3 ♘bd7 6 ♗d3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b5 8 ♗b3 b4 9 ♘e2 ♗b7 10 0-0 ♗d6 11 ♘f4 0-0 12 ♘g5 ♘d5 13 ♘e4 ♗e7 14 ♘d3 ♗a6 15 ♖e1 ♕b6 16 ♕c2 ♗xd3 17 ♕xd3 c5 18 dxc5 ♘xc5 19 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 20 ♗d2 ♖fd8 21 ♕e2 a5 22 ♗a4 ♘f6 23 ♖ed1 ♘e4 24 ♗e1 ♗e7 25 ♕b5 ♕xb5 26 ♗xb5 ♖ac8 27 ♖xd8+ ♖xd8 28 f3 ♘d6 29 ♗d3 ♗f6 30 ♖b1 ♘f5 31 ♗xf5 exf5 32 a3 b3 33 ♗xa5 ♖c8 34 ♗c3 ♗xc3 35 ♖c1 f4 ½-½

(169) Visier-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♗d3 ♗b7 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 c5 8 a3 ♗xc3 9

bxc3 ♕c7 10 ♘d2 ♘c6 11 a4 d6 12 ♘b3 ♘e7 13 f3 e5 14 e4 ♘g6 15 d5 ♗c8 16 g3 ♘e8 17 ♕c2 ♘e7 18 ♗e3 h6 19 ♘c1 f5 20 ♘e2 fxe4 21 ♗xe4 ♘f6 22 ♗d3 ♗h3 23 ♖f2 *(84)*

84

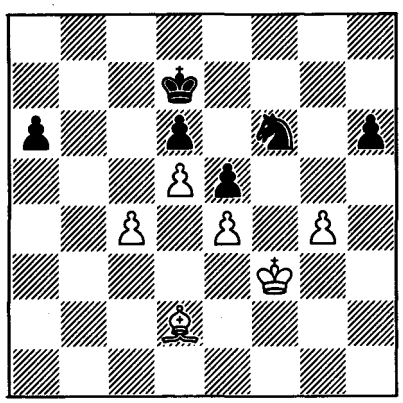


23 ... e4 24 ♗xe4 ♘xe4 25 fxe4 ♖xf2 26 ♗xf2 g5 27 ♘c1 ♘g6 28 ♘d3 ♖e8 29 a5 ♕f7 30 axb6 axb6 31 ♖b1 ♘e5 32 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 33 ♕e2 ♕e8 34 ♖xb6 ♖xe4 35 ♕d1 ♖xc4 36 ♕b3 ♕e4 37 ♖b8+ ♔f7 38 ♕b7+ ♕e7 39 ♕b3 ♕e4 40 ♕b7+ ♔g6 41 ♖g8+ ♔h5 42 ♕f7+ ♔g4 43 ♕d7+ ♕f5 44 ♕xf5+ ♔xf5 45 g4+ ♔xg4 46 ♗g3 ♖xc3 47 ♗xd6 ♔f3 48 ♖f8+ ♔e4 49 ♖d8 ♖c2 50 ♗f8 0-1

(170) Petrosian-Diez del Corral
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 d4 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 e5 6 ♘ge2 ♘c6 7 d5 ♘e7 8 ♗e3 0-0 9 ♕d2 ♘e8 10 g3 c5 11 ♗g2 f5 12 ♘c1 fxe4 13 fxe4 a6 14 ♘d3 ♗d7 15 ♘d1 b5 16 b3 ♘c8 17 ♘1f2 ♘b6 18 ♖c1 bxc4 19 bxc4 ♘f6 20 0-0 ♘g4 21 ♘xg4 ♖xf1+ 22 ♗xf1 ♗xg4 23 ♘f2 ♗d7 24 ♖b1 ♘a4 25 ♖b3 ♖b8 26 ♘h3 ♖b6 27 ♘g5 ♗h6 28 h4 ♕b8 29 ♕f2 ♕f8 30 ♕xf8+ ♗xf8 31 ♗d2 h6 32 ♗h3 ♗xh3 33 ♘xh3 ♖xb3 34 axb3 ♘b6 35 g4 ♗e7 36 h5 ♔g7 37 hxg6 ♔xg6 38 ♔g2 ♘d7 39 ♘f2 ♗g5 40 ♗a5 ♔f7 41 ♔f3 ♔e8 42 ♘d3 ♔e7 43 ♗e1 ♔d8 44 ♗c3 ♔c7 45 ♗a5+ ♔c8 46 ♘f2 ♘f6 47 ♘h3 ♗c1 48 ♗e1 ♔c7 49 ♗h4 ♘h7 50 ♔e2 ♗g5 51 ♗e1 ♗c1 52 ♗a5+ ♔d7 53 b4 ♗a3 54 bxc5 ♗xc5 55 ♗d2 ♘f6 56 ♔f3 ♘g8 57 ♘f2 ♗xf2 58 ♔xf2 ♘f6 59 ♔f3 *(85)*

85



59 ... ♔e8 60 ♗xh6 ♘d7 61 ♗e3 a5 62 ♗d2 a4 63 ♗b4 ♘b6 64 c5 dxc5 65 ♗xc5 ♘c4 66 ♗b4 a3 67 ♔e2 a2 68 ♗c3 ♘d6 69 ♔d3 ♘f7 70 g5 ♘xg5 71 ♗xe5 ♔d7 72 ♔e3 ♘f7 73 ♗a1 ♔d6 74 ♔f4 ♔c5 75 ♔f5 ♘d6+ 76 ♔e5 ♘f7+ 77 ♔e6 ♘g5+ 78 ♔f5 ½-½

(171) Petrosian-Medina
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 d6 5 e4 ♘f6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e5 8 ♗g5 ♘a6 9 ♘d2 ♘c7 10 h4 h6 11 ♗e3 a6 12 h5 g5 13 a3 ♖b8 14 b4 b6 15 ♘f1 ♖e8 16 ♘g3 ♗f8 17 ♖b1 ♗d7 18 0-0 ♕c8 19 ♖b2 ♖d8 20 ♕d2 ♘ce8 21 ♖fb1 ♕c7 22 a4 ♔h7 23 ♖b3 a5 24 bxa5 bxa5 25 ♘b5 ♕b6 26 ♕e1 ♕a6 27 ♘c7 ♕a7 28 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 29 ♖xb8 ♕xb8 30 ♘b5 ♕a8 31 ♗d2 ♗e7 32 ♗xa5 ♗g4 33 ♗xg4 ♘xg4 34 ♘f5 ♗f8 35 f3 ♘gf6 36 g4 ♕a6 37 ♔f2 ♘g8 38 ♔e2 ♘e7 39 ♘xe7 ♗xe7 40 ♔d3 ♔g8 41 ♔c2 ♔f8 42 ♔b3

♕b7 43 ♕a1 f6 44 ♔c2 ♕a6 45 ♗c3 ♗d8 46 a5 ♔e7 47 ♕a4 ♗c7 48 ♔b2 ♔d8 49 ♘a3 ♗b8 50 ♕b5 ♕c8 51 a6 1-0

(172) Toran-Petrosian
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 e4 g6 7 ♗e2 ♗g7 8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 0-0 10 ♘f3 g5 11 ♗g3 ♘h5 12 ♘d2 ♘xg3 13 hxg3 ♘d7 14 ♘c4 ♕e7 15 ♕c2 ♘f6 ½-½

(173) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 d4 5 0-0 ♘c6 6 d3 e5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 exd4 exd4 9 ♗f4 0-0 10 ♘e5 ♘xe5 11 ♗xe5 ♘d7 12 ♖e1 a6 13 ♘d2 ♘xe5 14 ♖xe5 ♗d6 15 ♖e1 g6 16 ♗d5 ♖a7 17 ♕f3 b6 18 ♘e4 ♔g7 ½-½

(174) Benko-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 b4 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 0-0 5 e3 d6 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d3 a5 8 a3 ♘e8 9 ♘c3 ♘c6 10 ♕b3 ♗e6 11 0-0 g5 12 b5 ♘b8 13 ♕d1 ♘d7 14 ♘a4 f5 15 d4 g4 16 ♘d2 e4 17 ♖c1 b6 18 ♕c2 ½-½

(175) Petrosian-Lehmann
King's Indian Attack

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 ♘f6 5 d3 0-0 6 ♘bd2 ♘c6 7 e4 e5 8 ♖e1 dxe4 9 dxe4 ♗e6 10 ♘g5 ♗g4 11 f3 ♗c8 12 c3 a5 13 a4 h6 14 ♘h3 ♗e6 15 ♘f2 ♘d7 16 ♕c2 ♕e7 17 ♘f1 ♖fd8 18 ♗e3 ♘c5 19 ♘d2 ♗f8 20 ♗f1 ♕e8 21 ♗b5 ♘d7 22 ♘f1 ♘a7 23 ♗e2 ♘c5 24 ♘d2 ♘c8 25 ♘d3 ♘xd3 26 ♗xd3 ♘d6 27 f4 exf4 28 gxf4 ♕d7 29 ♗f1 ♗h3 30 f5 ♗xf1 31 ♖xf1 ♔h7 32 ♖f2 ♖e8 33 ♗d4 ♗g7 34 ♖af1 gxf5 35 ♗xg7 ♖g8 ½-½

(176) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 c5 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 ♘c6 5 c3 ♘f6 6 d4 cxd4 7 cxd4 d5 8 ♘c3 0-0 9 ♘e5 e6 (9 ... ♘xe5) 10 ♗g5 h6 11 ♘xc6 bxc6 12 ♗f4 ♘d7 13 ♕d2! ♔h7 14 ♗d6 ♖e8 15 ♖fd1! ♘b6 16 ♗c5 e5 17 dxe5 ♗xe5 18 ♗d4 ± ♗f5? (18 ... ♘c4?! 19 ♕c2 ♗f5 20 e4; 18 ... ♕e7 ±) 19 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 20 e4 ♗g4 21 ♕f4! ♗xd1 22 ♕xe5 ♗c2 23 exd5 (23 ♖c1! ♗xe4 24 ♘xe4 dxe4 25 ♗xe4 ±±) 23 ... cxd5 24 ♘xd5 (24 ♖c1) 24 ... ♘xd5 25 ♗xd5 ♕a5 26 b4 ♕b5 27 ♖e1 ♖d8 28 ♗xf7 ♕xe5 29 ♖xe5 ♖d1+ 30 ♔g2 ♔g7 31 ♗c4 ±± ♖d4 32 ♗e2 ♖xb4 33 ♖e7+ ♔f6 34 ♖xa7 ♔f5 35 g4+ ♔f4 36 ♗f3 ♖a4 37 ♖xa4 ♗xa4 38 h3 ♗b5 39 ♗d5 g5 40 ♗f3 ♗a4 41 ♗a8 ♗b5 42 ♗d5 ♔e5 43 ♗b3 ♔f4 44 ♗d1 ♔e5 45 ♔g3 ♗d7 46 a4 ♗c6 47 a5 ♗b5 48 f3 ♗a6 49 ♔f2 ♔f4 50 ♗e2 ♗b7 51 a6 ♗a8 52 ♗d3 ♗xf3 53 ♗f1 1-0 (Matanović)

1969

Match for the World Championship v. Spassky
Moscow, April-June 1969

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Total
Petrosian	1	½	½	0	0	½	½	0	½	1	1	½	½	½	½	½	0	½	0	1	0	½	½	10½
Spassky	0	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	½	0	0	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	0	1	½	½	12½

"A meeting which I have been awaiting . . ." These words were used as the headline of an interview given by the World Champion not long before the start of the second match with Spassky.

Who was your teacher?

My No.1 teacher was life itself, and No.2 was the late Archil Ebralidze who taught chess in the Tbilisi Pioneers' Palace. Then – Capablanca, Nimzowitsch, and later I learned from all those with whom I met at the chess board. I also read a great deal.

How in general do you regard the press? Do you read the newspapers before and during a match? How do you interpret forecasts?

I always read the newspapers, and I am particularly interested in what they write about a match. I regard forecasting as an integral part of sports journalism. I am not used to favourable predictions, and so each time I read them with interest. To the pessimistic forecasts made both by experts and by people who know little about chess, I have developed an immunity.

A conclusion, made on the basis of sober analysis, is easily distinguished from the normal expression of a person's wishes, which unfortunately is often tactlessly written. Take, for example, one of the recent issues of *Nedelya*, where grandmaster Alexander Kotov asserts that it only remains for Spassky to register his rights to the world crown. Fortunately, the Estrada Theatre is not an office for the authorizing of documents, and the result of the encounter will depend only on the participants themselves.

Incidentally, I too have often made forecasts. Remember how in 1966, immediately after the match with Spassky, I said that I would not be at all surprised if in three years time I would again be meeting this likeable opponent. Were any of the other Candidates offended? It all depends on the form of expression and on what is behind it.

Talking of the Candidates, what is your opinion on the outcome of the Candidates matches?

I anticipated this outcome and expected to be meeting Spassky. He is now undoubtedly the most worthy opponent in a

match for the World Championship. And it is logical that no one has been able to stop him.

Would Fischer have been able to do this?

In my opinion, at present Spassky is playing better than Fischer. It sometimes seems to me that Fischer did not take part in the 1964 Amsterdam Interzonal, and withdrew from the one in Sousse, because he was afraid of losing a match to one of the other Candidates. Since then the halo of invincibility around 'Bobby the genius' would have been seriously tarnished, and the practical American would no longer have been able to dictate correspondingly high financial conditions from those tournament organizers who would like to see him in their list of participants.

You put the word 'genius' in inverted commas . . .

In all cultural fields one should beware of using this far-reaching and powerful word. And it is not a question here of envying my collegues – it is just that my sense of responsibility is too great. Genius! . . . I do not like it when, with unusual ease, people confer this supreme human title on many chess players. Who knows, we may then have an inflation of geniuses, as has already occurred with FIDE grandmasters.

Geniuses in chess are ahead of their time, but this can be seen only later, by looking back. From this point of view, very few can be called geniuses. Morphy, Steinitz . . . perhaps Tal. The Riga grandmaster introduced into chess something which his contemporaries have not completely understood. Unfortunately, too soon we gained the opportunity to look back in admiration at the peak of Tal's wonderful play. Although, perhaps I am being a little too hasty . . .

What do you think of the system of selecting Candidates for a match with the World Champion?

Under any system one must first and foremost play well at chess. But it would perhaps be more pleasant to fulfil this indispensable demand in a two-round final tournament of, say, 12 players. As far as I know, this is also the opinion of most leading grandmasters, but they do not go any further than saying this in interviews with journalists. A reasoned statement to FIDE could have the desired effect.

Would you like to say a few words about how you have prepared for the coming match? Who has helped you?

Since the time of the matches between Alekhine and Euwe, seconds have begun playing a far from minor role in the World Championship. And it is not just one helper who takes part in this or that type of preparation. Often the names of such helpers are kept secret, and with good reason! After all, names are also views, and they influence the approach of the future opponent to the battle.

It can also happen differently, as in logic problems, where the rule of contraries applies. By observing the playing style of your opponent and the ideas he comes up with at the board, you can try to guess who has helped him. This is interesting, if not very useful. Take an example from the now distant 1966 match. Spassky's adherence towards the end of the match to lines with an early ... b5 very much 'smacked' of Smyslov, who was not listed among the Challenger's official seconds.

I, as always, have prepared for the match with my long-standing chess friends – grandmasters Isaak Boleslavsky and Aleksey Suetin. In a rest home on the outskirts of Moscow (before we transferred to my favourite 'Sukhanovo') we also enjoyed the company of grandmaster Semion Furman. You will no doubt re-

member that in his time Alekhine complained of his opponents, who by their poor play prevented him from creating genuine works of art. I very much hope that Spassky will not find himself in the same unenviable position, and that he will have a worthy co-author . . .

I have also devoted much time to physical preparation. So far – touch wood! – I cannot complain of my health. Even so, I have to admit that in this important component my capabilities are closer to those of Tal than to those of Botvinnik, Smyslov, or my future opponent.

I have done much walking and skiing through the wonderful winter forests, and I think that I now understand the secret of certain players' competitive long-life. I should like somewhat to put off for myself the critical age of a chess player. After all, soon after the match I will be forty. Not without reason did Botvinnik say the other day that Petrosian was approaching a fateful boundary . . .

Not long ago you defended your kandidat dissertation. Did not this research work interfere with your preparations for the match?

The dissertation took much time and effort, but it also helped me to resolve certain of my views on chess. If I should lose the match, I will not consider my research work to be the cause.

In general this last year has been virtually the most intensive and perhaps the most fruitful in my life. After all, apart from my dissertation, there has also been the creation of the weekly *64*, which I have been given the honour of editing. But there has also been time for reflections on the coming match . . .

What is he – the World Chess Champion?

I know of only one definition which I consider accurate – he is the first among equals.

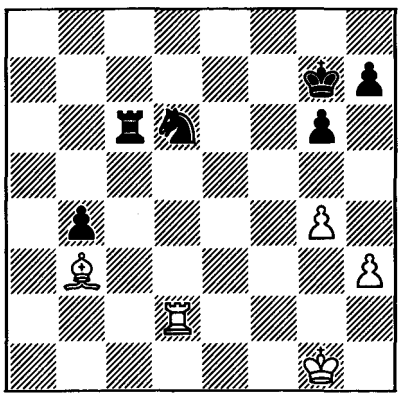
I have been disappointed no less than others by my recent tournament performances. Perhaps I have indeed been insufficiently concerned about my 'Champion's reputation', but sometimes you have to choose for whom you are the Champion – for yourself or for the chess world. Of course, after winning against Botvinnik in 1963, I could have devoted myself entirely to a quest for first prizes. Success could have been achieved by following a fairly well-trodden path: by playing rarely (and choosing only certain tournaments), but with a high proportion of first places. But I am fundamentally opposed to such, if one may say so, tactics.

Game 1
ʃ (177) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘xc6 (6 ♗e3 intending 7 ♘d2) **6 ... bxc6** (6 ... dxc6 7 0-0 e5 8 ♘d2 ♕c7 9 a4 ♘f6 10 ♕f3 ♗c5 11 ♘c4 0-0 12 ♘e3 ♖e8 13 ♗c4 ♗e6 14 ♗xe6 ♖xe6 =, Keres-Tal, 1959) **7 0-0 d5 8 ♘d2** (8 c4 ♘f6 9 cxd5 cxd5 10 exd5 ♘xd5 11 ♗e4! ♗e7 12 ♘c3 ♗b7 13 ♕a4+ ♕d7 14 ♕xd7+ ♔xd7 15 ♖d1 ♗f6 16 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 17 ♗xd5 exd5 18 ♖xd5+, Averbakh-Taimanov, 17th USSR Ch) **8 ... ♘f6 9 ♕e2** (9 b3 ♗b4! =) **9 ... ♗e7 10 b3 0-0 11 ♗b2 a5** ± **12 f4 g6?!** (12 ... a4 13 ♖f3 g6! =) **13 ♖ad1** (13 exd5 cxd5 14 ♕e5 ♗a6! 15 ♖f3 ♗xd3 16 ♖xd3 ♖e8 17 ♘e4 dxe4! 18 ♖xd8 ♖exd8 ∞; 13 ♖ae1!? ±) **13 ... ♘d7 14 c4?** (better 14 f5 exf5 15 exf5 ♗f6 16 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 17 ♕f2 ±) **14 ... a4 15 f5 exf5 16 exf5 ♗f6 17 ♗xf6** (17 fxg6 ♗xb2 18 gxf7+ ♖xf7 ∓) **17**

... ♘xf6 18 ♕f2 axb3 19 axb3 ♖a2 20 fxg6 (better 20 ♗b1 ♖a5 21 ♕h4 ±) 20 ... fxg6 (time trouble) 21 h3 ♕e7 22 ♕d4?! c5 23 ♕f4 ♗b7! ∓ 24 ♖de1 (better 24 ♕g5 ♔g7 25 cxd5 =) 24 ... ♕g7 25 ♕e3 d4 26 ♕e6+ ∓ (better 26 ♕e2) 26 ... ♕f7 27 ♕e2 ♖e8 28 ♕f2 ♖xe1 29 ♕xe1 (29 ♖xe1 ♘g4! ∓) 29 ... ♕e8 30 ♕xe8+ ♘xe8 31 ♗e4?! (time trouble; 31 ♖f2 =) 31 ... ♖xd2 32 ♗xb7 ♘d6 ∓ 33 ♗d5+ ♔g7 34 b4?! (better 34 ♖b1 ♘f5 35 b4 =) 34 ... cxb4 35 c5 ♘f5 36 c6 ♖c2 37 g4 ♘d6 (better 37 ... ♘e3! 38 ♖f7+ ♔h6 39 ♗e4 ♖c1+ 40 ♔h2 ♘f1+ 41 ♔g2 ♘d2 42 ♗d5 b3 43 ♖b7 ♖c2! 44 c7 ♔g5 45 ♔g3 ♖c3+ 46 ♔f2 ♔f4 47 ♔e2 ♘e4 ∓∓) 38 ♖f4 d3 39 ♖d4 d2 40 ♗b3 ♖xc6 41 ♖xd2 *(86)*

86

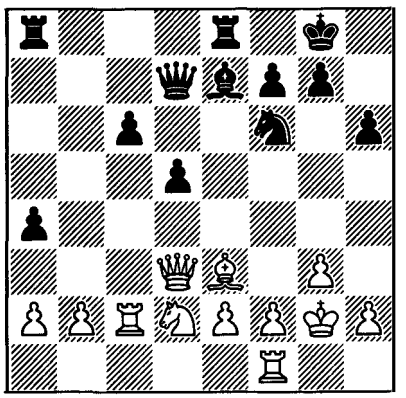


41 ... ♘e4 42 ♖d7+ ♔f6 43 ♖xh7 ♖c1+ 44 ♔g2 ♘c5 45 ♗f7!! (45 ♗g8 b3 46 ♗xb3 ♘xb3 47 h4 ♘d4 48 g5+ ♔f5 49 h5 gxh5 50 ♖xh5 ♔g4 51 ♖h8 ♖c2+ 52 ♔f1 ♘f3 intending 53 ... ♔g3) 45 ... b3 46 g5+! ♔xg5 47 h4+ ♔f6 48 h5 ♖c2+ 49 ♔f3 b2 50 ♗a2 gxh5 51 ♖xh5 ♖c1 52 ♖h6+? (52 ♔e3! ♘a4 53 ♖h4! ♘c3 [*53 ... ♖a1 54 ♖xa4 ♖xa2 55 ♖b4*] 54 ♖b4 ♖a1 55 ♔d3 =) 52 ... ♔e5 53 ♖b6 ♘a4 54 ♖e6+ ♔d4 55 ♖e4+ ♔c5 56 ♖xa4 ♖a1 0-1 (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 2
(178) Petrosian-Spassky
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 g3 ♘f6 7 ♗g2 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗g5 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 h6 11 ♗e3 (11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 ♘xc6 bxc6 13 ♕c2) 11 ... ♗g4 12 ♘b3 (12 h3 ♗e6 13 ♖c1 ♕d7 14 ♔h2 ♘e5 15 ♕a4 ♕xa4 16 ♘xa4 ♘c4 =, Korchnoi-Spassky, 24th USSR Ch) 12 ... ♗e6 13 ♖c1 ♖e8 14 ♘b5?! (14 ♘c5 ♗xc5 15 ♗xc5 ♘e4; 14 ♗c5 ♖c8 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7; better 14 ♖c2 intending 15 ♖d2) 14 ... ♕d7 15 ♘5d4 (15 ♖e1 ♗h3 16 ♗h1 ♘e5 17 ♘5d4 ♘c4 with initiative) 15 ... ♗h3 16 ♘xc6 bxc6 17 ♕d3 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 a5! = 19 ♖c2? (better 19 ♗c5 ♘e4 20 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 21 ♘c5 ♕d6 22 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 =) 19 ... a4 20 ♘d2? (20 ♘c5 ♗xc5 21 ♗xc5 ♖e6 ∓) *(87)*

87



20 ... ♕b7! 21 ♔g1 ♖ac8! (21 ... ♘d7 22 ♘f3 c5 23 ♖d1 =) 22 ♖fc1 ♘d7 23 ♘f3 c5 24 b3 (better 24 ♖d1 ♘f6 25 ♕f5) 24 ... axb3? (24 ... ♗f8! ∓) 25 axb3 ♗f8 (better 25 ... ♖a8) 26 ♖a1 ♘f6 (26 ... ♖a8!? ∓) 27 ♖ca2 ♖a8 28 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 29 ♖xa8 ♕xa8 ∓ 30 ♕c2 ♘e4 31 ♘d2 ♘xd2 32 ♗xd2 ♕a6 33 ♔f1 = ♕b5 34 ♗c3 g6 35 ♕d1 ♕c6 36 f3 ♕e6 37 ♔g2 h5 38 h3 (time trouble; 38 ♕d3!) 38 ... ♗d6 39 ♕d3 ♗e5

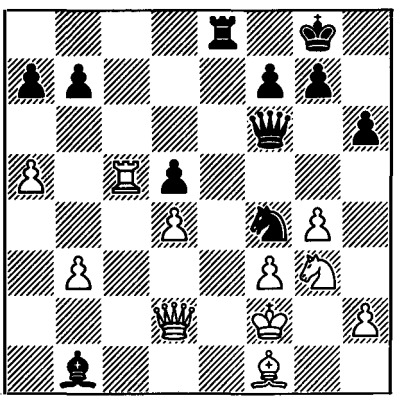
40 ♗xe5 ♕xe5 41 h4 (~~41 ... ♔f8 42 ♔f1 ♔e7 43 ♔f2~~ [♕d6 44 ♔f1 ♔d8 45 ♔f2 ♔c7 46 e4 =; 46 ... d4? 47 ♕c4 ±] **41 ... ♔f8 42 ♔f1 ♔e7 43 ♔f2 ♕e6** (better 43 ... ♔d8) **44 ♕b5 ♕d6 45 ♕b7+ ♔f6 46 ♕b5 ♕c7 47 ♕d3 c4 48 bxc4 dxc4 49 ♕c3+ ♔e6 50 ♔e3 ♕c5+ 51 ♕d4 ♕a3+ 52 ♔d2 ♕a5+ 53 ♔c2 ♕b5 54 ♔c3 ♕b3+ 55 ♔d2 ♕b4+ 56 ♔c2 ♕a4+ 57 ♔c3 ♕a5+ 58 ♔xc4 ♕c7+ 59 ♔d3 ♕xg3 60 ♕e4+ ♔f6 61 ♕d4+ ♔e7 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 3
(179) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 g6 5 c4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 ♘xd4 7 ♕xd4 d6 8 ♗e3 (8 c5; 8 ♗e2) **8 ... ♗g7 9 f3** (9 ♗e2 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♘g4 11 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 12 0-0 ♖c8 13 b3 b5 14 ♘xb5, Spassky-Petrosian, 1967) **9 ... 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♗e6** (10 ... ♕a5 11 ♘b5 ♕xd2+ 12 ♔xd2 b6 13 a4 ♘d7) **11 ♖c1 ♕a5 12 ♗e2** (12 ♘d5! ♕xa2 13 ♘xe7+ ♔h8 14 ♗e2 ♘g8 15 ♘xg8 ♔xg8 16 ♗d4 ♗xd4 17 ♕xd4 ♕a5+ 18 ♔f2 ♕e5 ∞) **12 ... ♖fc8 13 b3 a6 14 ♘d5** (14 0-0 b5) **14 ... ♕xd2+ 15 ♔xd2 ♘xd5 = 16 cxd5 ♗d7 17 ♖xc8+** (17 ♖c4) **17 ... ♖xc8 18 ♖c1 ♖xc1 19 ♔xc1 ♔f8 20 ♔c2 e6 21 a4** (21 ♗c4!?) **21 ... exd5 22 exd5 ♔e7 23 ♗d3 ♗e5 24 g3 ♔e8 25 ♔d2 ♔e7 26 ♗b6 ♗e8 27 f4 ♗g7 28 g4 ♗d7 29 h3** (29 ♗e2!?) **29 ... h5 30 ♗e2 hxg4 31 hxg4 ♗b2 32 ♔e3 ♗c1+ 33 ♔f3 ♗b2 34 ♗d3 ♗c3 35 f5 gxf5 36 ♗xf5 ♗xf5 37 gxf5 ♔d7 38 ♔e4 ♗e1 39 ♔d3 ♔c8 40 ♔c4 ♗d2 41 b4 ♗e1 42 b5 ♗d2 43 ♗d4 ♗e1 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 g3 ♘f6 7 ♗g2 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗g5 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 h6 11 ♗e3 ♗g4 ± 12 ♘b3 ♗e6 13 ♖c1 ♖e8 14 ♖e1 ♕d7 15 ♗c5 ♖ac8 (15 ... ♖ad8!?) **16 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 17 e3** (17 ♘b5 ♕b4; 17 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 18 ♗xd5 ♖cd8 19 e4 ♗xd5 20 exd5 ♕xe1+ =) **17 ... ♖ed8 18 ♕e2 ♗g4!** (18 ... d4 19 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 20 exd4 ♖xd4 21 ♘b5 ♖xc1 22 ♘xd4 ±) **19 f3?!** (19 ♕f1) **19 ... ♗f5** (19 ... ♗e6!? =) **20 ♖cd1 ♘e5 21 ♘d4 ♗g6 22 ♗h3 ♖c4 23 g4!?** (intending 24 f4, 25 ♘xd5) **23 ... ♖b4?!** (23 ... ♖c5 24 f4 ♘ed7 25 f5 ♗h7 ∞) **24 b3** (24 f4 ♘c4! 25 b3 ♘d6 26 f5 ♗h7 27 ♗g2 ♕e5 intending ... g6, ... h5 ∞) **24 ... ♘c6 25 ♕d2 ♖b6 26 ♘ce2?** (time trouble; 26 ♘a4! ♖a6 27 ♗f1 ♘xd4 28 exd4 ♖e6 29 ♘c5 ♖xe1 30 ♖xe1 ♕c7 31 ♖e5 ±) **26 ... ♗h7 27 ♗g2 ♖e8 28 ♘g3 ♘xd4 29 exd4?!** (29 ♕xd4 =) **29 ... ♖e6 30 ♖xe6 ♕xe6 31 ♖c1 ♗g6 32 ♗f1?** (32 ♔f2!? ∓) **32 ... ♘h7! ∓ 33 ♕f4 ♘f8 34 ♖c5?** (34 ♕e5! ♕xe5 35 dxe5 ♘e6 36 ♔f2 d4 37 ♘f5! =) **34 ... ♗b1! 35 a4 ♘g6 36 ♕d2 ♕f6 37 ♔f2 ♘f4 38 a5?** (38 ♖c3 ♘e6 39 ♘e2 ♕h4+ 40 ♔g1 h5 ∓) *(88)*

88



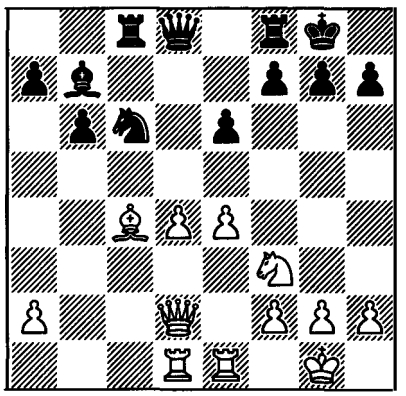
38 ... ♗d3! ∓∓ 39 ♘f5 ♕g5 40 ♘e3 ♕h4+ 41 ♔g1 ♗xf1 (42 ♘xf1 ♖e2) **0-1** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 4
(180) Petrosian-Spassky
Tarrasch Defence

Game 5
(181) Spassky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ (9 ... ♕a5 10 ♖b1 ♗xd2+ 11 ♕xd2 ♕xd2+ 12 ♔xd2 ±) **10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗c4 ♘c6 12 0-0 b6 13 ♖ad1** (13 ♖fd1 ♗b7 14 ♕f4 ♖c8? 15 d5 exd5 16 ♗xd5 ♕e7 17 ♘g5 ♘e5! 18 ♗xb7 ♘g6 19 ♕f5 ♕xb7 20 ♖d7 ♕a6 21 h4 ♖c5 =, Alekhine-Euwe, 1937) **13 ... ♗b7** (13 ... ♘a5 14 ♗d3 ♗b7 15 ♖fe1 ♖c8 16 d5! exd5 17 e5! with attack, Polugayevsky-Tal, 37th USSR Ch) **14 ♖fe1 ♖c8** (better 14 ... ♘a5 15 ♗d3 ♕d6) *(89)*

89



15 d5! exd5? (15 ... ♘a5! 16 dxe6 ♘xc4? 17 exf7+ ♔h8 18 ♕xd8 ♖cxd8 19 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 20 e5 ±±; 16 ... ♕xd2! 17 exf7+ ♔h8 18 ♘xd2 ♘xc4 19 ♘xc4 ♖xc4 20 e5 ♗c8! 21 e6 ♗xe6 22 ♖xe6 g6 ±) **16 ♗xd5 ♘a5 17 ♕f4 ♕c7** (17 ... ♕e7!?) **18 ♕f5 ♗xd5 19 exd5** (19 ♖xd5 ±) **19 ... ♕c2 20 ♕f4?!** (20 ♕xc2 ♖xc2 21 ♖e7 ±) **20 ... ♕xa2?** (better 20 ... ♖ce8! 21 d6 ♖xe1+ 22 ♖xe1 ♕d3 ±) **21 d6 ±± ♖cd8 22 d7 ♕c4 23 ♕f5 h6** (23 ... ♕c6 24 ♘e5 ♕e6 25 ♕f3 ±±) **24 ♖c1! ♕a6 25 ♖c7 b5 26 ♘d4! ♕b6?** (better 26 ... ♕d6) **27 ♖c8 ♘b7 28 ♘c6 ♘d6 29 ♘xd8! ♘xf5 30 ♘c6 1-0** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 6
(182) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 ♖c1 ♘e4 (7 ... b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 g3 ±, Malich-Spassky, 1968) **8 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 9 e3 c6 10 ♕c2** (10 ♘xe4!? dxe4 11 ♘d2 f5 12 c5 ±) **10 ... ♘xc3 11 ♕xc3 ♘d7 12 a3 dxc4 13 ♗xc4 b6 14 0-0 ♗b7 15 ♖fd1 ♖fd8** (better 15 ... c5 =) **16 ♗e2 ♖ac8** (better 16 ... c5 17 b4 cxd4 18 ♕c7 ♖ab8 19 ♘xd4 ♖dc8 =) **17 b4 ± ♖c7** (17 ... c5? 18 dxc5 bxc5 19 b5; 17 ... c5? 18 bxc5 bxc5 19 ♕a5! cxd4 20 ♖xc8 ♗xc8 21 ♖xd4) **18 ♖c2** (better 18 ♘d2) **18 ... ♖a8 19 ♘d2 a5 20 ♗f3** (20 bxa5) **20 ... ♖a7 21 ♖b1** (21 bxa5 ♖xa5 22 ♘c4 ♖a4 23 ♖b1 b5 24 ♘a5 ♖xa3 25 ♕d2 ±) **21 ... axb4 22 axb4 ♕f8** (better 22 ... ♗a6) **23 h3 ♕e7 24 ♖cc1** (24 ♘c4 c5 25 dxc5 ♗xf3 26 gxf3 bxc5 27 b5 ♖cb7 28 ♘a5 ♕g5+ 29 ♔h2 ♖b6) **24 ... ♗a6! 25 ♕b3 ♗b5 26 ♘e4 ♘f6 27 ♘xf6+** (better 27 ♘c3 ♗d3 28 ♖a1 ♖xa1 29 ♖xa1 e5 30 dxe5 ♕xe5 31 ♖a8+ ♔h7 32 ♘a4 ♕a1+ 33 ♗d1 ♕b1 34 ♕xb1 ♗xb1 35 ♘xb6 ♖b7 36 ♘c4 ♘d5) **27 ... ♕xf6 28 ♕b2 ♕e7 29 ♖a1 ♖xa1 30 ♖xa1 ♖a7 31 ♖xa7 ♕xa7 32 ♗e4 ♕e7** (32 ... ♕a4) **33 ♕a3 g5?!** (33 ... g6!?; 33 ... ♕b7 intending 34 ... ♔f8) **34 ♕c3 ♕d6 35 ♗f3 ♔f8 36 e4 ♔g7 37 e5 ♕e7 38 ♗e4 ♕d8 39 ♕a1 ♕e7 40 ♕a3 ♕d8 41 ♕a1 ♕e7 42 ♕c3 ♕a7 43 ♔h2 ♕a2 44 ♕f3 ♕d2 45 ♕f6+ ♔g8 46 ♕d8+ ♔g7 47 ♕f6+ ♔g8 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

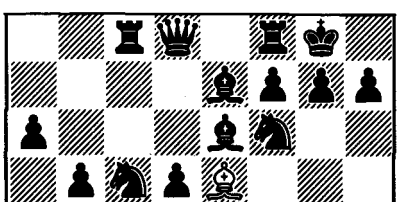
Game 7
(183) Spassky-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 0-0 10 e4 ♗g6 11 ♗d3 ♖e8 (11 ... ♗h5) **12 e5** (12 ♗f4) **12 ... ♘d5 13 ♗xg6** (13 ♘xd5 exd5 14 ♘e1 ♗xe1 15 ♖xe1 c5, 15 ... ♕h4) **13 ... fxg6 14 ♗d2 ♗e7** (14 ... a5 15 ♘xd5 ♗xd2 16 ♘xd2 cxd5 17 ♕b5 ♖b8 18 ♖fc1 ±) **15 ♕e4 ♘f8** (15 ... a5 16 ♕g4 ♘f8 17 ♗g5 ±) **16 a5!** ± **♖c8 17 ♖fc1 a6?!** (17 ... h6) **18 ♕g4 h6 19 ♘e4 ♕d7! 20 h4** (20 ♘e1 intending ♘d3-c5; 20 ... ♘c7 21 ♘d3 ♘b5 22 ♖c4 ♖ed8 23 ♘ec5 ♗xc5 24 ♘xc5 ♕f7 ∞) **20 ... ♖ed8 21 ♖c4 ♕e8 = 22 ♖ac1 ♖c7 23 ♘g3 ♕f7 24 ♘e1 ♖cd7 25 ♘f3 ♖c7 26 ♕e4 ♖cd7 27 ♕g4 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 8
(184) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗f4 c5 6 dxc5 ♘a6 (6 ... 0-0 7 e3 ♗xc5 8 ♕c2 ♘c6, Portisch-Spassky, 1966; 6 ... ♘a6 7 e3 ♘xc5 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘xd5 exd5 10 ♗b5+ ♗d7 11 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 12 0-0, Darga-Bielicki, Havana 1965) **7 e3 ♘xc5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♗e6 11 ♗e5 ♖c8** ± **12 ♖c1 a6 13 h3** (better 13 ♖c2 ♘ce4 14 ♕a1) **13 ... b5 14 ♗d3?** (14 ♘d4 ±; 14 a3 ±) *(90)*

90



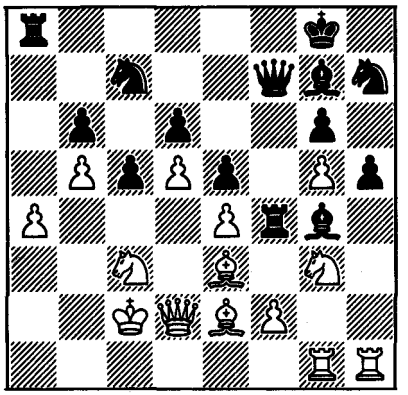
14 ... d4 ∓ **15 ♗xd4 ♘xd3 16 ♕xd3 ♗c4 17 ♕b1 ♗xf1 18 ♖xf1 ♘d5 19 ♘e2** (19 ♘e4 ♕c7 intending 20 ... ♕c2) **19 ... ♗f6 20 ♖d1 ♕c7 21 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 22 ♘fd4 ♕e5 23 ♕d3 ♖fd8 24 a4?! bxa4 25 ♖a1 ♘e4 26 ♕xa6 ♖a8 27 ♕d3** (27 ♕c4 ♕f6 28 ♘f4 ♘xf2 29 ♔xf2 g5 30 ♕c6 ♕xc6 31 ♘xc6 ♖d2+ 32 ♘e2 ♖xb2 33 ♘d4 a3 34 ♔f3 a2 35 ♘c3 ♖a3 36 ♘de2) **27 ... ♖e8 28 ♘f4 g6 29 ♕a3 ♕f6 30 ♘d3 ♖ec8 31 ♖d1 ♖c4 32 b4?** ∓∓ (time trouble; 32 f3 ♘g3 33 b3 ♖xd4! 34 exd4 ♕xd4+ 35 ♘f2 ♕e3 36 ♖a1 ♖c8! 37 bxa4 ♘e2+ 38 ♔f1 ♖c1+ 39 ♖xc1 ♘g3+ 40 ♔g1 ♕xa3 ∓∓; 37 ♕xa4 ♘e2+ 38 ♔f1 ♖c2 39 ♕h4 g5 ∓∓) **32 ... ♖ac8 33 b5 ♖c3 34 ♕a1** (34 ♕xa4 ♖xd3 35 ♖xd3 ♕xf2+ 36 ♔h2 ♕g3+ 37 ♔g1 ♖c1+ 38 ♖d1 ♕xe3+ 39 ♔h2 ♕f4+ 40 ♔g1 ♖xd1+ 41 ♕xd1 ♘c3 42 ♕g4 ♕xd4 43 ♕xd4 ♘e2+ ∓∓) **34 ... ♖xd3 35 ♖xd3 ♕xf2+ 36 ♔h2 ♕g3+ 37 ♔g1 ♕f2+ 38 ♔h2 ♕g3+ 39 ♔g1 ♘f2 40 ♘c6 ♘xh3+ 41 ♔h1 ♘f2+ 42 ♔g1 ♘xd3 43 ♘e7+ ♔f8 44 ♘xc8 ♕xe3+ 0-1** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 9
(185) Spassky-Petrosian
King's Indian Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e5 4 ♘c3 d6 5 e4 g6 6 ♗d3 ♘a6 7 ♘ge2 ♘b4! 8 ♗b1 ♗g7 9 h3 (9 ♘g3 intending h2-h4-h5) **9 ... ♗d7 10 ♗e3 0-0 11 ♕d2 ♘a6 12 ♗d3 ♘b4 13 ♗b1 ♘a6 14 a3 ♘c7 15 ♗d3 ♖b8** (15 ... b5 16 cxb5 ♕b8 17 a4 a6 18 bxa6 ♘xa6 19 0-0 ∞) **16 b4 b6 17 g4?!** (17 ♗g5) **17 ... h5! 18 g5** (18 f3 ♘h7; 18 ♗g5 hxg4 19 hxg4 ♗xg4 20 0-0-0 with attack) **18 ... ♘h7 19 h4 f6 20 0-0-0** (20 f4 exf4 21 ♘xf4 ♕e8 22 e5 fxe5 23 ♘xg6 ♖f5) **20 ... fxg5 21 hxg5 ♗g4 22 ♖dg1 ♕e8?** (22 ... ♖f3 23 ♘g3 ♖xe3! 24 ♕xe3 ♕xg5 ∓; 22 ... ♗f3!? 23 ♖h2 cxb4 24 axb4 ♕d7 ∓) **23**

b5! ♖a8 24 ♔c2 ♖f3? (24 ... ♗f3!? 25 ♖h2 a6 26 a4 axb5 27 cxb5 ♖a5! 28 ♘g3 ♕a8 ∞) **25 ♘g3 a6 26 a4 axb5 27 cxb5! ± ♕f7?** (27 ... ♕f8!?) **28 ♗e2 ♖f4** *(91)*

91



29 f3! ± **♖xf3** (29 ... ♗xf3 30 ♗xf3 ♖xf3 31 ♘xh5 ±) **30 ♗xf3 ♕xf3 31 ♖h2 ♕f8 32 ♖f2 ♕c8 33 ♘f1 ♖a7 34 ♕d3 ♕a8 35 ♕c4** (better 35 ♔b3) **35 ... ♕d8 36 ♘h2 ♗d7 37 ♘f3 ♗g4 38 ♕f1 ♗d7 39 ♔b3 ♗e8 40 ♘d2 ♘f8 41 ♘c4 ♘h7** (42 ♘xb6 ♘xb5) **42 ♕g2 ♗f8 43 ♖a2 ♖b7 44 ♔c2 ♗e7 45 ♖b1 ♕b8 46 ♖ab2?!** (46 a5! bxa5 47 b6! ♘a8 48 ♖xa5 ♗d8 [*48 ... ♘xb6 49 ♖xb6 ♖xb6 50 ♘xb6 ♕xb6 51 ♖a8 ♗d8 52 ♕h3* ±±] 49 ♘xd6 ♖xb6 50 ♕h3 ♘f8 51 ♖xb6 ♗xb6 52 ♖a2 ♗d7 53 ♕f3 ±±) **46 ... ♘a8 47 ♖a2?!** (47 a5 ♗d8 48 axb6 ♘xb6 49 ♘a5 ♖f7 50 ♘c6 ♘c4! 51 ♘xb8 ♘xe3+ 52 ♔d3 ♘xg2 53 ♖xg2 ♗a5 54 ♘c6! ♗xc6 55 dxc6! ±±) **47 ... ♗d8!** ± **48 ♔d3 ♗d7 49 ♖ba1 ♘f8 50 ♔c2 ♗e8 51 ♕e2 ♗c7 52 ♖f1 ♗d8 53 ♖aa1 ♘h7 54 ♖g1 ♘f8 55 ♗d2 ♘h7 56 ♖a3 ♘f8 57 ♖ga1 ♘h7 58 a5?! bxa5 59 ♘xa5 ♗xa5 60 ♖xa5 ♘c7 ± 61 ♖b1 ♘f8 62 ♗e3 ♘d7 63 ♕f2 ♔g7 64 ♔d3 ♔g8 65 ♕a2 ♘b6 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 10

(186) Petrosian-Spassky

Nimzo-Indian Defence

(notes by Boleslavsky and Bondarevsky)*

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4

Jumping ahead, it should be mentioned that this was the only time that the Nimzo-Indian Defence occurred in this match.

Petrosian's unexpected saving of the previous game could not, of course, change the balance of power – Spassky still had a solid two-point lead – but the psychological effect of this draw was very considerable. Petrosian once again acquired confidence in his powers and the desire to fight, while for a certain time Spassky lost his composure.

For the first time in the match Spassky chooses the Nimzo-Indian Defence, and, to judge by the way the play develops, this was most probably improvization. His aiming for a complicated struggle (as with Petrosian in the previous game) arises from his unwillingness to conduct an accurate defence in an inferior position and a lack of confidence that this defence will prove successful.

But Spassky fails to achieve a complicated game, and with each move, by the irony of fate, he approaches that which he was trying to avoid – an inferior position without any counterplay.

4	**e3**	**0-0**
5	**♗d3**	**b6**

The development of the bishop at b7 often occurs in Spassky's games.

Spassky wishes to play the variation with the development of his bishop at b7,

* These notes, as well as those to games 11 and 20, are taken from the Russian book on the match, edited by Y.Brazilsky. The notes in ordinary type are by Boleslavsky (who was Petrosian's second) and those in italics are by Bondarevsky (Spassky's second), while general comments by the editor are enclosed in square brackets. (Translator's note)

but it soon transpires that he has missed the right moment and is forced to agree to an inferior version.

He should have played 4 ... b6 before castling, after which 5 ♗d3 ♗b7 6 ♘f3 leads to normal variations, and 6 f3 c5! 7 ♘e2 cxd4 8 exd4 0-0 9 0-0 d5 does not promise White any advantage.

6 ♘e2

This move in the Rubinstein Variation has the important function of avoiding possible doubled pawns after the exchange on c3. In my opinion, this line is fully in accordance with Petrosian's style.

Sharper situations arise in the event of 6 e4.

6 ... d5

On 6... ♗b7 White replies 7 a3, e.g. 7... ♗e7 8 d5 or 7 ... ♗xc3+ 8 ♘xc3, after which 8 ... ♗xg2 9 ♖g1 ♗b7 10 e4 gives him an attack.

The inaccurate move order chosen by Black allows White to achieve a favourable set-up, recommended back in the early part of this century by grandmaster Rubinstein – bishop at d3 and knight at e2. Now, in the event of the exchange on c3, White can recapture with his knight. On 6 ... ♗b7 White would have replied 7 a3, when Black has to part with his dark-square bishop, since 7 ... ♗e7 8 e4 is clearly unfavourable.

7 0-0 dxc4

With this move Black embarks on an unexplored path. 7 ... ♗b7 8 cxd5 exd5 9 a3 ♗d6 etc would have been sound enough.

The commentators unanimously condemned this move and recommended 7 ... ♗b7. In the newspaper *64* Korchnoi writes about the position arising after 8 cxd5 exd5 9 a3 ♗d6 10 b4: "It has long been established by theory that the chances are roughly equal". This would seem to be based on a slight misunderstanding. Theory talks about the position with the knight at f3, whereas the position with the knight at e2 occurs rarely and is not given any assessment by theory.

I think that it is more favourable for White than with his knight at f3, since it gives his e- and f-pawns greater mobility. For example: 10 ... ♘bd7 11 ♖b1 a6 12 f3 ♖e8 13 ♕c2 ♕e7 14 g4 h6 15 ♘g3 g6 16 ♕g2 ♖ab8 17 h4 c5 18 g5 hxg5 19 hxg5 ♘h7 20 f4, and White stands better.

But does the exchange on c4 secure Black an equal game? I think not. By 7 ... c5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 a3 ♗xc3 10 bxc3 ♗a6 Black could have transposed into the Botvinnik Variation, but it too would not have been particularly promising for him.

8 ♗xc4 ♗b7
9 f3

An excellent move, by which White not only restricts the bishop at b7 but also prepares e3-e4, so as to develop his queen's bishop actively.

9 ... c5

If one ignores the further course of the game, this move appears quite satisfactory – Black puts pressure on the centre, which acquires particular importance after 9 f3. But by subtle play Petrosian succeeds in disclosing the drawbacks of his opponent's plan. Therefore it would perhaps have been more advisable to 'give up' the Nimzo-Indian Defence and play simply 9 ... ♗e7 followed by ... c5.

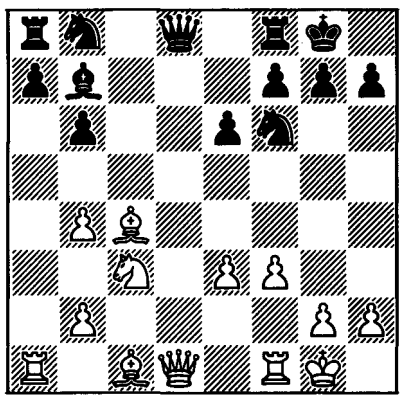
The exchanging operation which Black goes in for is unpromising for him. After 9 ... ♗e7 10 e4 c5 11 ♗e3 he would also have stood worse, but at least he would have retained the two bishops.

10 a3 cxd4

With the knight at e2 and the pawn at f3, 10 ... ♗xc3 11 bxc3 leads to a very difficult position for Black, since he has no way of opposing the opponent's strong centre.

11 axb4 dxc3
12 ♘xc3 *(92)*

92



12 ... ♘c6

After this move Black's game is probably already lost, since now his pawn at a7 becomes a decisive weakness. 12... a6 was essential. True, Korchnoi shows that by 13 e4 b5 14 ♗b3 ♕b6+ (if immediately 14 ... ♘c6, then 15 ♗e3 ♘d7 16 ♕d6) 15 ♔h1 ♘c6 16 ♗g5 ♘xb4 17 ♗xf6 gxf6 18 f4 White can sacrifice a pawn for attacking chances. I.Zaitsev recommends 13 ♗d2 b5 14 ♗b3 ♘c6 15 ♘e2 ♕e7 16 ♕e1, when White succeeds in defending his b4 pawn and gains the better chances.

But all this was incomparably better than that which occurred in the game, where Black allowed b4-b5.

It seems to me that Black overestimated the significance of his better development. As is well known, a lead in development is a temporary factor which can 'evaporate' if the opponent succeeds in completing his mobilization. That is what happens in the present game. On the other hand, in Petrosian's position one can easily pick out several permanent advantages: the two bishops, open a-file, and better position in the centre. If White should succeed in advancing e3-e4, both the bishop at b7 and the knight at f6 will become poor pieces. In view of this, I should like to suggest 12 ... ♘d5, attacking the b4 pawn. If 13 b5, then 13 ... ♘xc3 14 bxc3 ♕c7, while on 13 ♘xd5 there follows 13 ... exd5, which restrains e3-e4, restricts the bishop at c1, and fixes the pawn at e3.

13 b5 ♘e5

13 ... ♘a5 14 ♗e2 was no better, when Black has to reckon with the threat of b2-b4. True, by 14 ... ♕xd1 15 ♖xd1 ♘b3 16 ♖a3 ♘xc1 he can get rid of his stranded knight, but White gains several tempi for his attack on the a7 pawn. 14 ... ♘d5 15 ♗d2 also leaves Black with a clearly unsatisfactory position.

13 ... ♘a5 would have been answered in the same way. Black's misfortune is that his cavalry has no strong points.

14 ♗e2 ♕c7

By 14 ... ♘d5 15 ♗d2 f5 Black could have prevented the advance of the e3 pawn, but this would not have eased his game. After 16 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 17 ♗c3 the white bishop becomes active, and the number of weaknesses in Black's position has increased.

The exchange of queens is obviously unfavourable for Black, but the move played also does not pursue any definite aim, and allows Petrosian to shut the knight at f6 out of the game by the planned advance of his central pawn. Therefore 14 ... ♘d5 came into consideration, e.g. 15 ♗d2 ♕e7, although 15 ♕d4 seems stronger, retaining positional pressure.

15 e4 ♖fd8

[If Black wanted to check with his queen at c5, he should have done so now, when White is unable to block with his queen. True, after 15 ... ♕c5+ 16 ♔h1 ♖fd8 17 ♕e1 ♘d3 (nothing better is apparent) 18 ♗xd3 ♖xd3 19 ♕e2 ♖d7 20 ♗e3 Black's position remains dubious.]

16 ♕e1 ♕c5+

The poor placing of the bishop at b7 and knight at f6 has already been mentioned. But while there is no way of helping the bishop, it was worth transferring the knight via d7 to c5.

Desperation, borne of a realization that there is no longer any good continuation. Smyslov recommended transferring the knight from f6 to c5, but after 16 ... ♘fd7 17 ♕g3 ♘c5 18 ♗f4 f6 19 ♖ac1 Black's position can in no way be called satisfactory.

17 ♕f2

Now White has no reason to avoid the exchange of queens.

17 ... ♕e7

The black queen's 'journey' makes a strange impression, of course, but the exchange on f2 would also have led to great difficulties: 17 ... ♕xf2+ 18 ♔xf2 ♘d3+ 19 ♗xd3 ♖xd3 20 ♗e3 etc. In the endgame the pressure on the a-pawn is highly unpleasant. White also has excellent prospects after 17 ... ♘d3 18 ♗xd3 ♖xd3 19 ♕xc5 bxc5 20 ♗g5.

18 ♖a3

[White prepares to double his rooks on the a-file. It is very difficult for Black to defend his a-pawn.]

18 ... ♘e8 19 ♗f4 ♘g6 20 ♗e3 ♘d6

[On 20 ... ♕b4 there could have followed 21 ♖b1 ♘e5 (21 ... ♘d6? 22 ♘a2) 22 ♗f1 ♘d3 23 ♗xd3 (23 ♕c2 ♘c5 24 ♖ab1 is also possible) 23 ... ♖xd3 24 ♖ba1, and the win for White is merely a question of time.]

21 ♖fa1 ♘c8

Black has everything protected, but his position must be considered lost, since he has no counterplay, and most of his pieces are badly placed.

22 ♗f1

A useful move which, in particular, vacates e2 for the possible knight manoeuvre ♘e2-d4. Then White could have switched his heavy pieces to the c-file in order to invade the opponent's position.

22 ... f5

This leads to a further weakening of the position and a rapid finish, but passive defence would also not have given Black any saving chances.

Spassky shows that he does not wish to wait passively for the opponent to carry out his plan. But the opening of the position merely favours White.

23 exf5 exf5 24 ♖a4 ♖e8 25 ♗d2 ♕c5

After the exchange of queens Black's position is hopeless, but it is impossible to suggest anything objectively better.

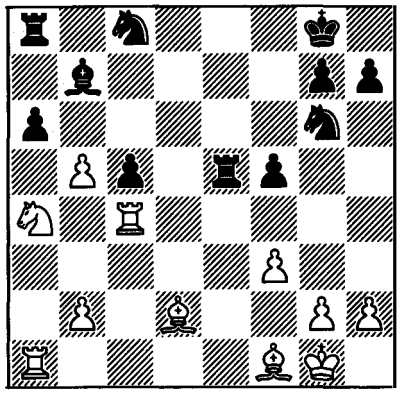
26 ♕xc5 bxc5 27 ♖c4 ♖e5 28 ♘a4

There was no point in giving the black bishop scope, by winning the c5 pawn with 28 f4.

28 ... a6 *(93)*

Spassky has lost all hope and fails to offer any resistance. He could have prolonged the game by 28 ... ♘b6, which

93



could have led to an interesting endgame: 29 ♖xc5 ♘xa4 30 ♖xe5 ♘xe5 31 ♖xa4 ♘d7 32 ♗c4+ ♔h8 (after 32 ... ♔f8 33 ♗b4+ ♔e8 34 ♖a1 Black loses in a few moves) 33 ♗e6 ♘b6 34 ♖f4, winning a second pawn.

29 ♘xc5

A little concluding combination, which gives White a decisive material advantage.

29 ... axb5 30 ♘xb7 ♖xa1 31 ♖xc8+ ♔f7 32 ♘d8+ ♔e7 33 ♘c6+ ♔d7 34 ♘xe5+ ♔xc8 35 ♘xg6 hxg6 36 ♗c3 ♖b1 37 ♔f2 b4 38 ♗xg7 Black resigns

Petrosian's best game in the match.

Game 11

♘ **(187) Spassky-Petrosian**

Queen's Indian Defence

(notes by Boleslavsky and Bondarevsky)*

1 d4

For the fourth successive time Spassky opens with the advance of his queen's pawn. The first time in the match that he began this way was in game 5, after he had levelled the scores. The surprise effect (Petrosian had expected only 1 e4) undoubtedly played its part, and helped the Challenger to gain an important point.

When game 7 was played, the World Champion had not yet recovered from his two successive defeats, and so he followed the motto:"maximum solidity, no complications, and no risk". The result was the solid Slav Defence and a draw in 27 moves.

The third time that Petrosian had to battle against 1 d4 was in a critical situation. His unease after his heavy defeat in game 8 resulted in the extreme measure of employing the Benoni Defence, strategically dubious but leading to a complicated struggle.

And here Spassky once again opens with 1 d4. Now, however, the match situation is different. Petrosian is on the crest of a wave, having saved the ninth game and gained a confident victory in the tenth.

The World Champion aims for a complicated struggle, but he is more composed than before the ninth game.

1 ... ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3

Spassky avoids the Nimzo-Indian Defence and prefers instead the Queen's Indian. The decision can perhaps be explained by the lack of confidence which he may have experienced after the two preceding games. At another time the Challenger would most probably not have avoided an opening in which he had gained a number of convincing wins. Besides, the twentieth game of the previous match and the tenth of the present one show clearly the difficulties which Black experiences.

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* Cf. Game 10.

3 ... b6
4 a3

It was said that one master, who arrived late for the start of the game, assumed that it was Petrosian playing White. Indeed, the variation chosen by Spassky has been successfully employed on many occasions by his opponent.

Rather than the classical 4 g3, Spassky prefers a variation devised by Petrosian himself and employed many times by him in important events. Spassky's psychological idea is to force the World Champion to battle against his own weapon. It is well known, for example, that many players are happy to employ the Ruy Lopez as White, but find it unpleasant to play with Black. Many, but not all: thus Petrosian himself successfully plays the Ruy Lopez as both White and Black.

Did Spassky's psychological idea succeed? I think not. Firstly, Spassky was insufficiently familiar with the subtleties of this variation, since he had never played it before. Secondly, this variation, while sound (White has to make many mistakes before he is threatened with defeat), is nevertheless not active enough to set Black difficult problems. Thirdly, having himself played this variation many times, Petrosian knew which set-up it was best to adopt as Black.

4 ... ♗b7
5 ♘c3 d5

Black wishes to develop his f8 bishop at d6, where it is more actively placed, but the move made allows White to develop his c1 bishop outside his pawn chain after 6 cxd5 exd5. Spassky, sticking to a set-up planned beforehand, disregards this possibility.

6 e3

If White was intending to exchange on d5, and he does this on the following move, then he should have considered the immediate 6 cxd5, in order to develop his bishop at g5 after 6 ... exd5. On 6 ... ♘xd5 he would have continued 7 e3.

6 ... ♘bd7

The most precise move order. On 6 ... ♗e7 there could have followed 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗b5+, when Black is forced to shut in his bishop at b7, since on 8 ... ♘bd7 there follows 9 ♘e5. After 8 ... c6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 b4 ♘bd7 11 0-0 he would have had to reckon with the central break e3-e4.

7 cxd5

White is too early in clarifying the position in the centre. 7 b4 was more flexible, when apart from the exchange on d5 he has in reserve another plan – c4-c5. The counter-advance 7 ... c5 can hardly be favourable for Black: after 8 bxc5 bxc5 9 ♖b1 the position of the bishop at b7 becomes insecure.

7 ... exd5
8 ♗e2

8 ♗d3 is more active.

This move too is inaccurate. The position of the bishop at e2 would be justified only if Black were to play ... c5 and thereby allow White to open the d-file. Against the plan chosen by Petrosian the bishop would be better placed at d3, where it defends the e4 square and can be transferred to f5.

If after 8 ♗d3 White did not like the reply 8 ... c5, he could have first played 8 b4, and then developed his bishop at d3.

8 ... ♗d6
9 b4 0-0

Gufeld, annotating this game in the

match bulletin, recommends 9 ... ♘e4.

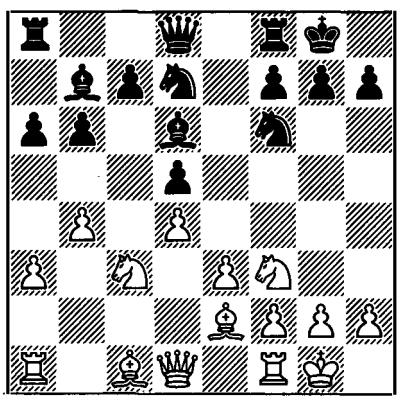
To me, this advance seems premature. After 10 ♕b3 ♘df6 11 ♘e5 it is more difficult for Black to get rid of the knight at e5 than White the knight at e4. And if 10 ... ♘xc3 11 ♕xc3 a6 (12 b5 was threatened, since the rook at a1 is defended by the queen and White can answer 12 ... a6 with 13 a4) 12 ♗b2 0-0, then 13 ♘e5, and White stands more actively than in the game.

10 0-0

The outcome of the opening is that Black has a good position with the better prospects in the centre. All this, in my opinion, is a consequence of the untimely exchange on d5 and the moves a2-a3 and b2-b4. Now 10 ... ♘e4 came into considera-ation.

10 ... a6 *(94)*

94



Both sides have completed their development.

If White should remain passive, then Black, who controls e4, can gradually build up an attack on the enemy king.

But Spassky, of course, does not intend to remain passive. He wishes to carry out a plan which has become standard in such positions. He intends to place his queenside pawns at a4 and b5 and fix the c6 square. Then from a3 he will exchange Black's important bishop, without which his king-side play cannot prove successful.

As we will see later, the execution of this plan runs into great difficulties. However, it is not clear whether White can gain an advantage even if he should succeed in carrying out his plan in full. Thus in the game Geller-Bobotsov (Moscow, 1967) Black fell in with his opponent's intentions, by playing 10 ... a5 (instead of 10 ... a6). White exchanged the dark-square bishops, and then the queens, but even so the game quickly ended in a draw.

11 ♕b3

White defends his b4 pawn, in order to continue a3-a4 followed by b4-b5 and exchange his bad bishop at a3. The execution of this plan takes many moves, and Black gains the advantage in the centre. Therefore the immediate 11 b5 should perhaps have been considered, e.g. 11 ... axb5 12 ♘xb5 ♗e7 13 a4. The exchange of dark-square bishops can be prevented only by ... c5, but then the bishop at c1 becomes an effective piece, and the knight at b5 occupies an excellent post.

11 ... ♕e7!

It transpires that the bishop is needed at d6 not only to control the e5 square. By attacking the b4 pawn, Black disrupts his opponent's plans.

12 ♖b1

After this move White can no longer exchange the dark-square bishops, and without this exchange the advance of his a- and b-pawns proves pointless and merely helps Black to seize the initiative on the queenside. Why then did Spassky reject the immediate 12 b5, since in the event of 12 ... a5 13 a4 he not only gains a

tempo, but also makes the exchange of bishops inevitable? He evidently did not like the variation 12 ... axb5 13 ♘xb5 c5!, when after 14 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 15 dxc5 bxc5! the bishop at b7 is immune (if he takes it, White loses his queen).

Thus it has to be agreed that after 12 b5 axb5 13 ♘xb5 Black obtains active play, but even so, White would have been more likely to equalize than after the continuation in the game.

12 ... ♘e4

The consequence of 12 ♖b1 is that Black can carry out this invasion without fearing the loss of his d-pawn, since on 13 ♘xd5 there follows 13 ... ♗xd5 14 ♕xd5 ♘c3.

13 a4 ♘df6

On 13 ... *♗xb4 there could have followed 14 ♘xe4 (after 14 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 15 ♕xb4 ♕xb4 16 ♖xb4 a5 17 ♖b2 ♘c3 Black has the better position) 14 ... dxe4 15 ♕xb4 c5 16 dxc5 exf3 17 ♗xf3 ♗xf3 18 gxf3 with approximate equality.*

14 b5

White has carried out only part of his plan, but in the centre it is Black who is predominant. The bishop at c1 is still 'penned in'.

14 ... ♘xc3 15 ♕xc3 ♘e4 16 ♕c2

It would have been better to withdraw the queen to b3.

16 ... ♖fc8

Black controls the centre, and he now switches to operations on the queenside, where the opponent's pieces are badly placed.

17 ♗b2

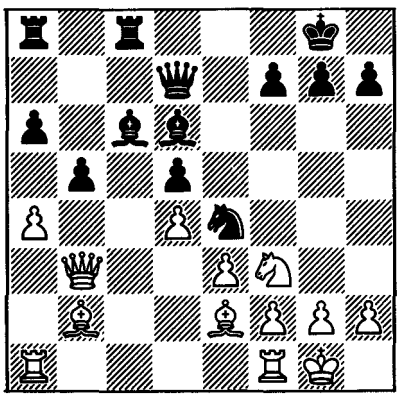
As shown by Korchnoi, the attempt to exchange the knight at e4 by 17 ♘d2 could have been answered by 17 ... axb5 18 axb5 c5! 19 ♘xe4 cxd4 20 ♕d3 dxe4 21 ♕xd4 ♗e5 with a clear advantage to Black, since 22 ♕xb6 is bad because of 22 ... ♖cb8. It can be added that White also has a difficult position after 17 ♘d2 axb5 18 ♘xe4 dxe4 19 axb5 ♗d5 20 ♗c4 c6 21 ♕b3 ♕e6.

17 ... c6 18 bxc6 ♗xc6 19 ♕b3 ♕d7 20 ♖a1

20 ♖fc1 ♗xa4 21 ♕xb6 ♗b5 would have led to that which could have occurred in the game, while on 20 ♘e5 there follows 20 ... ♗xe5 21 dxe5 ♖cb8, with the threats of 22 ... ♗xa4, 22 ... ♘c5 and 22 ... ♘d2.

20 ... b5 *(95)*

95



21 a5

After this it becomes clear that Black has won the battle on the queenside, and therefore he essentially already has the advantage over the entire board. 21 axb5 ♗xb5 22 ♗xb5 ♕xb5 23 ♕xb5 axb5 24 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 25 ♖a1 ♖xa1+ 26 ♗xa1 would have led to a position in which White would still have had sufficient resources.

Now, with a protected passed b-pawn

and a powerful rook base at c4, Black has excellent winning chances. Spassky's decision can be explained only by the fact that he considered the ending arising after 21 axb5 ♗xb5 22 ♗xb5 ♕xb5 23 ♕xb5 axb5 24 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 25 ♖a1 ♖xa1+ 26 ♗xa1 to be dangerous for him.

But White is hardly in danger of losing. This was established by Korchnoi, who gave the following variations:

1) 26 ... b4 27 ♔f1 b3 28 ♗b2 ♗b4 29 ♘e5 ♗c3 30 ♘d3 ♗xb2 31 ♘xb2 ♘d2+ 32 ♔e2 ♘c4 33 ♘xc4 dxc4 34 ♔d2 b2 35 ♔c2 c3 36 e4, and the pawn ending is drawn.

2) 26 ... ♗a3 27 ♘e1 b4 28 ♘c2 ♘d2 29 ♗c3!. It should be mentioned that, in Spassky's preliminary calculations, a move such as 29 ♗c3 could easily have been overlooked, and then it becomes understandable why he decided to seek his chances in the middlegame.

21 ... ♗b7

21 ... b4 followed by ... ♗b5 was tempting. After 22 ♘e5 ♗xe5 23 dxe5 ♗b5! (23 ... ♘d2 is weaker, since after 24 ♕xb4 it is very difficult to realize the advantage of the exchange) 24 ♗xb5 ♕xb5 it is doubtful whether White could have put up much of a resistance. Petrosian prefers to retain his light-square bishop and proceeds to victory in a more complicated way.

A clearer way for Black to realize his advantage, in my opinion, was by 21 ... b4 followed by 22 ... ♗b5, so as to secure the c4 square for invasion after the exchange of bishops. The withdrawal of the bishop to b7 is very typical of Petrosian. It would seem that he already had in mind the exchange sacrifice at c4, but for the moment the bishop at b7 remains bad.

22 ♘e5

Realizing that things are bad for him, Spassky tries to complicate the situation. If now 22 ... ♗xe5 23 dxe5 ♘d2, then 24 ♕b4 ♘xf1 25 ♗g4 etc.

22 ... ♕d8

Spassky is almost proved right. The opponent reacts wrongly to his first tactical sortie. 22 ... ♕e7 was better. But why "almost"? Because now he misses an interesting possibility – 23 ♗d3 with the threat of 24 ♗xe4. After 23 ... ♘d2 24 ♗xh7+ ♔f8 (if 24 ... ♔xh7 then 25 ♕d3+ ♘e4 26 ♘xf7 ♕e7 27 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 28 f3) 25 ♕d3 ♘xf1 (25 ... ♘c4 is well met by the simple 26 ♗c1) 26 ♖xf1 White has a pawn for the exchange, e.g. 26 ... g6 27 ♘xf7, or 26 ... ♗xe5 27 dxe5 g6 28 f4 etc. Although the advantage remains with Black, this leads to interesting complications.

Black rightly avoids the complications arising after 22 ... ♗xe5 23 dxe5 ♘d2 24 ♕b4 ♘xf1 25 ♗g4. On 25 ... ♖c4 there follows 26 ♕xc4 bxc4 27 ♗xd7 ♘d2 28 ♗c3, when White succeeds in blockading the enemy pawns and does not stand worse. And if 25 ... ♕c6 26 ♗xc8 ♖xc8 then White does not continue 27 ♖c1?, since after 27 ... ♕xc1 28 ♗xc1 ♖xc1 29 f3 ♘xe3+ 30 ♔f2 ♘f5 31 g4 ♖c4! he loses, but 27 ♖xf1 d4 28 f3 dxe3 29 ♕d4, when he has quite good drawing chances.

Geller stated that Black should have played 22 ... ♕e7, and that 22 ... ♕d8 was inaccurate, since now White could have obtained good counterchances by 23 ♗d3. This is correct only if Black is tempted into winning the exchange: on 23 ... ♘d2? there follows 24 ♗xh7+! ♔xh7 25 ♕d3+ ♘e4 26 ♘xf7 ♕e7 27 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 28 f3 with a clear advantage to White.

24 ... ♔f8 25 ♕d3 leads to complications not unfavourable to White.

But what benefit can White gain from

23 ♗d3 if Black replies 23 ... ♕e7? The exchange on e4 merely worsens matters, since the diagonal of the b7 bishop is extended, and the white knight is deprived of a retreat square. If instead 24 f3 then 24 ... ♘c5 and White loses a pawn, both after the capture on c5 and in the event of the queen moving (after 25 ... ♘a4).

23 ♖fd1 ♕h4

This move was not properly appreciated when the game was being played. Black provokes a weakening of the light squares on the kingside, after which the planned rook invasion at c4 gains significantly in strength.

24 g3 ♕e7
25 f3

Spassky naturally tries to cover the weakened light squares in his castled position.

This and White's next move further weaken his kingside.

However, it is not clear whether White could have held the game with passive tactics. Simplification leads to a bad endgame for him – Black has a strong passed b-pawn, and the white a5 pawn is difficult to defend.

25 ... ♘g5
26 h4

But this exposes the king too much. 26 ♗a3 came into consideration, so as finally to get rid of his bad bishop. For example: 26 ... b4 27 ♗xb4 or 26 ... ♗xa3 27 ♖xa3 b4 28 ♖a4.

While the black pawn is still at f7, White hurries to drive away the knight, so that it cannot go directly to d6.

On 26 ♗a3 there could have followed 26 ... ♗xa3 (26 ... b4 27 ♗xb4) 27 ♖xa3 f6 28 ♘g4 ♖c4! with an invasion on the c-file.

26 ... ♘e6
27 f4

Yet another unnecessary weakening. Again 27 ♗a3 should have been played.

27 ... f6
28 ♘f3

On 28 ♘d3 Black could have intensified the pressure by 28 ... ♖c4.

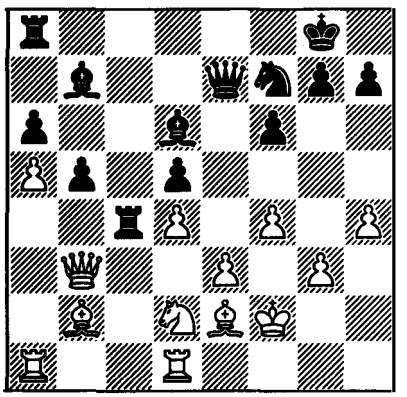
On 28 ♘d3 there could have followed 28 ... ♘f8 29 ♔f2 ♖e8 30 ♘e1 ♖ac8 31 ♘f3 ♗b4 32 ♖d3 (32 ... ♗c3 was threatened) 32 ... ♖c4 33 ♘d2 ♘d7, and things are no better for White than in the game.

28 ... ♘d8!

The knight was badly placed at e6, and so it comes into play via f7 to h6 or d6.

29 ♔f2 ♘f7
30 ♘d2 ♖c4 *(96)*

96



At last the long-planned exchange sacrifice is carried out!

It is bad to take the rook, of course, but can White tolerate it in his position for long?

31 ♕d3

After 31 ♗xc4 dxc4 32 ♕c2 ♖c8 Black has two excellent bishops and two connected

passed pawns, and the position of the white king is seriously weakened. The outcome would therefore have been clear. Taking on c4 with the knight is no better.

31 ... ♖e8
32 ♗f3 ♗b4

The dark-square bishop has played its part, and Black can now agree to its exchange: he needs the d6 square for his knight.

33 ♗a3 ♗xa3 34 ♖xa3 ♘d6 35 ♖e1 f5

A far from obvious move, demonstrating Petrosian's deep penetration into the essence of the position. The weakening of the e5 square does not play any part, since the white knight cannot manage to reach there.

After the invasion of his knight at e4 and its inevitable exchange, Black intends to take on e4 with his f-pawn, in order to open a way for his queen into the opponent's position.

36 ♖aa1 ♘e4+

36 ... ♖ec8 was simpler.

To 36 ... ♖ec8 White would have replied 37 ♘b3, threatening to block the c-file. Therefore Black must play 37 ... ♘e4+, but after 38 ♗xe4 fxe4 the white queen can retreat to d1, where it is much better placed than b1.

Therefore Black must not delay his invasion, and 36 ... ♘e4+ is the best move.

37 ♗xe4 fxe4 38 ♕b1 ♕d7 39 ♖a2 ♖ec8 40 ♘xc4

White wins the exchange anyway, since he has nothing better.

40 ♘b3 also fails to give an adequate defence in view of 40 ... ♕h3.

On 41 ♖h1 Gufeld suggests the following variation: 41 ... ♖c2+ 42 ♖xc2 ♖xc2+ 43 ♕xc2 ♕xh1 44 ♕c7 ♕f3+. Black succeeds in picking up the e3 and g3 pawns with check and in returning his queen to c8. If instead 41 ♖g1 then 41 ... ♖c3 42 ♘c5 ♖8xc5 43 dxc5 d4 with irresistible threats.

40 ... dxc4
41 d5

A desperate attempt to activate his rook. 41 ♕b4 could have been met by 41 ... c3 42 ♖c2 ♖c4 43 ♕b3 ♕g4 44 ♖xc3 ♕f3+ 45 ♔g1 ♕xg3+ 46 ♔f1 ♕f3+ 47 ♔g1 ♗d5 48 ♖ec1 ♕xe3+! with a quick win.

41 ♕b4 was the last chance, e.g. 41 ... c3 42 ♖c2 ♖c4 43 ♕b3, or 41 ... ♕g4 42 ♕e7 ♕f3+ 43 ♔g1 ♕xg3+ 44 ♖g2 ♕xe1+ 45 ♔h2 etc. But after, say, 41 ... ♗d5, intending both 42 ... c3 and the invasion by the queen along the light squares on the kingside, Black is bound to win.

41 ... ♗xd5
42 ♖d1 c3!

The sealed move. Black combines an attack on the king with the advance of his passed pawns. He threatens 43 ... ♗xa2 44 ♕xa2+ ♕f7.

43 ♖c2 ♕h3 44 ♖g1 ♕g4 45 ♔g2 ♕f3+ 46 ♔h2 ♕xe3

White has succeeded in temporarily safeguarding his king, but at too high a price.

47 f5

The main continuation which was considered in our adjournment analysis was 47 ♕d1 ♕d3 48 ♕g4. Here, apart from the quiet 48 ... ♖f8, the following forcing variation is possible: 48 ... ♕xc2+ 49 ♖g2 ♕xg2+ 50 ♔xg2 e3+ 51 ♔h2 ♖e8 52 h5 (52 ♕d7 ♗f7) 52 ... h6 (52 ... e2? 53 h6 g6

54 ♕d7 ♗f7 55 ♕d4) 53 f5 ♖e4 54 ♕d1(or 54 ♕g6 ♗f7 55 ♕xa6 e2) 54 ... ♗f7 55 ♕d3 ♖e8 56 ♕xc3 e2 57 ♕e1 b4 etc.

White's attempt by 47 f5 to do something on the kingside is simply ignored by Black: he wins by advancing his passed pawns.

47 ... ♕c5 48 ♖f1 b4 49 f6 b3 50 ♖cf2 c2 51 ♕c1 e3 52 f7+ ♔f8 53 ♖f5 b2 54 ♕xb2 c1=♕ 55 ♕xg7+ ♔xg7 56 ♖g5+

Here **White resigned** without waiting for his opponent's reply.

And so, after his miraculous 'save' in the ninth game, Petrosian had gained two successive wins, and the score in the match was level.

Game 12
(188) Petrosian-Spassky
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♘c3 0-0 9 ♗g5 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 h6 11 ♗e3 ♗g4 12 ♕a4! (12 h3!? ♗e6 13 ♖c1 ♖e8 14 ♘xe6 fxe6 ±) **12 ... ♘a5!** (12 ... ♕d7? 13 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 14 ♗xd5 ♕xd5 15 ♘xc6) **13 ♖ad1 ♘c4 14 ♗c1 ♕c8 15 ♕c2** (15 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 16 ♗xd5 ♘b6 17 ♕b3 ♘xd5 18 ♕xd5 ♖d8 19 ♕e4 ♗f6 ∞) **15 ... ♖d8 16 b3 ♘e5?** (better 16 ... ♘b6 17 ♗b2 ♕c5 18 h3 ♗h5 =) **16 ♗b2 ± ♕d7?** (17 ... ♕c5; 17 ... ♘c6; 17 ... ♗h3!?) **18 f3! ± ♗h5 19 ♕f5! ♘c6 20 ♕xd7 ♖xd7 ± 21 ♘xc6 bxc6 22 ♘a4 ♘e8! 23 ♖c1** (23 ♗h3 ♖c7 24 ♗e5 ♗d6 25 ♗xd6 ♘xd6 26 e4 ♘xe4 27 fxe4 ♗xd1 28 ♖xd1 dxe4 29 ♔f2 ±) **23 ... ♖c7 24 ♗e5 ♗d6 25 ♗xd6 ♘xd6 26 ♖fd1 ♘b5 27 ♔f2** (better 27 g4 ♗g6 28 f4 ♗e4 29 ♗xe4 dxe4 30 ♔f2 ±) **27 ... f6 28 e3 ♗f7 29 ♗f1 ♘d6 30 ♖c3 ♔f8 31 ♘c5 a5 32 ♖dc1 ♖e7 33 ♗h3 ♖aa7 34 a4?** (better 34 ♘d3 ♗e8 35 ♘f4 ±) **34 ... g5! ± 35 ♖d1** (35 ♘d3 ♗e8 36 ♖xc6 ♗xc6 37 ♖xc6 ♘e8 38 ♘c5) **35 ... ♔g7 36 ♘d3 ♗e8 37 ♘c1 f5 38 ♘e2?** (time trouble; 38 ♗g2 ±) **38 ... g4! 39 ♗g2 gxf3 40 ♗xf3 ♘e4+ 41 ♗xe4 fxe4 42 ♘d4 ♖f7+ 43 ♔g2 ♖f6 44 ♖f1 ♖xf1 45 ♔xf1 h5 46 ♔g2 ♗d7 47 ♖c2! ♖a6 48 g4! hxg4 49 ♔g3** (49 ... ♔f6 50 ♔f4 ♖b6 51 ♖c5 ♖a6) ½-½ (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 13
(189) Spassky-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

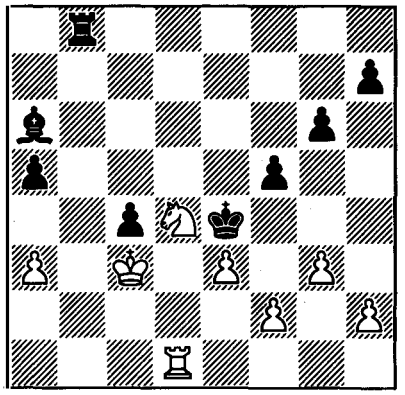
1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 ♕e2 ♕e7 6 d3 ♘f6 7 ♗g5 ♕xe2+ 8 ♗xe2 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 c6 10 0-0-0 ♘a6 11 ♘e4 ♘xe4 12 dxe4 ♘c5 = 13 ♖he1 ♗xg5+ (13 ... ♘xe4 14 ♗xe7 ♔xe7 15 ♗d3 d5 16 ♗xe4 dxe4 17 ♖xe4+ ♗e6 18 ♘d4; 13 ... f6 14 ♗f4 ♘xe4 15 ♗d3 d5 16 ♗xe4 dxe4 17 ♖xe4 ♗f5 18 ♖e2 ♔f7 19 ♘d4 ♗d7) **14 ♘xg5 ♔e7 15 ♘f3 ♖d8 16 ♘d4 g6 17 ♗f1 ♔f8 18 b4 ♘e6** (intending 19 ... a5) **19 ♘b3 b6 20 ♖e3** (20 g3 intending f2-f4) **20 ... ♗b7 21 a3 ♖d7 22 g3 ♖e8 23 h4 ♖dd8 24 ♗c4 ♘c7 25 ♖de1 ♖e7 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 14
(190) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 0-0 6 cxd5 exd5 (6 ... ♘xd5!? 7 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 8 ♘c3 c5 =) **7 ♘c3 ♘bd7 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♖c1 c5 11 ♗f5** (intending 12 ♗xd7 ♕xd7 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 15 ♘e4) **11 ... ♖e8 12 ♖e1 ♘f8 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♘a4 ♘e4 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 ♘d2 ♘d6 17 ♗g4** (17 ♗h3!?; 17 ♗b1!?)

17 ... c4 = 18 ♘f3? (18 ♘c3 =; 18 g3 =) **18 ... f5! ∓ 19 ♗h3 ♘d7?** (19 ... g5! ∓∓ 20 g4 h5!) **20 g3 = ♘f6 21 ♘d4 g6 22 ♘c3 ♘de4 23 ♗f1 ♖ac8 24 ♖c2 ♕b4 25 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 26 ♕e2 ♘c5 27 ♕d2 a5 28 b3! ♕xd2 29 ♖xd2 ♗a6 30 ♖ed1** (time trouble; better 30 ♖b1) **30 ... ♖ed8 31 ♖b1 ♔f7** (better 31 ... ♖d6) **32 ♗e2** (32 bxc4!) **32 ... ♘d3! 33 ♖dd1 ♔e7 34 ♔f1 ♘b4 35 a3 ♘a2! 36 bxc4 ♘c3 37 ♖b6! ♖d6!** (37 ... ♘xd1 38 ♖xa6 intending 39 ♘c6+; 37 ... ♗xc4 38 ♗xc4 ♘xd1 39 ♗b3) **38 ♖xd6 ♔xd6 39 ♖c1 ♘xe2 40 ♔xe2 dxc4** (better 40 ... ♗xc4+ 41 ♔d2 ♖b8 =) **41 ♔d2 ♖b8 42 ♔c3 ♔d5 43 ♖d1 ♔e4??** (43 ... ♔c5 =) *(97)*

97



44 f3+ ±± ♔xe3 45 ♖d2 ♖b3+ 46 ♘xb3 cxb3 47 ♖d7 (47 f4!) **47 ... h5 48 ♖a7 ♗f1!** (48 ... ♗e2 49 f4 h4 50 gxh4 ♔xf4 51 ♖xa5 ♔e4 52 ♔xb3 f4 53 ♔c3 f3 54 ♔d2 ±±) **49 f4 h4! 50 gxh4** (50 ♖xa5? h3 51 ♖d5 ♔f2 52 ♖d2+ ♔g1 53 a4 ♗g2 54 a5 ♔xh2 55 a6 ♔g1) **50 ... ♔xf4 51 ♖xa5 ♔e4 52 ♔xb3??** (52 ♖a8 f4 53 ♖e8+ ♔f3 54 ♖e6 ♔g4 55 ♖xg6+ ♔xh4 56 ♔d2 ±±) **52 ... f4 = 53 ♖g5 f3 54 ♖xg6 ♗h3!** (54 ... f2? 55 ♖f6 ♔e3 56 h5 ♗e2 57 ♖xf2 ♔xf2 58 h6 ♗d3 59 a4 ♔e3 60 a5 ±±) **55 ♖g1 f2 56 ♖c1 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 15
(191) Spassky-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 ♕e2 ♕e7 6 d3 ♘f6 7 ♗g5 ♕xe2+ 8 ♗xe2 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 c6 10 0-0-0 ♘a6 11 ♖he1 ♘c7 = 12 ♗f1 ♘e6 13 ♗d2 (13 ♗h4 ♘h5) **13 ... ♗d7 14 d4 h6 15 ♗d3 d5 16 h3 ♖d8 17 a3 0-0 18 ♗e3 ♗c8 19 ♘h4 ♖fe8** (20 ♘f5 ♗f8) **½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 16
(192) Petrosian-Spassky
Tarrasch Defence

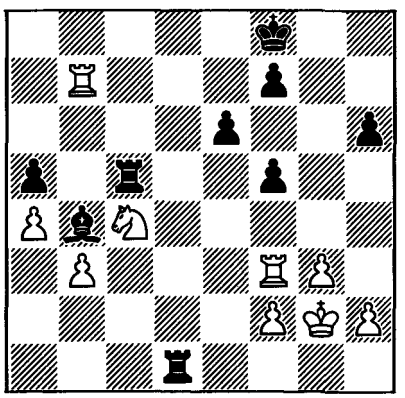
1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♘c3 0-0 9 ♗g5 ♗e6 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♗xf6 (11 ♖c1; 11 ♘a4) **11 ... ♕xf6 12 ♘xd5 ♕xb2 13 ♘c7 ♖ad8 14 ♕c1 ♕xc1 ± 15 ♖axc1 b6** (15 ... ♗e7 16 ♘xe6 fxe6 17 ♖c4 ±) **16 ♘xe6 fxe6 17 ♖c4?** (17 ♗h3!? e5? 18 ♘g5 ♘d4 19 ♗g4! ±; 17 ... ♖fe8 18 ♘g5 ♘d4 19 ♗g4 ♖d5! ±; 17 ... ♖f6 18 ♔g2 ♖df8 ±) **17 ... ♘d4! = 18 ♘xd4 ♖xd4 19 ♖xd4 ♗xd4 20 e3 ♗c5 21 ♖d1 ♖f7 22 ♗e4** (better 22 ♗h3 ♖e7 23 ♔f1) **22 ... g6 23 h4 ♖c7 24 ♔g2 ♗e7 25 ♔f3** (25 h5 gxh5 26 ♖h1 ♖c5) **25 ... ♔g7 26 ♖d2 ♗b4 27 ♖c2 ♖xc2 28 ♗xc2 ♔f6 29 ♗d3 h6 30 ♗c4 g5 31 h5 ♗e1 ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 17
(193) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘xc6 bxc6 7 0-0 d5 8 ♘d2 ♘f6 9 b3 ♗b4! 10 ♗b2! a5 (10 ... ♗xd2 11 ♕xd2 dxe4 12 ♕g5 exd3 13 ♕xg7 ♖g8 14

♕xf6 ♕xf6 15 ♗xf6 dxc2 16 ♖ac1 ±) **11 c3 ♗e7 12 c4 0-0 13 ♕c2 h6 ± 14 a3 ♗a6! = 15 ♖fe1 ♕b6 16 exd5** (16 ♕c3 d4! 17 ♕xd4? ♕xd4 18 ♗xd4 ♖ad8 19 ♘f3 e5!) **16 ... cxd5 17 cxd5 ♗xd3 18 ♕xd3 ♖fd8! 19 ♘c4 ♕a6 20 ♕f3 ♖xd5 ∓ 21 ♖ad1 ♖f5 22 ♕g3 ♖g5 23 ♕c7?! ♖e8?** (23 ... ♘d5! 24 ♖xd5 exd5 25 ♖xe7 dxc4 26 ♖xf7 ♖xg2+ ∓∓; 25 ♘b6 ♗d6! 26 ♕xd6 ♖g6 ∓; 25 h4! dxc4 26 hxg5 ♗xg5 27 ♕xc4 ♕xc4 28 bxc4 ♖c8 29 g3 ♖xc4 30 f4 ♗f6 31 ♗xf6 ∓) **24 ♗xf6! gxf6 ±** (24 ... ♗xf6 25 ♘d6 ♖f8 26 ♘e4 ♗e5 =) **25 ♖d7?!** (better 25 h4) **25 ... ♖c8 26 ♕b7 ♕xb7 27 ♖xb7 ♔f8 28 a4 ♗b4 29 ♖e3** (29 ♖d1 ♖d5!) **29 ... ♖d8 30 g3 ♖d1+** (time trouble; better 30 ... ♖gd5) **31 ♔g2 ♖c5 32 ♖f3 f5?** (32 ... ♔g7 ±) *(98)*

98



33 g4! ± ♖d4 34 gxf5 exf5 35 ♖b8+ ♔e7 36 ♖e3+ ♔f6 37 ♖b6+ ♔g7 38 ♖g3+ ♔f8 39 ♖b8+ ♔e7 40 ♖e3+ ♔f6 41 ♖b6+ ♔g7 42 ♖g3+ ♔f8 43 ♖xh6 f4 44 ♖gh3! ♔g7? ±± (44 ... ♖g5+!? 45 ♔f3 ♖g1 46 ♘e5! ±±; 45 ... ♖gd5! 46 ♖h8+! ♔e7 47 ♖8h5 ♖xh5 48 ♖xh5 ♖d3+ 49 ♔xf4 ♖xb3 50 ♘xa5 ±) **45 ♖6h5! f3+ 46 ♔g3 ♖xh5 47 ♖xh5 ♖d3 48 ♘xa5 ♔g6 49 ♖b5 ♗xa5** (49 ... ♗d6+ 50 ♔g4 ♗xh2 51 ♖g5+ ♔f6 52 ♖f5+ intending 53 ♖xf3) **50 ♖xa5 ♖xb3 ±± 51 ♖a8 ♖a3 52 a5 ♔g5 53 a6 ♔g6 54 a7 ♔g7 55 h4 ♔h7 56 h5 ♔g7 57 h6+ ♔h7 58 ♔f4 1-0** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 18
(194) Petrosian-Spassky
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♘f3 ♘f6 6 g3 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 ♘c6 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗g5 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 h6 11 ♗e3 ♖e8 12 ♖c1 ♗f8 13 ♘b3 (13 ♘xc6 intending 14 ♘a4; 13 ♕b3) **13 ... ♗e6 14 ♘b5** (14 ♗c5 ♗xc5 15 ♘xc5 ♕b6 16 ♘xe6 fxe6 17 e4!) **14 ... ♗g4** (14 ... ♕d7 15 ♖e1 ♗h3 16 ♗h1 ♖xe3! 17 fxe3 ♖e8 18 ♕d2 ♗b4 19 ♘c3 ♘e5) **15 h3 ♗f5 16 ♘5d4 ♘xd4 17 ♘xd4 ♗d7!** (17 ... ♗e4 18 ♕b3! ±; 17 ... ♗e4 18 f3 ♗g6 19 ♗f2 ±) **18 ♕b3 ♕a5 = 19 a3 ♗d6 20 ♕d3 ♕d8! 21 ♖fd1 ♕e7 22 ♗d2 ♘e4 23 ♗e1 ♗e5 24 ♕b3** (24 ♘f3!? ♗c6 25 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 26 ♕d4 =) **24 ... ♗xd4** (24 ... ♖ad8! 25 ♕xb7? ♘xg3 26 fxg3 ♗xd4+ 27 ♖xd4 ♕e3+ ∓∓; 25 ♕xd5 ♗a4! 26 ♕xe4 ♗xd1 27 ♖xd1 ♕f6 ∓) **25 ♖xd4 ♗c6 26 h4 ♕e5 27 ♕e3?** (27 e3) **27 ... ♕f6** (intending 28 ... ♘xg3) **28 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 29 ♖xe4 dxe4 30 ♗c3 ♕f5 31 ♖d1 ♖e8 ∓ 32 ♖d6 f6 33 ♖d4** (time trouble; 33 ♕f4 =) **33 ... a6 34 ♔h2 ♕g4 35 a4 ♔f7 36 ♔g1 ♖e5 37 ♖d6 ♖f5** (37 ... ♖h5 38 ♔f1 ♗xa4 39 ♗xf6! gxf6 40 ♕d4 ♖f5 41 ♕c4+ ♔g7 42 ♕c7+ ♔g6 43 ♖d8 ♗b3 44 ♖d7 with a winning attack) **38 b3 ♕h3 39 ♗e1 ♕g4 40 ♗c3 ♕h3 41 ♗d4! = h5 42 ♗c3 ♔g8 43 ♖d8+ ♔h7 44 ♖d6 ♕g4 45 a5 ♕g6 46 b4 ♕f7 47 ♗d4 ♕c4 48 ♗c5 ♖e5 49 ♗d4 ♖f5 50 ♗c5 ♕c2 51 ♕d2 ♕b3 52 ♕d1 ♕b2 53 ♕d2 ♕a1+ 54 ♕d1 ♕e5 55 ♕d4 ♕e8 56 ♕c4 ♗b5 57 ♕e6 ♕xe6 58 ♖xe6 ♖d5 59 ♖d6!** (59 ♖xe4? ♖d1+) **½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

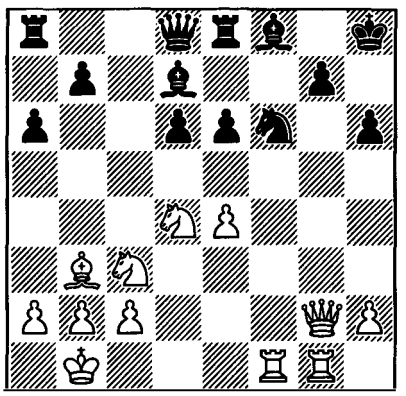
Game 19

(195) Spassky-Petrosian

Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♗c4 ♕a5 (7 ... h6 8 ♗xf6! ♘xf6 9 ♕e2! e6 10 0-0-0 ♕c7 11 f4 e5 12 ♘d5 ♘xd5 13 exd5 ♗e7 14 fxe5 dxe5 15 ♘e6!, Tal-Bilek, 1964) **8 ♕d2 h6?! 9 ♗xf6! ♘xf6 10 0-0-0 e6** ± (10 ... e5 11 ♘f5 ♗xf5 12 exf5 ♖c8 13 ♗b3 ♗e7 14 ♖he1 with initiative) **11 ♖he1** (11 ♗b3 ♗d7 12 f4 ♗e7 13 ♔b1 ♕c7 14 ♖he1 ♖d8 15 g4 g5 16 ♘f5 ±±, Kuijpers-Damjanović, 1966) **11 ... ♗e7?** (11 ... ♗d7! 12 f4 0-0-0) **12 f4 0-0 13 ♗b3 ♖e8 14 ♔b1 ♗f8 15 g4! ♘xg4** (15 ... e5 16 fxe5 dxe5 17 ♘f5 ♗xf5 18 gxf5 ♖ad8 19 ♕g2 ♕c7 20 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 21 ♖g1 ♔h8 22 ♘d5 ±; 15 ... ♘d7 16 h4 ♘c5 17 g5 ±) **16 ♕g2 ♘f6 17 ♖g1! ♗d7** (17 ... ♕c5 18 ♘f3) **18 f5! ♔h8 19 ♖df1 ♕d8?** (19 ... e5 20 ♘e6!; 19 ... exf5 20 ♘xf5 ♗xf5 21 ♖xf5 ♕d8 22 ♗xf7 ♖e5; 19 ... ♕e5!? ±) **20 fxe6 fxe6** (20 ... ♗xe6 21 ♘xe6 fxe6 22 e5 dxe5 23 ♘e4! ±±) *(99)*

99



21 e5! dxe5 22 ♘e4 ♘h5 23 ♕g6! exd4 (23 ... ♘f4 24 ♖xf4 exf4 25 ♘f3 ♕b6 26 ♖g5! ♗c6 27 ♘f6 ±±) **24 ♘g5!** (24 ... hxg5 25 ♕xh5+ ♔g8 26 ♕f7+ ♔h8 27 ♖f3 ±±) **1-0** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 20

(196) Petrosian-Spassky

Queen's Gambit

(notes by Boleslavsky and Bondarevsky)*

It might have been thought that Petrosian's defeat in game 19 would have finally demoralized him and made his further resistance purely nominal. But the World Champion played this game vigorously and once again demonstrated his positional mastery. In my opinion, he was helped by Spassky himself, who after game 19 unexpectedly took a postponement, deferred the meeting for two days, and thus allowed his opponent to recover.

But possibly Spassky too needed time to check the excitement which gripped him when the summit of the chess Olympus became so dazzlingly close.

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♗e7

In this match the Tarrasch Defence has already played its part – that of a not very secure opening, provoking White into playing for a win. But now Spassky aims to set up a sound position and reduce to the minimum the element of risk. Benefiting from his experience in game 14, the Challenger chooses a more accurate move order, and does not allow his opponent to deviate from a variation whose appearance in the match has long been awaited.

Spassky's two-point lead largely determined the course of play in this game. First of all, he avoided the Tarrasch Defence,

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* Cf. Game 10.

although in game 18 it had given him good play. Quite understandably, the match score made him want to avoid complications. In addition, after a battle lasting two months, and demanding total commitment of effort and nerves, it was hard to count on a great amount of creative work at the board. And the Tarrasch Defence usually leads to situations where the value of each move is very great. Dynamic positions demand an extremely responsible attitude to every move, and when a player is tired it is his chess vision which suffers first, and only later, from my experience, does his positional judgement begin to deteriorate.

Therefore the choice of a solid defence by Spassky can hardly have surprised anyone, but his further play made on everyone a strange impression. It was as though someone else had taken his place. For a long time he simply stood his ground, not displaying any activity or invention. It stands to reason that, as a result, he lost, and the outcome of the match again became unclear, not so much on account of the point lost, but rather the after-taste which such a defeat was bound to leave.

4 ♘c3 ♘f6
5 ♗g5

Now the exchange on d5 does not achieve anything: after 5 cxd5 exd5 6 ♗g5 c6 Black succeeds in developing his bishop at f5.

5 ... 0-0
6 e3 h6

The Makogonov-Bondarevsky Variation was played by Spassky in game 2 of the previous match, and hence it was already part of his opening repertoire. On that occasion Spassky did not manage to equalize, and the variation did not occur again. But in that match Spassky also excluded all other varieties of the Queen's Gambit. Now, when the Queen's Gambit had become not only Spassky's main weapon with Black but also his only one, the Makogonov-Bondarevsky Variation was bound to occur. Its appearance at such a late stage is explained mainly by the role of the Tarrasch Defence, which had occurred five times. Spassky had evidently been intending to play the Makogonov-Bondarevsky Variation back in game 6, but instead of 7 e3 (the moves by the pawn to h6 and the bishop to h4 had been made earlier) Petrosian played 7 ♖c1, letting it be known that on 7 ... b6 he was intending 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 g3. This line did not appeal to Spassky, and by 7 ... ♘e4 he transposed into a favourable version of Lasker's Defence.

In the 14th game Petrosian forestalled Spassky's intentions by leaving his knight at b1 and unexpectedly exchanging pawns on d5, which led not to the Makogonov-Bondarevsky Variation but to the so-called Orthodox Fianchetto.

Now, with a lead of two points, the Makogonov-Bondarevsky Variation suited Spassky more than ever, and, avoiding all the opponent's opening 'snares' by adjusting his move order, Spassky nevertheless forces him to play this variation.

What was there left for Petrosian to do? There was no point in going into the classical continuations – there it was too difficult to transform a microscopic opening advantage into the so-needed point. And so Petrosian decided to part with his dark-square bishop and take play along little-studied lines.

7 ♗xf6

With this exchange White can hardly count on an opening advantage. It seems to me that he resorted to this not on theoretical grounds, but because he was aiming for

certain positions in accordance with his tastes and style of play. Usually a pawn formation typical of the Exchange Variation results, and in a quiet situation White can conduct operations on the queenside.

Therefore White's choice of variation is easy to understand. The resulting position is, in my opinion, more in keeping with Petrosian's style than Spassky's creative aspirations.

In addition, account should also be taken of the fact that Petrosian was naturally trying to impose his will in the opening. He could not have known what would happen after 7 ♗h4: it might have been 7 ... b6, or Lasker's Defence, as had already occurred in the 6th game, or perhaps Black might have decided on the Orthodox Defence. By making his choice at the given moment, Petrosian takes the play along lines which suit him.

7 ... ♗xf6
8 ♕d2

[Korchnoi's move, the aim of which is to hinder the freeing advance ... c5. This is achieved by pressure on the d5 pawn, which White can intensify by placing a rook at d1.]

If Black should capture on c4 and then advance ... e5, White will succeed in occupying the newly-opened d-file.

8 ... b6

[The most logical continuation, in keeping with the ideas of the variation chosen by Spassky. After the reinforcement of the d5 pawn, the advance ... c5 may once again be on the agenda.]

9 cxd5

White would have liked to delay this exchange until the bishop moved to b7, so as not to offer it a choice, but it is not clear what move he should make. For the moment there is no point in determining the position of the queen's rook, and on a move by the bishop Black can take on c4 and secure the long diagonal for his bishop at b7. And on 9 b4 Black can continue 9 ... dxc4 10 ♗xc4 c5, equalizing easily.

This results in a solid pawn formation for White in the centre. 9 0-0-0 would have led to a sharp situation, for which Petrosian was evidently not aiming.

9 ... exd5
10 b4

By this move White prevents for a long time the freeing advance ... c5. Later, by placing his rooks on the c-file, he will obtain pressure on c6.

10 ... ♗b7

10 ... ♗e6 came into consideration, when after 11 ♗d3 c6 12 0-0 ♕d6 13 ♖ab1 ♘d7 the ... c5 advance would again have become a reality, whereas after White's next move it becomes impracticable.

It is difficult to decide where it is better to develop the bishop. I prefer 10 ... ♗e6.

11 ♖b1

White is very consistent. There is no question now of Black advancing ... c5. On 11 b5 Black could have replied 11 ... a6, when the pawn cannot be maintained at b5, but now Black has to reckon with b4-b5, which would as though isolate the d5 pawn, e.g. 11 ... ♘bd7 12 b5 c5 13 bxc6 ♗xc6 14 ♗a6, with advantage to White.

11 ... c6

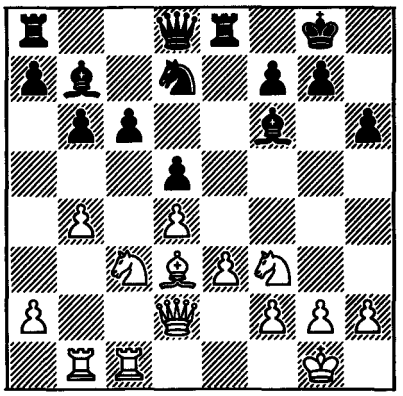
If now 12 b5 then 12 ... c5.

12 ♗d3 ♘d7 13 0-0 ♖e8 14 ♖fc1 *(100)*

White plans play on the queenside,

where there is a defect in Black's position – the c6 pawn. It would therefore be illogical to commence operations in the centre, e.g. 14 e4 dxe4 (14 ... c5 looks more active, but after 15 ♘xd5 White has a positional advantage) 15 ♘xe4 (or 15 ♗xe4) 15 ... ♘f8, and White too has acquired pawn weaknesses.

100



14 ... a5

Spassky begins a counteraction on the queenside, but another plan came seriously into consideration – the transfer of his inactive f6 bishop via e7 to d6, where it could have been used for play on the kingside.

Spassky was evidently expecting that Petrosian, as in the 6th game, would reply 15 a3. Then there would follow 15 ... axb4 16 axb4 b5, when the transfer of Black's knight via b6 to c4 should rid him of all difficulties. But in the 6th game, after two successive defeats, Petrosian was aiming only not to lose, whereas now he had to win at all costs.

Black had a plan typical of such positions: the transfer of his bishop to d6 and his knight via f6 to e4. What could White have done to counter this? The advance of his a-pawn to a5 achieves little, and b4-b5 all the time runs into ... c5. He would have had to make the central break e3-e4, but this would have led to simplification and would have given little chance of success.

15 bxa5! ♖xa5
16 ♗f5

Beginning pressure on the b-pawn. 17 ♗xd7 and 18 ♖xb6 is already threatened, and 16 ... b5 is not possible on account of 17 ♘xd5 cxd5 18 ♗xd7.

16 ... ♖a6
17 ♖b3 g6

Black forces the bishop to choose a post on one of the flanks.

18 ♗d3

Now the b6 pawn is securely defended by the knight at d7. In my opinion, 18 ♗h3 was more in keeping with White's plan, when 18 ... ♖e7 would have been the best defence. Other replies are weaker: 18 ... ♘f8 19 ♖cb1 ♗a8 (20 ♕b2 was threatened, and 19 ... b5 is not possible in view of 20 a4) 20 ♕d3, or 18 ... ♗a8 19 a4 ♘f8 20 ♕d3 etc.

White makes his opponent's defence easier. After 18 ♗h3 the black rook would have remained tied to the b6 pawn, and the bishop at b7 would in turn have been tied to defending the rook. Thus on 18 ... ♗a8 there follows 19 a4 (not immediately 19 ♕e2 on account of 19 ... b5), and if 19 ... ♘f8 then 20 ♕e2 ♗b7 21 ♕b2, and Black loses a pawn.

Instead of 19 ... ♘f8 Black can play 19 ... ♘b8, defending the rook and the c6 pawn, but the withdrawal of the knight to b8 is the very positional concession which White has been trying to achieve.

It would seem that, in reply to 18 ♗h3, Black would have had to neutralize the enemy bishop by 18 ... ♗g7 19 ♖cb1 f5. But the advance of the f-pawn seriously

weakens his kingside. After 20 g3 the white bishop can easily return to its initial position, but the black pawn, alas, can no longer return to f7.

18 ... ♖a7
19 ♖cb1

This game was too important for White for him to decide on 19 e4 without the certainty that it would lead to a win. Indeed, after 19 e4 dxe4 20 ♘xe4 ♗g7 21 ♘d6 ♖e6 White has nothing clear, and the play is considerably simplified.

19 ... ♗g7

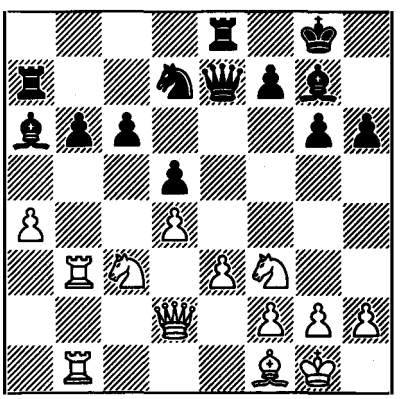
This move was condemned by many of the commentators, and not without reason. True, at g7 the bishop fulfils two functions: it covers the e5 square and defends the h6 pawn in the event of a possible e3-e4. But the h-pawn could have been securely defended by the king from g7, and by transferring his bishop to c7 and defending his b6 pawn, Spassky would have shown that his queenside position was sound.

20 a4

Here this pawn is more vulnerable than at a2, but it was essential to prevent the b-pawn from advancing as soon as one of the white rooks left the b-file.

20 ... ♕e7 21 ♗f1 ♗a6? *(101)*

101



There were two aims to the move 21 ♗f1: to vacate d3 for the knight and after 22 g3 to transfer the bishop to h3. The exchange of bishops does nothing to prevent the knight from going to d3, and the parrying of the second threat is achieved at too high a price. Up till now the c6 pawn was practically invulnerable and Black had only one weakness – at b6, but after the exchange of bishops he is obliged to defend two weaknesses. True, the white bishop was a good one, whereas Black's was bad, but it was fulfilling an important defensive role.

21 ... ♖a5 came into consideration. Black could easily have parried the threat of ♗h3 by placing his queen at e6, and his position would have remained sound.

In Black's position there are two weaknesses – the 'hanging' pawns at c6 and b6, which are away from the centre and therefore have no dynamic strength. But for the moment they are adequately defended and it is not easy to put pressure on them. At the same time the a4 pawn is also weak, and if the position is opened up Black's two bishops will show their strength. On the whole, in my opinion, the two sides' chances are roughly equal. Black could have continued 21 ... ♕e6, in order to transfer his bishop to d6. Sharp play could then have resulted after the advance of the c-pawn.

The exchange of bishops is justified from the positional point of view, since the f1 bishop is a good one, whereas its opponent is bad. But after the exchange, the c6 pawn will be easier to attack, with its faithful guard no longer there.

22 h4

Up till now the attention of the two players has been fixed entirely on the queenside, and the exchange of bishops

gives White a chance precisely on that part of the board, so why does he need this advance on the kingside?

Before beginning play on the queenside, Petrosian stabilizes the position on the kingside. He has decided that the soundest formation will be as follows: pawns at f2-g3-h4 and king at g2.

After the exchange of bishops, the light squares in Black's position will require defending. In some cases White will be able to play h4-h5, either weakening the position of the black king or seizing control of the f5 square.

It is to forestall this possibility that Black makes his 23rd move.

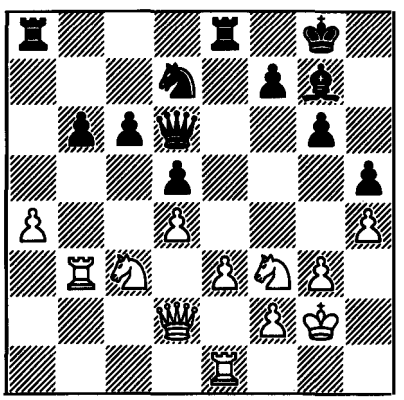
22	**...**	**♗xf1**
23	**♖xf1**	**h5**

An antipositional move. Black himself prepares excellent squares for the opponent's knights at f4 and g5. Now Petrosian consolidates his position on the kingside, and gains the better chances.

Black should have played 23 ... ♕e6, and on 24 g3 invaded with his queen – 24 ... ♕h3. After 25 ♖c1 ♖e6! 26 ♘e2 ♕f5 27 ♘f4 ♖f6 White has nothing better than 28 ♕c2 ♕xc2 29 ♖xc2 ♖xa4 30 ♘e5, leading to simplification and a probable draw.

24 ♖e1 ♖aa8 25 g3 ♕d6 26 ♔g2 *(102)*

102



White concludes his kingside arrangements, and it is now time to commence action on the queenside, although for the moment Black has everything defended there.

26	**...**	**♔f8**

From this point Spassky begins simply to stand his ground. He does not take any action, evidently assuming that his position is sufficiently solid and unbreachable. Strictly speaking, White has nothing definite, but he can, if he is not disturbed, create gradual pressure on the c-file, and Black must constantly be on the alert. 26 ... c5 was possible.

This move shows that Spassky considers his position to be perfectly secure, and that he does not see the need to change in any way the arrangement of his pieces. In one of the issues of the match bulletin, Platonov recommended transferring the bishop to d6, but I do not consider that this would have got Black out of his difficulties. After the exchange of light-square bishops, the main weakness in Black's position has become the c6 pawn, and the bishop at d6 does nothing to assist its defence.

Here is how the play could have developed in this case: 26 ... ♗f8 27 ♖c1 ♕f6 (after the black pawn has moved from h6, the position of the queen at e6 is insecure) 28 ♕d1 ♗d6 29 ♘e2 ♖ec8 30 ♖bc3 – the black pieces are tied up, and the white knight can head via e1 and d3 to f4 or b4.

27	**♖eb1**	**♔g8**
28	**♕d1**	**♗f8**

Black appears to have decided to transfer his bishop to d6, but in fact this is merely a second repetition of moves. The basic defects of his position cannot be eliminated, but to guard the f4 square the bishop

should nevertheless have been placed at h6.

29 ♖3b2 ♗g7
30 ♖c2 ♖a7

In Black's play one senses a kind of indifference, although Spassky could not have failed to sense the impending danger.

Even so, 30... ♗h6 31 ♖bc1 ♖a5 would have been better, in order to answer 32 ♘e2 with 32... c5. Here this by no means solves Black's defensive problems, and it can be recommended only as the least evil. White plays 33 ♘c3, and it is bad to advance the pawn to c4 since this leads to a position where Black has no counterplay, whereas White has a clear plan for exploiting his positional advantage: he doubles rooks on the b-file and exchanges a pair of rooks on b5, when Black cannot withstand the combined offensive against the b6 and d5 pawns.

Instead of 33 ... c4, better is 33 ... ♗g7. In this case Black has much better chances than in the game of escaping with the loss of a pawn, but remaining with three pawns against four on the kingside.

31 ♖bc1 ♘b8

Positional capitulation: Now Black will never be able to advance his pawn to c5. 31 ... ♗h6 was still better, but Spassky had very little time left, and he was only concerned about avoiding immediate loss of material.

Despite his passive play, Spassky's position was still defensible. But here he should have played the 'routine' 31... ♖aa8. The idea is to reply ... c5 if the knight moves from c3, and Black himself could prepare this continuation, by playing his other rook to d8 after 31 ... ♖aa8.

After the voluntary retreat of his knight, Black's position becomes lost.

32 ♘e2 ♖c7

[32 ... ♖xa4 33 ♖xc6 ♘xc6 34 ♕xa4 would not have offered Black any saving chances.]

33 ♕d3 ♖a7 34 ♕b3 ♖a6 35 ♘f4

White transfers his knight to e5, intensifying the pressure on the c6 pawn.

Having deployed his heavy pieces in the best way possible, White embarks on the concluding stage of his plan – the decisive transfer of his knights.

35 ... ♖d8
36 ♘d3 ♗f8

Black cannot allow the white knight in at b4; if 36 ... ♖c8 37 ♘b4 ♖a5, then 38 ♘xc6 ♘xc6 39 ♕xb6 and White wins. But now the other knight invades at e5.

37 ♘fe5 ♖c8
38 ♖c3

White need not hurry, since the opponent is tied up. Just in case, he makes possible the tripling of his heavy pieces on the c-file. Of course, the immediate 38 ♘f4 was also possible.

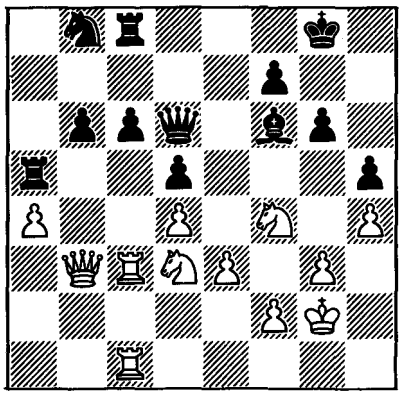
38 ... ♗e7 39 ♘f4 ♗f6 40 ♘ed3

Petrosian is no longer satisfied with 40 ♘xd5 ♗xe5 41 dxe5 ♕xe5 42 ♘xb6 ♖d8, since the black pieces become active.

Had Petrosian had more time, he would possibly have played 40 ♘xc6 ♖xc6 41 ♖xc6 ♘xc6 42 ♕b5 ♘b8 43 ♖c8+ ♔g7 44 ♖xb8, but when it is the last move before the time control with your flag already raised, you do not want to have to work out such variations, especially as there is no need for this combination, since after the move played Black cannot defend against the threats of 41 ♘xd5 and 41 ♘b4.

40 ... ♖a5 *(103)*

103



Here the game was adjourned, and White sealed his next move.

41 ♘b4 looks more natural, when Black loses his d-pawn, but Petrosian prefers another way.

Analysis showed that Black's position was hopeless. The attempt to confuse matters after the adjournment was merely a slight practical chance.

41 ♕xb6 ♖xa4
42 ♖c5!

Threatening to take on d5.

Only this strong move justifies White's rejection of 41 ♘b4; he not only wins a pawn but also breaks into the opponent's position.

42 ... ♖a6

On 42 ... ♘d7 White wins by 43 ♖xc6.

43 ♖xd5!

The strongest move.

43 ♕b7 ♖d8 44 ♘b4 suggests itself, but after 44 ... ♖d7 White is forced either to withdraw his queen to h3 (45 ♕c8+ ♖d8 46 ♕h3), as a result of which he loses almost all his advantage, or by 45 ♕xb8+ to go in for a not altogether clear sacrifice of his queen for rook, bishop and pawn.

43 ... ♕xf4

This is that attempt which was mentioned earlier.

43 ... ♖xb6 44 ♖xd6 or 43 ... ♕f8 44 ♕b7 did not offer any chance, and so Black tries to confuse things.

44 ♕xa6 ♕e4+
45 f3 ♕e6

45 ... ♕e8 is adequately met by 46 ♕b7.

46 ♕c4

But now this is stronger than 46 ♕b7, since after 46 ... ♖f8 47 ♖dc5 ♕xe3 Black picks up the d4 pawn.

46 ... ♕xe3

46 ... ♖e8 is most simply met by 47 ♖e5! ♗xe5 48 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 49 ♘xe5, when White wins the ending without difficulty.

47 ♘e5

Threatening 48 ♖d8+ and mates. Curiously, the entire adjournment session follows one of the variations of our analysis.

47 ... ♖f8

On 47 ... ♖c7 White could have replied either 48 ♖c2, defending the second rank, or 48 ♖c5 ♖a7 49 ♖a1.

48 ♖c5!

Much stronger than 48 ♖d6 ♔g7 49 ♘xc6 ♘xc6 50 ♖xc6 ♗xd4, when White still has great technical difficulties.

48 ... ♗e7

It may seem that Black has achieved some success. The rook cannot go to a5 in view of 49 ... ♕d2+. But the first impression is erroneous, as becomes clear after White's next move.

If 48 ... ♔g7 then 49 ♖c2 followed by ♖e2.

49 ♖b1! ♗xc5

Desperation. On 49 ... ♔g7 White wins by 50 ♖b7! ♕d2+ 51 ♔h3 ♕d1 52 ♕c1, while if 49 ... ♗d6 50 ♖b2 and then 51 ♖e2.

50 ♖xb8

This is the point. Black could still have played on after 50 ... ♔h8, since 51 ♖xf8+ ♗xf8 52 ♕xf7 leads to perpetual check. White would still have had some work to do but, of course, 51 ♘xf7+ is bound to win.

Black resigns

Petrosian exploited excellently his opponent's passive play.

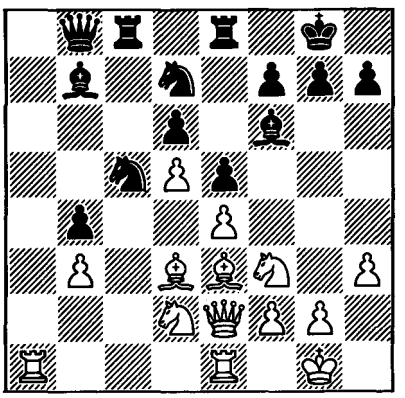
Game 21
(197) Spassky-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 ♘d7 10 d4 ♗f6 11 ♗e3?! (11 a4) **11 ... ♘a5 12 ♗c2 ♘c4 = 13 ♗c1 ♗b7** ± (13 ... c5 =) **14 b3 ♘cb6 15 ♗e3 ♖e8?!** (15 ... c5 ±) **16 d5 ♖c8?** ± (16 ... ♗e7 intending ... c6, ... f5) **17 ♘bd2 c6 18 c4 cxd5 19 cxd5 ♕c7 20 ♖c1** (20 ♗d3 ♕c3 21 ♗f1 ♕c2 22 a4 ±) **20 ... ♕b8** (20 ... ♕c3!? ±) **21 a4! ♘c5 22 axb5?** (22 a5 ♘a8 23 b4 ♘d7 ±) **22 ... axb5 23 ♖a1 b4 24 ♕e2 ♘bd7 25 ♗d3?** (25 ♘c4! ±)

(diagram 104)

25 ... ♘xd3? (25 ... ♗xd5 26 ♗xc5 ♘xc5 27 exd5 e4 28 ♗xe4 ♗xa1 29 ♖xa1 f5 30 ♘g5 ♕b7! ∓; 25 ... ♗xd5 26 exd5 e4 27 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 28 ♖ac1, 28 ♘d4 =) **26 ♕xd3 ± ♗a8 27 ♘c4 ♘c5 28 ♗xc5! ♖xc5 29 ♖a4 h6 30 ♕d2 ♗e7 31 ♖ea1 ♗b7 32 ♕xb4 f5 33 ♖a7 ±± ♖c7 34 exf5 ♕c8 35 ♘e3 e4 36 ♘d4 ♗f6 37 ♖f1 ♗a6 38 ♖xc7 ♕xc7 39 ♕a4 ♖a8 40 ♖d1 ♕b8 41 ♘c6 ♕b7** (41 ... ♕e8 42 ♕b4) **42 ♕xe4 ♕xb3 43 ♖e1 ♗c3** (43 ... ♗d3 44 ♕b4 ♕a2 45 ♕xd6 ♗c3 46 ♘b4 ♕a3 47 ♕e6+) **44 ♖b1 ♕a2 45 ♘b4 ♕a4 46 ♕e6+ ♔h8 47 ♕xd6 ♗e2 48 ♘c6 ♕a2 49 ♖b8+ ♖xb8 50 ♕xb8+ ♔h7 51 ♕g3 ♗h5 52 ♔h2 ♗e1 53 f6 1-0** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

104



Game 22
(198) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 ♕d2 b6 9 cxd5 (9 ♖d1) **9 ... exd5 10 ♖d1** (10 b4 ♗e6 =) **10 ... ♗e6 11 g3 ♘d7** (11 ... ♕d6!? 12 ♗g2 ♘d7) **12 ♗g2 ♗e7 13 0-0 c6 14 ♕c2 ♖c8** (14 ... ♕c7!?) **15 ♘e5! ♘xe5 16 dxe5 f6 17 exf6** (17 ♕b3!?) **17 ... ♗xf6 18 ♘e2 ♕d6** ± (18 ... ♕e7 19 ♘f4 ♗f7 20 h4 ±) **19 ♖d2 ♖fd8 20 ♖fd1 ♕e7** (20 ... ♕e5!? =) **21 ♘f4 ♗f7 22 ♗h3** (22 h4 g5 23 hxg5 hxg5 24 ♘e2 ±) **22 ... ♖c7 23 ♗f5 g5! 24 ♘e2 c5 25 e4!?** (25 ♘c3 ♕e5) **25**

... ♗d4! **26** ♘xd4 (26 ♕a4 b5! 27 ♕xb5 dxe4 28 ♘xd4 cxd4 29 ♖xd4 ♖xd4 30 ♖xd4 e3! 31 ♕e2 exf2+ 32 ♔xf2 ♕xe2+ 33 ♔xe2 ♗xa2 =) **26 ... cxd4 27 ♕d3 dxe4 28 ♗xe4 ♔g7 29 ♕f3 ♕f6 30 ♕xf6+** (30 ♕a3 ♕e7) **30 ... ♔xf6 31 b3 a5** (32 ♖xd4? ♖xd4 33 ♖xd4 ♔e5) ½-½ (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

Game 23
(199) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♕c7 5 ♘c3 (5 ♘b5 ♕b8 6 c4 ♘f6 7 ♘5c3 e6 8 f4!) **5 ... e6 6 ♗e3 a6 7 ♗d3 ♘f6 8 0-0 ♘e5 9 h3 ♗c5** (9 ... b5 10 f4 ♘c4 11 ♗xc4 ♕xc4 12 ♕d3! d5 13 e5 ♘d7 14 ♕xc4 dxc4 15 f5 ±, Fischer-Petrosian, 1966) **10 ♕e2 d6 11 f4 ♘ed7 ± 13 ♘b3 ♗xe3+ 13 ♕xe3 b6 14 ♖ae1 ♗b7** (14 ... e5 15 fxe5 dxe5 16 ♘d5 ♘xd5 17 exd5 ♗b7 ±) **15 e5! dxe5 16 fxe5 ♘d5 17 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 18 ♖f4 ± b5 19 ♘d4 ♖b8 20 c3 g6 21 a3 0-0 22 ♖h4 f5** (22 ... ♖fd8 23 ♕h6 ♘f8 24 ♖f4 ♖d7 25 h4 with a winning attack) **23 exf6 ♖xf6 24 ♗e4 ♘c5 25 ♗xd5 exd5 26 ♕e7 ♕xe7 27 ♖xe7 h5 28 ♘f3 ♘e4** (28 ... ♘e6 29 ♘e5) **29 ♖d7 ♖d6 30 ♖xd6 ♘xd6 31 ♖d4 ♘c4 32 ♖xd5 ♘xb2** (32 ... ♖b6) **33 ♖d6 a5 34 ♖xg6+ ♔h7 35 ♖c6! ±± ♘c4 36 a4 ♘b2 37 axb5 ♖xb5 38 c4 ♖b7 39 c5 ♖a7 40 ♖d6 ♔g7 41 c6 ±± ½-½** (Boleslavsky, Bondarevsky, Geller)

How I Lost the Match

This is not a confession. Indeed, it might be wondered what can be said by the loser in a match for the World Championship. In a match where the most restrained forecasters thought that at best I would make efforts to regain my form. At that time, making no attempt to conceal his pre-match sympathies, grandmaster Kotov wrote that this match would merely serve as a judicial formality, conferring on Spassky – the strongest player in the World – the title of the No.1 player on the globe. It would be interesting to know whether the grandmaster was aware that he was simply repeating one Rokhlin, who early in 1966 announced that in the spring of that year the chess world would gain a new Champion.

I somehow do not recall anyone categorically stating at the start of the 1966-69 Candidates cycle that Spassky was destined again to mount the stage of the Estrada Theatre as the anxious Challenger, in order within some 60 days to feel the touch of the laurel wreath on his neck. My words, that I would not be surprised if three years later I again had to meet Boris Spassky, were taken not only as a condolence to the loser, but also as a well-tried step – by exalting your opponent (whether he be the winner or the loser), you correspondingly exalt yourself.

Spassky's confident victories over Geller, Larsen and Korchnoi by no means caused me to panic, but, strangely enough, inspired optimism. It is a surprising phenomenon that, throughout my chess career, my sore point has been a striving to relate objectively to people, facts and potential possibilities. This, my life credo over a fairly lengthy chess career, has led to a surprising phenomenon. On the one hand, objectivity is a laudable trait, but it has led to a heightened assessment of the possibilities both of my opponents, as well as of certain positions and simply various moves; and on the other hand, in the opinion of many, it has also led to an underestimation of my own possibilities.

Add to this an almost complete lack of ambition, and it can be imagined from

where there appeared an unusual although not altogether original phenomenon in chess. A slumbering chess strength, which needed a certain catalyst. When I say that this phenomenon was not original, I have in mind Schlechter, a chess giant, the only player who almost overcame the great Lasker at the height of his powers. For many years I was almost indifferent to the place I occupied in tournaments. And almost always players would be found who would occupy the leading places in the tournament table, leaving me, without regret it is true, to look up at the winners from below.

Years passed, and in 1956 I wanted to give up chess. The 1956 Candidates Tournament was not a great competitive success for me, although a share of 3rd-7th places with Geller, Bronstein, Spassky and Szabo was honourable and customary. But I wanted to show that I was worth something in chess, and in the tournament I played a number of good games, with Spassky, Smyslov, Bronstein, Filip and Pilnik, but alas, I did not win the first two, and the incident which occurred in my game with Bronstein added to the list of chess tragedies. A complicated strategic battle led to David ending up in a position where he was almost without moves, with only a knight able to hop backwards and forwards. Bronstein was in great time trouble, and in all probability he would not have managed to make the stipulated 40 moves. I had a great desire to win, since in round 1 I had lost to Geller from an excellent position. And here Bronstein, picking up the knight, made an intricate manoeuvre, not on the board but in the air, and after first almost putting it down at c6 (without of course releasing his hand), where it had already been several times, he then changed his mind and placed it on f5. My desire to gain the desired victory as quickly as possible was evidently so great that my brain, after fixing the knight at c6, 'found' a forced win, which I then began to carry out. And suddenly, to my horror, the black knight calmly took my queen . . .

I think that this so ridiculous finale pursued both Bronstein and me throughout the tournament. The acquired point lay heavily on Bronstein's shoulders, and I was profoundly distressed by the chess injustice of it. Was it worth trying one's utmost, if inspiration was not rewarded but punished? But the most wounding thing was still to come. A few months later, on seeing an editorial in the magazine *Shakhmaty v SSSR*, I eagerly scanned it to see what it had written about me. To say nothing did not accord with reality. Not only was there not a single word of criticism or support, but even my name did not appear in this article. A few years later, when I began coming into direct contact with the journalistic editorial 'kitchen', I realized that all sorts of occurrences such as this were possible. But at the time . . . At the time I came to the decision to give up chess, and to obtain a 'normal profession', since I was only 27 years old. And then one day one of my friends, a grey-haired journalist by the name of Ashot Arzumanian, called in to see me. Complaining about my chess fate, I told him of my intentions.

"No, that would be cowardice, running away. You will not demonstrate anything by this. If you consider that you are right, and that your understanding of chess and your attitude to different aspects of the chess struggle are correct, then you must fight and demonstrate your beliefs."

Three years of chess passed without any outstanding success, and then came the USSR Championship in Tbilisi. Spassky, Tal, Keres, Geller, Korchnoi, Polugayevsky, Bronstein, etc, etc. To finish first in such company was honourable and pleasant. And I finished first. But I think that a

deciding role in my victory was played by one of those chess enthusiasts by whom, in my opinion, the chess world is supported. An engineer by profession, he worked as a junior chess trainer, and simultaneously during the Championship he was the senior demonstrator. Often he would come up to me during play and repeat: "You are playing in your home town, you should be first in the tournament, you can be first . . ." And I finished first.

It is wrong to say that one swallow does not make a summer. The Championship in Tbilisi was the first in a series of successes which first brought me in 1963 onto the stage of the Estrada Theatre.

The World Championship Match with Botvinnik was uncommonly difficult and tiring. I think that to defeat Botvinnik, for whom this was the seventh (!) match for the Championship, was my greatest achievement.

Three years quickly passed. For two months during the spring of 1966 I passed through the now well-known stage entrance into the Estrada Theatre, where I greeted the arbiters O'Kelly and Filip, who had replaced Stahlberg and Golombek, familiar figures from the previous match, and shook hands with Boris Spassky, whereupon the clocks were again started. This match too I succeeded in winning, and mainly, I think, because I wanted to demonstrate the validity of my victory in 1963. My opponent was strong and healthy, and his chess fate seemed 'automatically' to have foretold the chess crown. A first category player at the age of 9, and a candidate master by the age of 12, in 1953 Spassky participated in an international tournament in Bucharest. In those years that was probably the only occasion when a USSR citizen went on a trip abroad without even holding a passport of his country. At 19 he was a grandmaster and a participant in the Candidates Tournament for the World Championship (1956). And then for six long years the immediate struggle at the feet of the chess throne took place without his participation. The reason? Chess commentators look for reasons in individual games, remembering Spassky-Tal from the 1958 Zonal Tournament, and Stein-Spassky from the 1961 Zonal Tournament. Indeed, losses in these games, played in the final rounds of two USSR Championships, proved fatal in barring Spassky's path in the battle for the World Championship. As early as 1953 he had participated in that international tournament in Bucharest, and now unexpectedly Spassky's advancement, which had proceeded inexorably from tournament to tournament, had strangely slowed down. The reason? In the 1956 USSR Championship Spassky shared 1st-3rd places, but among the successful participants was the little-known Mikhail Tal. No, he did not burst out suddenly, as many think. Back in Riga in 1954 in the USSR Team Championship, on top board for the 'Daugava' team was a dark-haired youth, who a few weeks earlier had gained the master title. Six years later, when, by beating Botvinnik, Tal became World Champion, my wife reminded me of what I said to her after my return from Riga: "You know, Rona, in Riga I played a lad who, if I am not going mad, will one day be World Champion".

Even so, for the uninitiated, Tal's extraordinary rise in the period 1956-1960 created the impression of an exploding bomb. Look through the chess (and not only chess) newspapers and magazines of that time. How many admiring words were written about Tal! His distinctive and sparkling play, which caught the imagination of everyone, first places in all the

major tournaments in which he competed, his lively and sociable nature, his wit and sense of humour – all this together pushed other leading players into the background.

Perhaps it was the universal admiration of Tal which had its effect on Spassky. It is no doubt not easy, and perhaps even impossible, to become accustomed to the role of a chess Mozart and, without managing to show your true worth, to be pushed into the shade by another player. It is worth remembering that Tal is only one year older than Spassky. Light-mindedness – which has ruined many a great talent – in the end was Tal's undoing, and first place in the great International Tournament in Bled in 1961 – four months after the Riga grandmaster had lost his title of World Champion in the return match with Botvinnik – was Tal's last major success. And the more Tal's star declined, the more Boris Spassky's again shining star came to the fore.

And so, in the spring of 1969, for the second time Boris Spassky was seeking the title of World Champion.

Match play implies a duel between two chess and human individuals. But since the first World Championship Match between Alekhine and Euwe, when for the first time there appeared those unusual 'people off-stage' – seconds and assistants of the participants – they began playing a significant role in the preparation process and during the actual match. Today a player preparing for a top-level match must consider very carefully who should help him, and how. No player likes to enlarge on who helped him, and how. The maximum that becomes known is merely a few names. For example, after the match Spassky publicly thanked his second, grandmaster Bondarevsky, and grandmasters Krogius and Geller for their help and support. How far this help extended again remains a mystery. The point is that, in the regulations for World Championship matches, it is stipulated that only a second has the right to analyze unfinished games, while in preparations for coming games, other assistants can also be brought in.

In my three matches for the World Championship my second was grandmaster Boleslavsky, and my consultant – grandmaster Suetin. And it was not surprising that in the middle of January this approved group assembled not far from Moscow, and began pondering over how to solve the problem of Spassky-1969. I was aware that there was a great danger in our many years of collaboration. We already knew each other thoroughly, and a certain stereotype had developed in our general thinking, our views on specific chess problems, and there was even a certain psychological incompatibility complex. We should have brought one or two new people into our group, people who would have introduced an argumentative fervour in our preparations. But this was not done.

At any event, the work proceeded: again and again we played through Spassky's games, there was a lively exchange of opinions on the competitive and chess tactics that Spassky would adopt, and our match strategy was planned.

It was more or less clear that Spassky would stick to the general strategy which had borne excellent fruits in the Candidates matches, i.e. with each opponent to impose play in positions which were least to their taste. For example, against Geller the play imposed was of a complex and strategic nature, in which Spassky assigned a particular role to the seizure of the initiative. An accompanying factor was an avoidance of theoretical duels in variations demanding precise knowledge. Against

Larsen, I think (I say this, because it is not entirely clear to me whether Spassky had a definite strategy) that he endeavoured to exploit the certain carelessness in the Danish grandmaster's nature, while with Korchnoi the question was simpler: in view of the fact that he was always playing to win, to try and exploit any chance opportunity, of which Korchnoi always allows his opponents more than enough.

But all this was only within the powers of a chess superman, whereas Spassky was generally considered to be merely a player of universal style. There is not and never will be a chess player whose play does not show any weaknesses. Perhaps a chess computer will achieve this? I doubt it, since if today you take almost any form of technology, you always find differences between this or that model, and machines always definitely differ one from another, in a good or bad way. It stands to reason that the originator of such an approach must have a complete mastery of all forms of conducting chess warfare.

In the end, it was decided that I should play my 'own' game. Although after the match much was said, both by Spassky and by his helpers, about the virtually decisive importance of psychological aspects, I still know that in the end the one who wins is the one who makes fewer mistakes. A striving for faultless play was and remains my credo. I think that for all top players, even if they be of directly opposing views and styles, success accompanies them in an event when they make few mistakes. At any rate, fewer than their opponents.

And what happened in my match? Spassky made only two more or less glaring mistakes, and in fact, although more or less obvious to the onlooker, both were quite admissible within the framework of a nervous and exhausting struggle. I made several glaring oversights: blundering away the exchange in game 8 and ♔xb3 in game 14 were, I would say, extraordinary occurrences for me. But even more distressing was my play at the start, in game 4, when in a quiet situation, with ample time for thought, I brought disaster upon myself in 3-4 moves. However, this does not belittle the achievement of Spassky, who that evening played probably his best game. I consider it his best, because it was most typical of the strategy planned and rigorously carried out by Spassky in this match. What it comprised – active piece play, carefully maintained throughout the entire session – is not a simple occupation, since piece play is a 'perishable product'. Spassky displayed rare skill in maintaining the tension in the position, constantly finding ways to keep the opponent on edge. To the surprise of many, it transpired that in chess I am of a rather active nature. The plan which I carried out was not bad, although it led to the creation of weaknesses. But in the fifth hour of play I only needed to display indecision, and with subtle manoeuvres Spassky began building up the threats, and , when I had only a few minutes left on the clock, he switched to decisive action. During a prolonged struggle it is obvious that there are periods when a player's enthusiasm is replaced by apathy and indifference.

When in game 5 Spassky with White went in for a variation which theory considers harmless, I smelled a rat, since I least of all thought that Spassky would be peaceably inclined, but, on the contrary, expected that he would be keen to build on his success. A kind of indifference and apathy possessed me during this game, whereas Spassky's play was exceptionally composed, rapid and accurate.

For a further three games, including the ill-starred eighth, I was in a state of shock. For the 9th I arrived in the mood for an uncompromising struggle, but, as often happens in chess, without effect. When the game was adjourned it was time for me to resign. As chess wits would say, Black was the exchange down, but as compensation he had a bad position.

The adjournment session ended sensationally – a draw! This game, and then my victories in games 10 and 11, showed that on the match barometer the arrow labelled 'fortune' had swung my way. But the next game, the 12th, came as a serious blow to me. After obtaining an overwhelming position, I delayed, and as a result instead of the legitimate win I with difficulty gained a draw.

A few days later I fully settled up with Spassky for the 9th game: I failed to win the adjourned position in game 14 where I was the exchange up.

The state of the contestants normally remains unnoticed by the spectators, whereas when the two of them meet face to face they as though impulsively sense the inner state of the other.

I do not know how I appeared in Spassky's eyes during those difficult days, but I strongly sensed that after the 9th game Spassky was in a state which is best characterised by the boxing term 'groggy'.

"If only I had something of Korchnoi's character", I thought at that time. "He would have found in himself the strength to put pressure on a cowed opponent."

World Champions are often asked when they sensed that a match was won. But no one asks the loser which point in a match was fatal. And this is by no means a matter of tact; it is just that few are interested in the justification that the loser will think up. But I think that every loser asks himself when, at what point, he faltered. I think that I lost the match in the 17th game, at the point when I offered a draw. My position at that point was slightly more pleasant, yet when I offered a draw I was sure that Spassky would decline. But the rejection of a draw usually imposes certain obligations, and I had reason to expect that Spassky would overreach himself. And indeed, two moves later, with a nervous movement of his hand, Spassky 'flung' his queen into my position. My expectation had been correct. Spassky overreached himself, and had I played correctly, he would have had to regret his rejection of the draw. But alas, although I saw the correct move, I did not make it. Angry with myself, I lost a level endgame without a struggle.

The disaster in this game also explains the stupid choice of opening in the 19th and 21st games. With his belief in his powers restored, Spassky conducted these games like a Champion. The last game in the match – the 23rd – was adjourned in a hopeless position for me.

On the day the game was due to be resumed, the day before my birthday, at about 11 o'clock the Match Arbiter O'Kelly phoned:

"Spassky has offered a draw."

"Well, if Spassky wants to have 12½ points rather than 13, that is his business. I was intending to resign the game, but if he wishes to give me a present of half a point, I am not so proud as to decline."

That was the formal end to the match.

Many ask me: will I again battle for the World Championship. What for? To again savour the fame of being the first chess player in the world? I am already acquainted with this. And is it worth striving once again for the highest goal? Genuine human happiness may consist in a striving for perfection, in a tireless movement forwards and upwards. But the prospect of passing

for a second time along a familiar path is a highly dubious stimulus for me. I would not be the first to be let down by the eternal striving of a person again to meet his conqueror.

Suppose it all ends happily, and I again become World Champion, the centre of attention. There will be successes, taken for granted and assumed to be easily achieved, and there will be failures, normally received gloatingly.

USSR v. Yugoslavia
Skopje, June-July 1969

Board 2, +1 −1 =1.

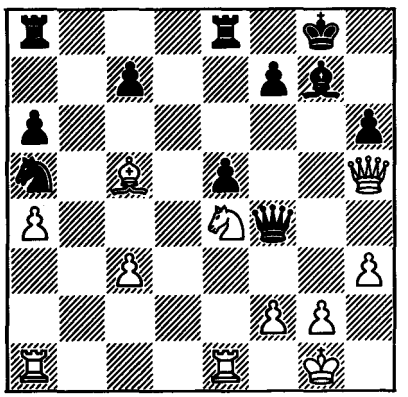
(200) Matanović-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘d7 10 a4 ♗b7 11 d4 ♘a5 12 ♗c2 c5 13 ♘bd2 ♖e8 14 ♘f1 exd4 15 cxd4 ♗f6 16 axb5 axb5 17 ♕d3 c4 18 ♕e3 ♘b3 19 ♖xa8 ♗xa8 20 ♘g3 ♘xc1 21 ♕xc1 g6 22 ♕f4 ♘f8 23 ♕d2 d5 24 e5 ♗g7 25 h4 ♗c6 26 h5 ♘e6 27 ♘f1 f5 28 ♖d1 ♕e7 29 ♖a1 ♖a8 30 ♖xa8 ♗xa8 31 ♕a5 ♗c6 32 ♘1h2 ♕d8 33 ♕d2 ♗e8 34 hxg6 hxg6 35 g4 f4 36 ♔g2 ♗f8 37 ♘g1 ♕h4 38 b3 ♘g5 39 ♕xf4 ♘e6 40 ♕f3 ♗f7 41 ♘e2 ♗h6 42 ♘f1 ♘g5 43 ♕g3 ♕xg3+ 44 ♔xg3 ♘e4+ 45 ♔g2 ♘d2 46 ♘xd2 ♗xd2 47 f4 b4 48 ♔g3 g5 49 f5 ♗e8 50 ♔f3 ♗b5 51 ♘g3 ♔f7 52 f6 ♗d7 53 bxc4 dxc4 54 d5 b3 55 e6+ ♗xe6 56 dxe6+ ♔xe6 57 ♗d1 ♗c3 58 f7 ♗b4 59 ♘e4 ♔d5 60 ♘xg5 ♔d4 61 ♘e4 ♔d3 62 ♗e2+ ♔d4 63 ♘d2 b2 64 ♗xc4 ♗xd2 65 ♗a2 ♗h6 66 g5 ♗g7 67 ♔f4 b1=♕ 68 ♗xb1 ♔d5 69 ♔f5 1-0

(201) Petrosian-Matanović
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 h6 10 d4 ♖e8 11 ♗e3 ♗f8 12 ♘bd2 ♗d7 13 ♗c2 ♕b8 14 dxe5 dxe5 15 ♘h4 ♕d8 16 a4 ♕e7 17 ♘f5 ♗xf5 18 exf5 b4 19 ♗e4 ♘xe4 20 ♘xe4 bxc3 21 bxc3 ♕h4 22 ♕f3 ♘a5 23 f6 ♘c4 24 fxg7 ♗xg7 25 ♗c5 ♕f4 26 ♕e2 ♘a5 27 ♕h5 1-0 *(105)*

105



(202) Petrosian-Matanović
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗g5 h6 4 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 5 e4 b6 6 ♘bd2 ♗b7 7 c3 ♕d8 8 ♗c4 d6 9 d5 e5 10 ♕a4+ ♘d7 11 ♗a6 ♗xa6 12 ♕xa6 g6 13 b4 ♗g7 14 ♕d3 0-0 15 0-0 f5 16 g3 h5 17 a4 a5 ½-½

37th USSR Championship
Moscow, September-October 1969

This is what Mikhail Beilin had to say in his review article on the 37th Championship of the country:

"Petrosian began the tournament after the most severe test in his chess career, after the defeat in his match with Spassky. In its time his strength developed in USSR Championship Finals, but during his period as World Champion, although he wanted to play in the Finals, reasons were always found to put it off until the following year. With the loss of his title, something of a period of chess placidity came to an end. Before the tournament many masters were betting that all the same Petrosian would not take part in the Final, but now they are having to revise their views. For the Ex-World Champion it was not an elimination tournament, but the problem facing him was no less serious than for the other competitors. By going through the tournament undefeated and by sharing 1st place, Petrosian showed that he still possesses considerable reserves. His play was easy, and almost without adjourned games. Sometimes he displayed his customary peaceableness, which on this occasion did no harm, but which harbours considerable dangers."

37th USSR Championship
Moscow, September-October 1969

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	Pts
1	**Petrosian**	●	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	1	1	½	1	½	14
2	Polugayevsky	½	●	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	½	1	½	1	1	½	½	½	0	½	14
3	Geller	½	½	●	½	1	½	½	0	½	0	1	0	1	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	½	1	13½
4	Smyslov	½	½	½	●	½	1	½	0	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	13½
5	Taimanov	½	½	0	½	●	½	½	1	1	½	1	½	½	½	1	½	½	1	½	1	½	½	½	13½
6	Stein	½	½	½	0	½	●	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	½	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	13
7	Balashov	½	½	½	½	½	½	●	1	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	0	½	0	1	1	½	12½
8	Platonov	½	0	1	1	0	½	0	●	½	½	1	0	0	0	1	½	1	1	1	½	1	½	1	12½
9	Kholmov	½	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	●	½	½	½	1	½	0	½	1	½	1	½	1	1	½	12½
10	Gipslis	½	0	1	½	½	½	½	½	½	●	½	1	½	½	½	½	0	1	½	1	½	½	½	12
11	Savon	0	½	0	½	0	½	½	0	½	½	●	½	½	1	1	1	1	½	0	½	1	1	1	12
12	Averkin	½	0	1	½	½	0	½	1	½	0	½	●	½	½	½	1	½	0	½	½	½	1	1	11½
13	Zhukovitsky	½	0	0	0	½	0	½	1	0	½	½	½	●	1	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	1	1	11
14	Liberzon	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	1	½	½	0	½	0	●	½	½	½	0	½	1	½	½	1	10½
15	Tal	½	0	½	0	0	½	0	0	1	½	0	½	½	½	●	1	½	1	½	1	1	0	1	10½
16	Vasyukov	0	½	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	0	●	½	1	½	½	1	0	1	9½
17	Gufeld	0	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	1	0	½	½	½	½	½	●	1	½	½	½	½	1	9
18	Zaitsev A.	½	0	0	½	0	½	1	0	½	0	½	1	½	1	0	0	0	●	½	1	½	1	0	9
19	Zaitsev I.	0	½	0	½	½	½	½	0	0	½	1	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	●	0	½	1	0	9
20	Lutikov	0	½	0	0	0	½	1	½	½	0	½	½	½	0	0	½	½	0	1	●	½	1	1	9
21	Tukmakov	½	½	½	0	½	½	0	0	0	½	0	½	0	½	0	0	½	½	½	½	●	½	1	7½
22	Furman	0	1	½	½	½	0	0	½	0	½	0	0	0	½	1	1	½	0	0	0	½	●	0	7
23	Kupreichik	½	½	0	½	½	0	½	0	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	●	6½

Petrosian's play in the Championship was commended by Mark Taimanov:

"Chess events have a special existence. Their fate is determined not by current competitive scrambles, but by the quality of the games played. From this point of view the 37th USSR Championship will remain a major event in the annals of our chess battles.

Petrosian's success deserves the highest recognition. After experiencing a severe shock – the loss of his World Champion's title – within a short time he decided to subject himself to another difficult test – participation in the USSR Championship, where, as is known, no one is guaranteed against failure. It was as though Petrosian wanted to dot all the 'i's and to give himself an answer as to what he was now worth. This decision – courageous and wise – also proved a happy one. The outcome of the tournament soothed the 'wounds' of the Ex-World Champion, and showed everyone that it was no accident that Petrosian was World Champion for six years, but also that he has retained his strength to this day.

Petrosian was true to himself throughout the tournament. He played calmly and confidently, not aiming to win every game, but also not restricting himself merely to arithmetical calculations. I hope that I am not betraying a great secret, if I say that Petrosian's tournament schedule was based on a score of '+8', which indicates both his ambitions and a sober assessment of his powers. A typical, 'Petrosian-like' game in this tournament was his win over Savon."

(203) Petrosian-Liberzon
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 0-0 6 ♘c3 h6 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 ♕d2 ♘c6 9 ♖c1 b6 10 cxd5 exd5 11 ♗d3 ♘e7 12 0-0 ♗e6 13 ♘e5 ♗xe5 14 dxe5 f6 15 exf6 ♖xf6 16 e4 dxe4 17 ♘xe4 ♖f7 18 ♖fd1 ♘f5 19 ♗c4 ♕xd2 20 ♖xd2 ♗xc4 21 ♖xc4 c5 22 f3 ♔f8 23 ♖c3 ♖e8 24 ♖cd3 ♖fe7 25 ♔f2 ♘d4 26 b4 ♘e6 27 bxc5 ♘xc5 28 ♘xc5 bxc5 29 ♖c2 ♖c7 30 ♖d5 c4 31 ♖d4 c3 32 ♖f4+ ♔g8 33 ♖e4 ♖d8 34 ♖a4 ♔f7 ½-½

(204) Gufeld-Petrosian
Three Knights Game

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 d4 exd4 5 ♘d5 ♗g7 6 ♗g5 ♘ce7 7 ♘xd4 c6 8 ♘c3 h6 9 ♗e3 ♘f6 10 ♗c4 0-0 11 ♕f3?? (11 e5 ♘e8 12 ♕d2 ±) **11 ... d5 12 exd5 c5!** ∓∓ **13 ♘db5** (13 ♘de2 ♗g4 14 ♕f4 g5 15 ♕e5 ♘h5 16 ♕e4 ♗f5 17 ♕f3 g4 ∓∓; 13 ♘b3 ♗g4 14 ♕f4 g5 15 ♕e5 ♘f5 ∓∓) **13 ... a6 14 d6 ♘f5 15 ♘c7 ♘xd6! 16 0-0-0** (16 ♘xa8 ♘xc4 ∓∓) **16 ... ♕xc7 17 ♗f4 ♗g4 18 ♕d3 b5 19 ♗d5 ♖ad8 20 f3 b4 21 ♕xg6 ♔h8 22 ♕d3 bxc3 23 fxg4 ♕b6 24 b3 ♕b4 0-1**

(205) Petrosian-Smyslov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 a6 10 a3 ♗a5 11 a4 ♕e7 12 ♗d2 b6 13 ♖fd1 ½-½

(206) Kholmov-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 ♗d7 11 ♖c1 ♖fc8 12 ♕e2 e5 13 ♘b5 ♕e7 14 dxe5 ♘xe5 15 ♘xe5 ♗xb5 16 ♘f3 ♗xd3 17 ♕xd3 ½-½

(207) Petrosian-Savon
Grünfeld Defence

I was very much looking forward to the meeting with Vladimir Savon. To play against a fresh opponent, who has never sat down opposite you before, is always interesting. The fascination of a first meeting lends to a game an additional emotional slant. It should also not be forgotten that at this point Savon (together with Lutikov) was leading the tournament.

In this situation another colleague would have exclaimed: "Hail, youth! Hail, strange new wondrous tribe! . . . "* But in fact I am quite well acquainted with this chess tribe; it was no secret to me that Savon had a limited opening repertoire, and that he would most probably play the Grünfeld Defence. It transpired, strangely enough, that no one before had played 5 ♗g5 against him – a move which does not promise White any particular opening advantage, but which has nevertheless served me faithfully for many years.

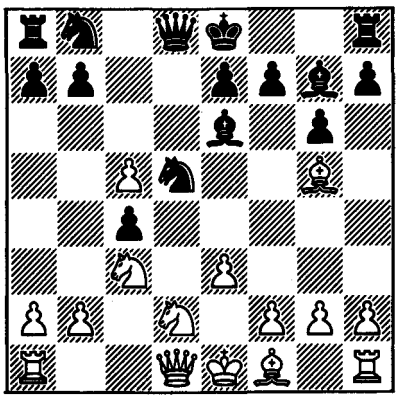
And so, the choice was made. Let's see how Savon will handle this unfamiliar variation . . .

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♗g5 dxc4

And here is a surprise in reply. My opponent spent some 15-20 minutes over his 5th move, which is not mentioned in opening guides. For an instant I felt not like the hunter but the prey. Had I fallen into a prepared variation? The fact that my opponent had thought for rather a long time over this move could have been a smoke screen, concealing the true state of affairs. After a rapid consideration of the variation 6 e4 c5 7 d5 b5, true to my wont I turned down a seemingly safe path.

6 e3 ♗e6 7 ♘d2 c5 8 dxc5 ♘d5! *(106)*

106



Things are beginning to take an unpleasant turn. In the Grünfeld and King's Indian Defences, if White's queen's bishop has been developed and then cut off from its place of birth by the pawn at e3, it often has to look on helplessly at the excesses perpetrated by the bishop at g7 along the long diagonal. Urgent measures have to be taken!

9	**♗xc4**	**♘xc3**
10	**bxc3**	**♗xc4**

White has certain tactical chances, as shown by the variation 11 ♘xc4 ♗xc3+ 12 ♔e2 ♗xa1 13 ♘d6+ ♔f8 14 ♕xa1. But what is he to do after 12 ... ♕c8?

11	**♕a4+**	**♘c6**

The preference given by Savon to this move over 11 ... ♘d7 suggests that, to the question of whether he belongs among the ranks of chess scientists or artists, he is most probably one of the latter. A sober chess mind would have developed the knight at d7, tried to regain the c5 pawn as soon as possible, and aimed for persistent pressure.

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* From Alexander Pushkin's *Vnov ya posetil*, 1835. (Translator's note)

12 ♕xc4 0-0 13 ♘b3 ♘e5 14 ♕e2

After the game Mark Taimanov advocated 14 ♕e4, but it has long been known that his chess optimism is much greater than that of the author of these lines . . .

14 ... ♘d3+
15 ♔f1 ♘e5

White is faced with coordinating his scattered forces. To be fair, it should be said that, despite its seemingly catastrophic nature, White's position is perfectly defendable: in particular he has no obvious targets for the black pieces to attack.

16 e4

First the bishop is brought into play, and in addition the weakness of the light squares is significantly reduced.

16 ... ♘c6
17 ♖c1

The guard-pawn at c3 must be retained, so that both the c6 knight and the g7 bishop should not regard the d4 square as their property.

17 ... ♕d7

17 ... a5 was possibly stronger, trying to force a2-a4.

18 h4

Another useful move. White prepares the possible evacuation of his king to g2 without an unpleasant check from h3. And the rook, whose scope will be enhanced after a possible h4-h5, is promised attacking chances which for the moment remain highly obscure, but it also has the possibility of coming into play via h3.

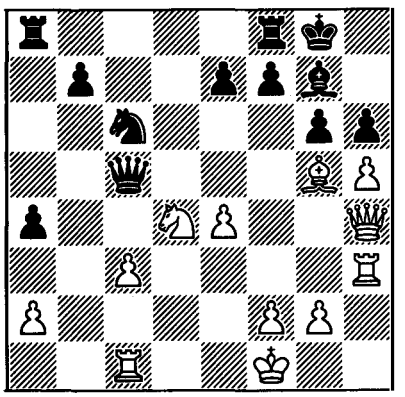
18 ... ♕e6 19 h5 a5 20 ♖h3 a4 21 ♘d4!

White's development has progressed so much that he can calmly part with his extra pawn. Perhaps the most sensible for Black after 21 ... ♘xd4 22 cxd4 ♗xd4 23 ♖d3 would have been to retreat the bishop, retaining hopes of a favourable outcome. This would have been the best practical chance, since in addition Savon was short of time.

21 ... ♕e5 22 ♕g4 ♕xc5 23 ♕h4! h6??
(107)

And here is the consequence of time trouble. Black spent his last few minutes calculating the variations after 23 ... f6 24 hxg6 hxg6 25 ♕h7+, but he must have overlooked something, and, as often happens in such cases, he confused the real danger with a fictitious one.

107



24 ♗xh6!

Perhaps Savon overlooked that after 24 ... ♗xh6 25 hxg6 ♕g5 26 ♕xh6 the rook at c1 was defended?

24 ... ♘xd4 25 cxd4 ♕xd4 26 hxg6 fxg6 27 ♗e3 ♕f6 28 ♕h7+ ♔f7 29 e5

Of course, not 29 ♖f3 ♕xf3 followed by 30 ... ♖h8, regaining the queen.

29 ... ♕xe5 30 ♖f3+ ♔e6 31 ♕xg6+ ♗f6 32 ♕g4+ ♔f7 33 ♖f5 ♕b2 34 ♕h5+ ♔e6 35 ♖e1 ♔d7 36 ♖d5+ ♔c7 37 ♖c1+

Black **lost on time.**

(208) Lutikov-Petrosian
French Defence
(notes by Suetin)

1 e4 e6 2 d3 c5 3 g3 ♘c6 4 ♗g2 g6 5 ♘e2 ♗g7 6 c3 d5

This opening is only nominally a French Defence. In reality the position has taken on the form of a King's Indian, only with colours reversed and an extra tempo for White. But with his next move he invites his opponent to close the centre, and thereby loses the advantage of the first move.

7 ♗e3? d4 8 cxd4 cxd4 9 ♗d2 ♘ge7 10 0-0 0-0 11 b4

The opening stage is complete, and the two players now have to decide on their plans in the middlegame. It is readily apparent that Black has a good position – the consequence of White's unfortunate seventh move. But which plan here is the most advisable? The Ex-World Champion finds an original solution. It is instructive to follow how, move by move, he deploys his queenside forces and assumes the initiative.

11 ... a5! 12 b5 ♘e5 13 ♘c1 ♘d7!

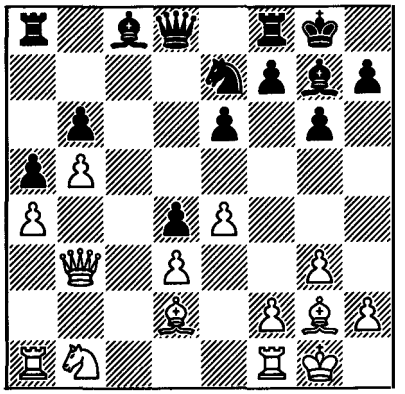
A manoeuvre which has the aim of seizing the c5 square. White cannot prevent ... ♘c5, since on 14 ♘b3 there follows 14 ... a4.

14 a4?

The pawn at a4 will later become a convenient target for Black to attack, and in addition the b3 square is weakened. 14 ♘a3 followed by ♘c4 was probably better for White, aiming to complete his development as quickly as possible. A sample variation: 14 ♘a3 ♘c5 15 ♕c2 b6 16 ♘b3 ♘xb3 17 axb3 ♗b7 18 ♖fc1 ♖c8 19 ♕b2 e5 20 ♖c4.

14 ... ♘c5 15 ♕c2 b6 16 ♘b3 ♘xb3 17 ♕xb3 *(108)*

108



White has managed to get rid of the opponent's strong knight, but the resulting position still favours Black. Firstly, the c5 square has become a chronic weakness, and secondly, by his knight raid Black has managed to solve the problem of his queenside development. However, the main point is that Black has a clear plan of play on the queenside, whereas on the kingside it is difficult for White to do anything.

17 ... e5 18 ♘a3 ♗e6 19 ♘c4 ♘c8 20 ♕c2 ♖a7

Threatening 21 ... ♖c7 and 22 ... ♗xc4 with a favourable pawn formation for Black. White tries to avoid any pawn weaknesses, but as a result he further worsens the placing of his pieces. He should probably have 'held on' to the c4 square by 21 ♖ac1 ♖c7 22 ♕d1 followed by f2-f4!. In the event of 22 ... ♗xc4 23 dxc4 the threat of 24 c5! could have arisen, and in general White's position would have been defensible.

21	**♘a3?**	**♖c7**
22	**♕b2**	**♘d6**

The apparently slow knight manoeuvres in this game prove highly dynamic. The

black knight, which not long ago was 'dozing' at e7, is aiming for the critical c5 square.

23 f4

White at last decides on some positive action, but he is simply not able to create any dangerous counterplay on the kingside.

23 ... ♕d7 24 ♖ac1 ♖fc8 25 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 26 ♖c1 f6 27 fxe5 fxe5 28 ♗f3 ♘b7!

Once again, this time with decisive effect, a knight heads for c5. The weakness of the a4 and d3 pawns will soon tell.

29 ♖xc7 ♕xc7 30 ♗d1 ♘c5 31 ♕c2 ♕f7

The unavoidable 32 ... ♗b3 is threatened. In the event of the immediate 31 ... ♗b3 White would have had the reply 32 ♕c1, when 32 ... ♗xd1 33 ♕xd1 ♘xd3? fails to 34 ♕b3+ winning a piece. The game is essentially decided, since White is bound to lose material. In severe time trouble, Lutikov commits an oversight.

32 ♗g5 ♗f8 33 ♗d8? ♘b7 White resigns

In this game there were no complications – tactics did not play any marked role. Its interest lies in the method of exploiting the positional advantage gained as a result of White's disturbance of the equilibrium in the opening.

(209) Petrosian-Platonov
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4+ 4 ♘bd2 0-0 5 e3 b6 6 ♗d3 ♗b7 7 0-0 c5 8 dxc5 bxc5 9 b3 d5 10 ♗b2 ♘bd7 11 ♕c2 ♕e7 12 ♖fd1 ♖fd8 13 a3 ♗a5 14 cxd5 exd5 15 b4 cxb4 16 ♕a4 ♗b6 17 ♕xb4 (17 axb4!? a5 18 b5 ±) **17 ... ♕xb4 18 axb4 a5 19 b5 ♘e4 20 ♘d4 ♘e5! ½-½**

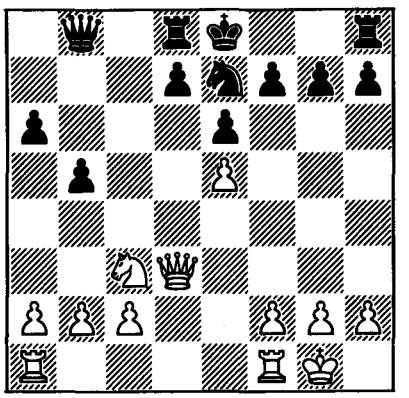
(210) Geller-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♗e3 ♗d7 9 ♘db5 ♕b8 10 a4 0-0 11 g4 a6 12 ♘a3 d5 13 exd5 ½-½

(211) Petrosian-Taimanov
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♘c3 ♕c7 6 ♗e2 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 b5 8 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 9 e5 ♗b7 10 ♗f3 ♕c7 11 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 12 0-0 ♖d8 13 ♗g5 ♗e7 14 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 15 ♕d3 ♕b8 *(109)*

109



16 a4 ♕xe5 17 axb5 axb5 18 ♕xb5 ♕xb5 19 ♘xb5 ♘c6 20 c4 ♔e7 21 ♖a4 ♖b8 ½-½

(212) Kupreichik-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♗c4 ♘gf6 6 ♘g5 e6 7 ♕e2 ♘b6 8 ♗b3 h6 9 ♘5f3 c5 10 ♗e3 ♕c7 11 ♘e5 ♗d7 12 ♘gf3 ♖c8 13 c4 cxd4 14 ♗xd4 ♗b4+ 15 ♔f1 ♗c5 16 ♗c3 ♗c6 17 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 18 ♘e5 ♕e4 19 ♗c2 ♕xe2+ 20 ♔xe2 ♗d6 21

b3 ♘bd5 22 ♗d4 ♘b4 23 ♗b1 ♔e7 24 f4 ♗c5 25 ♗c3 ♖hd8 26 ♘d3 ♘xd3 27 ♗xd3 ♗d4 28 ♗b4+ ♗c5 29 ♗c3 ♖c7 30 ♖ad1 ♗d4 31 ♗xd4 ♖xd4 32 ♔e3 ♖cd7 33 ♗e2 ♖e4+ 34 ♔f3 ♖xd1 35 ♖xd1 e5 ½-½

(213) Petrosian-Vasyukov
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 d6 5 c3 h6 6 ♗h4 g5 7 ♗g3 ♗f5 8 h3 e6 9 e3 ♘bd7 10 a4 ♕e7 11 ♗h2 ♗g6 12 a5 a6 ∞ 13 ♕b3 ♖b8 14 ♕a3 ♘e4 15 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 16 ♘d2 ♗g6 17 ♗c4 h5 18 ♗b3 e5 19 ♗a4 0-0 20 0-0 ♖fd8?! (20 ... ♗d3 21 ♖fd1 e4! ∓) 21 ♖fe1 g4 22 hxg4 hxg4 23 ♖ad1 e4? 24 ♗f4 ♕h4 25 ♗xd7 ♖xd7 26 ♘f1 ± f5 27 ♘g3 ♕f6 28 ♕a4 ♖e7 29 ♖d2 ♗f7 30 c4 ♗f8 31 ♕c2 ♕g6 32 b3 ♖be8 33 ♔f1 ♗g7 34 ♔e2 ♖f8 35 ♖h1 ♗e8 36 ♖h5 ♕e6 37 d5 ♕d7 38 ♖g5 ♖f6 39 ♖d1 ♗g6 40 ♖h1 ♖ef7 41 f3 exf3+ 42 gxf3 ♕e8 43 ♔f2 c6 44 ♕d1 cxd5 45 ♕xd5 ♕c6 46 ♘h5 ♗xh5 47 ♖hxh5 ♕xd5 48 cxd5 ♔f8 49 fxg4 fxg4 50 ♖xg4 ♗h6 51 ♔f3 ♔e8 52 ♖gh4 ♗xf4 53 ♖xf4 ♔d7 54 ♖h6 ♖xh6 55 ♖xf7+ ♔c8 56 ♔g4 ♖h1? ±± (56 ... ♖h8! ± 57 ♔f5 ♖e8! ∞) 57 ♔f5 ♖e1 58 e4 ♖e3 59 ♔e6 ♖xe4+ 60 ♔xd6 ♖e8 61 ♖c7+ ♔b8 62 ♖e7 ♖d8+ 63 ♔e6 ♔c8 64 d6 ♖h8 65 ♖c7+ ♔b8 66 ♖f7 ♔c8 67 ♔e7 ♖d8 68 ♖f4 ♖d7+ 69 ♔e6 ♖d8 70 ♖c4+ ♔b8 71 ♔e7 ♖h8 72 ♖f4 ♖h7+ 73 ♖f7 ♖h1 74 ♖f8+ ♔a7 75 d7 ♖e1+ 76 ♔f7 ♖f1+ 77 ♔g7 ♖g1+ 78 ♔h6 1-0

(214) Balashov-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♘c6 12 a3 ♗b7 13 ♗e3 ♖e8 14 ♘bd2 cxd4 15 cxd4 exd4 16 ♘xd4 ♗f8 17 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 18 ♗d4 ♘d7 19 ♘f1 ♘c5 20 ♕g4 ♕c8 ½-½

(215) Petrosian-Tukmakov
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 e3 ♗g7 5 b4 0-0 6 ♗b2 b6 7 ♘f3 c5 8 b5 cxd4 9 exd4 ♗b7 10 c5 bxc5 11 dxc5 ♘e4 12 ♘xe4 ♗xb2 13 ♘ed2 ♗xa1 14 ♕xa1 a6 15 c6 ♗c8 16 ♕c3 axb5 17 c7 ♕d6 18 cxb8=♕ ½-½

(216) A. Zaitsev-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 ♘c3 b6 6 g3 ♗b7 7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 d6 9 a3 ♗xc3 10 ♗xc3 ♗e4 11 b4 ♘bd7 12 ♕b3 a6 13 ♘e1 ♗xg2 14 ♘xg2 ♘e4 15 f3 ♘xc3 16 ♕xc3 c5 17 e4 b5 18 ♖fd1 cxd4 19 ♖xd4 ♘e5 20 cxb5 ♖fc8 21 ♕e3 axb5 22 ♘e1 ♖a6 23 ♔g2 ♕a7 24 f4 ♘c4 25 ♕d3 h6 26 ♖a2 ♖ac6 27 ♔h3 ♖a6 28 ♘c2 ♕d7 29 ♔g2 ♖ca8 30 ♕f3 ♕b7 31 ♖d3 ♖a4 32 h4 h5 33 ♔h3 g6 34 ♔h2 ♔g7 35 ♕e2 ½-½

(217) Petrosian-Stein
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘e7 9 b4 ♘d7 10 a4 a5!? 11 ♗a3 axb4 12 ♗xb4 ♘c5 13 ♘d2 ♗d7 14 a5 ♘c8 15 ♘b3 ♕e7 16 ♗f3 b6 = 17 ♖e1 ♘a6 18 ♗a3 bxa5 19 ♘xa5 ♘b6 20 ♖e2 ♘b8 21 ♗b4 ♘a6 22 ♗a3 ♘b8 23 ♗b4 ½-½

(218) Furman-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 c3 ♘f6 5 ♘bd2 0-0 6 ♗e2 ♘c6 7 0-0 ♘d7 8 a4 e5 9 dxe5 ♘cxe5 10 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 11 ♘c4 ♖e8 12 ♘e3 a5 13 f3 ♘d7 14 ♕c2 ♘c5 15 ♖d1 ♗e6 16 ♗c4 ♕h4 17 ♗xe6 fxe6 18 ♘g4 ♘d7 19 ♗e3 ♘e5 20 ♗f2 ♕g5 21 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 22 ♗g3 ♖e7 23 ♗xe5 ♕xe5 24 ♕f2 ♖f8 25 ♖e1 ♖ef7 26 ♖ad1 b6 27 ♔h1 ♖f4 28 ♕d4 ♕h5 29 ♕f2 g5 30 ♕g3 ♕g6 31 h3 h5 32 b4 ♖a8 33 b5 e5 34 ♖e3 ♖af8 35 ♔h2 g4 36 fxg4 hxg4 37 ♖de1 ♔g7 38 hxg4 ♖xg4 0-1 (time)

(219) Petrosian-Tal
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 e3 ♘c6 6 a3 a6 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗e2 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗d6 10 ♗f3 0-0 11 0-0 ♕c7 12 h3 ♗e6 13 ♘ce2 ♗h2+ 14 ♔h1 ♗e5 15 ♗d2 ♘xd4 ½-½

(220) Gipslis-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 ♘e2 ♘f6 6 c3 c6 7 ♗f4 0-0 8 0-0 ♗g4 9 ♗xd6 ♗xe2 10 ♕xe2 ♕xd6 11 ♖e1 ♘bd7 12 ♘d2 ½-½

(221) Petrosian-Averkin
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 ♗g5 ♗b7 4 ♘bd2 c5 5 e3 e6 6 ♗d3 ♗e7 7 c3 ♘c6 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♖e1 d5 10 a3 ♕c7 11 ♕b1 h6 12 ♗h4 ♖fd8 13 b4 a6 14 ♖a2 cxb4 15 cxb4 ♖dc8 16 ♖c1 ♕d8 17 ♖ac2 ♘a7 18 ♘e5 ♖xc2 19 ♖xc2 ♖c8 20 f3 ♖xc2 21 ♕xc2 ♕c8 22 ♕xc8+ ♘xc8 23 ♘b3 ♔f8 24 ♗e1 a5 25 ♔f2 axb4 26 ♗xb4 ♗xb4 27 axb4 ♔e7 28 ♘c1 ♘e8 29 ♘a2 ♘c7 30 ♘c3 ½-½

(222) Zhukovitsky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗e2 e5 7 ♘b3 ♗e6 8 ♗e3 ♘bd7 9 a4 ♗e7 10 0-0 0-0 11 a5 ♕c7 12 ♘d5 ♗xd5 13 exd5 ♘e8 14 c4 g6 15 f4 exf4 16 ♗xf4 ♘ef6 17 ♘d4 ♖fe8 18 b4 ♘e4 19 ♖a3 ♗f6 20 ♖e3 ♕b8 21 ♕d3 ♕a7 ½-½

(223) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b7 5 a3 d5 6 ♗g5 (6 cxd5 ♘xd5!) **6 ... ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 9 ♘xd5 ♗xd5** (9 ... exd5!?) **10 ♖c1 0-0 11 e3 ♖c8 12 ♗d3 c5 13 dxc5 ♖xc5 14 ♖xc5 ♕xc5 15 ♕b1 h6** (15 ... g6!? 16 0-0 ♗xf3 17 gxf3 ♘d7) **16 0-0 ♘d7** (16 ... ♗xf3 17 ♖c1 ±) **17 ♗h7+! ♔f8 18 ♗e4 ± ♘f6 19 ♗xd5 ♕xd5 20 ♕c2 ♖d8 21 h3 ♘e8! 22 ♘d4 ♖d7 23 ♕a4** (23 ♕h7 ♘f6 24 ♕h8+ ♘g8) **23 ... ♕b7 24 ♘f3 ♖c7 25 ♖d1 ♕c6 26 ♕b4+ ♕c5 27 ♕f4 ♕e7 28 ♘e5 ♘f6 29 ♕d4** (29 b4 ±) **29 ... ♖c8! ½-½** (Polugayevsky)

(224) I.Zaitsev-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 c5 4 c3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 ♕b6 6 a3 c4! 7 ♘bd2 (7 h3 ♘a5 =; 7 ♗e2 ♗d7 8 0-0 ♘ge7 =) **7 ... ♗d7 8 ♗e2 ♘a5 9 0-0 ♘e7 10 ♘g5 h6 11 ♘h3 0-0-0 ∓ 12 ♘f4 g6 13 ♖b1 ♔b8 14 g4?! ♗b5 15 ♖e1 ♘c8 16 ♗f1 ♗e7 17 h3 ♕c6 18 ♗g2 ♗a4! 19 ♕e2 ♗c2 ∓∓ 20 ♘xc4 ♗xb1 21 ♘xa5 ♕c7 22 b4 g5 23 ♘h5 ♕xc3 24 ♗d2 ♕d3 25 ♕d1 ♗c2 26 ♕c1 ♗a4 27 ♗e3 ♘b6 28 ♗f1 ♕g6 29 f4 ♖c8 30 ♕d2 ♖c2 31 ♗d3 ♖xd2 32 ♗xg6 fxg6 33 ♗xd2 gxh5 0-1**

International Tournament
Palma de Mallorca
November-December 1969

1 Larsen 12; 2 **Petrosian** (+6 -0 =11) 11½; 3-4 Hort, Korchnoi 10½; 5 Spassky 10; 6 Diez del Corral 9½; 7-8 Mecking, Panno 9; 9-10 Najdorf, Parma 8½; 11-12 Szabo, Unzicker 8; 13 Pomar 7½; 14-16 Bobotsov, Damjanović, Penrose 6½; 17 Toran 6; 18 Medina 5.

(225) Toran-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 g3 dxc4 5 ♗g2 ♘bd7 6 ♕a4 a6 7 ♕xc4 b5 8 ♕c6 ♖a7 9 ♕c2 c5 10 0-0 ♗b7 11 ♘bd2 cxd4 12 ♘xd4 ♗xg2 13 ♔xg2 ♖c7 14 ♕d1 ♗e7 15 ♘2f3 ♕a8 16 ♔g1 ♕e4 17 ♗d2 0-0 18 ♗a5 ♖cc8 19 ♖c1 ♘c5 20 ♕d2 ♕d5 21 b4 ♘ce4 22 ♕d3 ♖c4 23 ♖xc4 bxc4 24 ♕c2 g6 25 ♕c1 c3 26 ♕c2 ♗d8 27 ♖d1 ♗xa5 28 ♘b3 ♕f5 29 ♘bd4 ♕b5 30 bxa5 ♕xa5 31 ♖d3 ♕c5 32 ♖e3 ♖c8 33 ♘b3 ♕f5 34 ♘bd4 ♕d5 35 ♖d3 ♘g4 36 ♘h4 ♘exf2 0-1

(226) Parma-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗h4 c5 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 11 ♕e2 cxd4 12 0-0-0 ♗c5 13 ♕e5 ♕e7 14 ♘xd4 ♖c8 15 ♖d2 ♕c7 ½-½

(227) Petrosian-Bobotsov
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 b3 ♘c6 6 ♗b2 f6 7 ♘c3 e5 8 ♘xd5 ♕xd5 9 ♗g2 ♗e6 10 0-0 ♕d7 11 ♖c1 ♖d8 12 d3 ♗e7 13 ♘d2 0-0 14 ♖e1 b6 ½-½

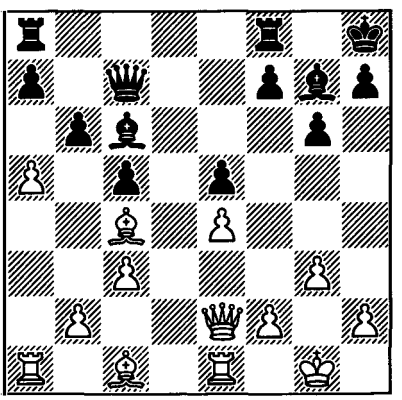
(228) Medina-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘c3 e6 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 d5 5 d3 ♘c6 6 exd5 exd5 7 ♗g5 d4 8 ♘e4 ♗e7 9 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 10 ♘e2 ♗e7 11 0-0 ♘e5 12 ♘d2 0-0 13 ♖e1 ♘g6 14 ♘c4 ♖b8 15 a4 b6 16 ♔h1 ♗f6 17 ♘g1 ♗d7 18 ♕h5 ♕c7 19 ♘f3 ♖fe8 20 b3 ♘f8 21 ♘fd2 g6 22 ♕f3 ♗g7 23 ♘e4 ♖e6 24 ♘g5 ♖f6 25 ♕e2 h6 26 ♘h3 ♖e6 27 ♕f1 ♖xe1 28 ♖xe1 ♘e6 29 ♘g1 ♘d8 30 ♘e2 ♘e6 31 ♘g1 ♘d8 32 ♘e2 g5 33 f4 ♘c6 34 fxg5 hxg5 35 ♘g1 g4 36 ♘e2 ♘b4 37 ♘f4 ♖e8 38 ♖xe8+ ♗xe8 39 ♕e2 ½-½

(229) Petrosian-Mecking
Pirc Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 c3 ♘f6 5 ♘bd2 0-0 6 ♗e2 c5 7 dxc5 dxc5 8 0-0 ♘c6 9 ♕c2 b6 10 ♘c4 ♗b7 11 a4 ♕c7 12 ♖e1 ♘a5! 13 ♗f1 ♘xc4 14 ♗xc4 ♘g4 15 a5 ♗c6 16 ♕e2 ♘e5 17 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 18 g3 ♗g7?! (18 ... ♖fd8) **19 ♗f4 e5?!** (19 ... ♗e5) **20 ♗c1 ♔h8** *(110)*

110



21 ♗d5! ± ♗xd5 22 exd5 f5 23 c4 ♖ae8 24 ♖d1 f4 25 axb6 axb6 26 ♕e4 ♕d7 27 ♖e1 ♕f7 28 ♖e2! g5 29 g4! ± ♕d7 30 f3 ±± ♖a8 31 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 32 ♗d2 ♖e8 33

♗c3 ♕d6 34 ♖e1 h6 35 ♖a1 ♖f8 36 ♖a7 ♖e8 37 ♕f5 b5 38 ♖d7 ♕f8 39 ♕xf8+ ♖xf8 40 cxb5 ♖b8 41 ♖xg7 1-0

(230) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♘c3 ♕c7 6 ♗d3 ♘c6 7 ♘xc6 bxc6 8 0-0 ♘f6 9 ♕e2 d5 10 ♗g5 ♗b7 11 f4 ♗e7!? 12 e5 ♘d7 13 ♗xe7 ♔xe7 ± 14 ♘a4 (14 ♕g4 ♖ag8 ∞) **14 ... c5 15 c4 d4 16 ♗e4 ♗xe4 17 ♕xe4 g6 18 b3 a5 19 ♘b2 h5 20 ♘d3 ♖a6 21 ♖ab1 ♖b8 22 ♖f2 ♖ab6 23 ♖fb2 ♔f8 24 h3?!** (24 ♕e1 intending 25 ♘f2-e4-d6 ±) **24 ... ♔g7 25 ♔f2?** (25 g3 ∞) **25 ... h4! 26 ♔g1 ♖h8 27 ♕e1 ♖a6 28 ♖f2 ♘b6 ∓ ½-½**

(231) Petrosian-Penrose
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 ♘ge2 c6 8 d5 cxd5 9 cxd5 ♘bd7 10 ♘g3?! (10 g4; 10 ♕d2) **10 ... ♘e8 11 ♗d3 ♘c5 12 ♗c2 f5 13 ♗f2 f4** (13 ... ♗h6!?) **14 ♘f1 a5** (14 ... ♕g5 15 ♖g1 ♕e7 ∓) **15 a3 ♗d7 16 ♘d2 b5 17 ♕e2 ♖b8** (17 ... b4 18 axb4 axb4 19 ♖xa8 ♕xa8 20 ♘d1 ±) **18 0-0 g5 ±** (18 ... a4 ∞) **19 a4! b4 20 ♘b5 ♕b6 21 ♗d3 ♖c8 22 ♖fc1 ♗f6 23 ♘c4 ♕a6 24 ♘cxd6 ♘xd3 25 ♖xc8 ♘xf2 26 ♖xe8 ♗xe8 27 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 28 ♕xf2 ♗d8 29 ♕e2 ±± ♗b6+ 30 ♔h1 ♖c8 31 ♖d1 ♗e3 32 d6?! ♕c6 33 b3 ♔f7 34 g3 ♕d7 35 g4 ♔g6 36 ♘c7 ♗d4 37 ♘d5 ♕xd6 38 ♘e7+** (38 ... ♕xe7 39 ♕a6+ ♕f6 40 ♕xc8) **1-0**

(232) Damjanović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♕g4 ♗f8 6 ♘f3 ♕d7 7 ♗b5 c6 8 ♗d3 ♗a6 9 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 10 a3 ♘e7 11 0-0 ♘f5 12 ♘e2 ♘c7 13 ♕h3 0-0-0 14 g4 ♘e7 15 ♘g5 ♘g6 16 f4 f6 17 ♘f3 ♘e7 18 ♘g3 f5 19 gxf5 ♘xf5 20 ♘xf5 exf5 21 ♔h1 g6 22 a4 ♘e6 23 ♗e3 ♗e7 24 b3 ♔b7 25 a5 b5 26 ♕g2 a6 27 c3 ♖c8 28 b4 ♖cg8 29 ♕c2 ♕e8 30 ♖g1 ♕f7 31 ♖g2 h6 32 ♖ag1 ♖g7 33 ♗c1 ♔c8 34 ♖g3 ♔d8 35 ♖1g2 ♖hg8 36 h4 ♖h8 37 ♔g1 ♖hg8 38 ♔f1 ♔e8 39 ♔e2 ½-½

(233) Petrosian-Hort
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 ♘c6 7 ♘ge2 ♖e8 8 ♕d2 ♖b8 9 ♖d1 a6 10 ♘c1 e5 11 d5 (11 dxe5 ♘xe5 12 ♗e2 ♘c6 13 b3 ±; 12 ... b5!? 13 cxb5 axb5 14 ♘xb5 ♘xf3+ 15 gxf3 ♘xe4 16 fxe4 ♕h4+ 17 ♗f2 ♕xe4 18 ♕d5 ♕b4+ ∞) **11 ... ♘d4 12 ♘1e2 ♘xe2!** (12 ... c5 13 dxc6 bxc6 14 ♘xd4 exd4 15 ♗xd4 d5 16 cxd5 cxd5 17 e5 ±) **13 ♗xe2 ♘h5! 14 0-0 f5 15 c5 ♘f4?** (15 ... f4 16 ♗f2 ♕f6!) **16 ♗c4! b5?! 17 cxb6 cxb6 18 a4 ♕d7!?** (18 ... ♕c7! 19 b3 ♕b7 ∞) **19 ♖a1! ♕b7 20 ♖fe1 ♗d7 21 ♗f1 ± ♘h5 22 ♖a3! f4 23 ♗f2 ♗f6 24 ♘a2! ♖ec8** (24 ... a5 25 ♘c3!) **25 ♘b4 a5 26 ♗a6 ♕a7 27 ♗xc8 axb4 28 ♗xd7 bxa3 29 ♗c6 ±±** (29 ♗e6+ ♔h8 30 bxa3 ♕xa4 31 ♕b4! ±±) **29 ... axb2 30 ♕xb2 ♗d8 31 ♖b1 ♕a5 32 ♕c2 ♖c8 33 ♖b5 ♕a6 34 ♕b3 g5 35 ♕b4** (35 h3!?) **35 ... ♗c7 36 ♕c4 ♗d8 37 ♕b4 ♗c7 38 ♕b3 ♗d8 39 ♕b1?** (39 g4 ±±) **39 ... ♕xa4 40 ♖xb6 ± ♕c4 41 ♖b4 ♕c3 42 ♖b3 ♕d2 43 ♖b2 ♕c3** (43 ... ♕a5!?) **44 ♔h1! ♘f6 45 ♖b8 ♖xb8 46 ♕xb8 ♕a5 47 ♕xd6 ♗c7 ±± 48 ♕e6+** (48 ♕xf6 ♕a1+ 49 ♗g1 ♗b6 50 ♕xg5+) **48 ... ♔g7 49 ♕e7+ ♔g8 50 h4** (50 ♗e8!) **50 ... ♕d2 51 ♕xf6 ♕xf2 52 ♕xg5+ ♔f7 53 ♕f5+ ♔g7 54 ♕d7+**

♔f6 55 ♕e6+ ♔g7 56 ♕e7+ ♔g8 57 ♕g5+ ♔f7 58 ♔h2 h5 59 ♕xh5+ ♔e7 60 ♕e8+ 1-0

(234) Szabo-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 ♗f5 7 e3 e6 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 ♗d6 10 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖ac1 ♖fc8 13 h3 ½-½

(235) Petrosian-Korchnoi
English Opening

1 ♘f3 c5 2 c4 ♘f6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 e6 5 e3 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♘c3 ♘c6 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 d5 10 cxd5 ♘xd4 11 exd4 ♘xd5 12 ♗f3 ♗f6 ½-½

(236) Unzicker-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♗c5 6 ♘b3 ♗a7 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 d6 9 ♗e3 ♗xe3 10 ♕xe3 ♘ge7 11 c4 e5 12 ♘c3 0-0 13 ♖fd1! ± ♗e6 14 ♗f1 ♘c8 15 ♘d5 a5 16 ♖ac1 b6 17 ♘a1! f6 18 ♘c2 ♖f7 19 ♘a3 ♖d7 20 ♘b5 ♖b8 21 ♗d3?! (21 f4; 21 g3 ±) 21 ... ♘8a7 22 ♘a3 ♘d4 23 ♘c3 ♘ac6 24 ♘e2 ♗f7 25 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 26 ♗e2 ½-½

(237) Petrosian-Panno
Catalan Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 c5 4 0-0 ♘c6 5 d4 e6 6 c4 dxc4 7 ♘e5 ♘xe5 8 dxe5 ♘d5!? (8 ... ♕xd1 9 ♖xd1 ♘d5 10 ♘c3 ±; 8 ... ♘d7 9 f4 ±) 9 ♘a3 ♗d7! (9 ... c3 10 ♘c4 cxb2 11 ♗xb2 ±) 10 ♘xc4 ♗c6 11 a3 ♖c8 12 e4 ♘b6 13 ♘d6+ ♗xd6 14 exd6 ♘c4 15 ♕g4 ♕xd6 (15 ... ♕f6!?) 16 ♕xg7 ♕d4 17 ♗h6 (17 ♕g4 ♘e5 18 ♕h4 ♘g6! ∞) 17 ... ♕xg7 18 ♗xg7 ♖g8 19 ♗f6 ♖g6 20 ♗c3 ♘d6! 21 ♖fe1 ♘b5 22 ♖ac1 ♖d8 23 ♖e3 ♘d4 24 e5?! ♗xg2 25 ♔xg2 ♘b3 ∓ ½-½

(238) Diez del Corral-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕c7 7 ♕g4 f5 8 ♕g3 cxd4 9 cxd4 ♘e7 10 ♗d2 0-0 11 ♗d3 b6 12 ♘e2 ♖f7!? 13 0-0 (13 h4!) 13 ... ♗a6 14 h4 ♗xd3 15 cxd3 ♘bc6 16 ♗e3 ♕d7 17 ♘f4 ♘g6!? (17 ... ♖c8!? ∞) 18 ♘xg6 hxg6 19 ♕f4?! ∓ (19 ♖ac1 f4 20 ♗xf4 ♘xd4 21 ♖fe1 ±) 19 ... ♕e8 20 g3 ♖c7 21 ♔g2 ♕f7 22 ♖h1 ♔f8 23 ♕g5 ♔e8 24 ♖ac1 ♔d7 25 h5 gxh5 26 ♖xh5 ♖g8 27 ♖h7 ♔c8 28 ♕h4 ♕g6?! (28 ... ♔b7!) 29 ♖h8 ♖xh8 30 ♕xh8+ ♔b7 31 ♕f8 ♖c8 32 ♕d6 ♕e8 33 a4 ♖d8 34 ♕a3 ♕e7 35 ♕c3 ♖c8 36 ♗d2 g5 37 ♕c2 f4! 38 gxf4 gxf4 39 ♗xf4 ♖g8+ 40 ♗g3 ♘xd4 41 ♕c3 ♘e2 42 ♕c6+ ♔b8 43 ♖e1 ♘f4+ 44 ♔f1 ♘xd3 45 ♖b1 ♕f7! 46 ♕d6+ ♔b7 47 ♔e2 ♖c8! 48 a5 ♖c2+ 49 ♔f1 (49 ♔d1 ♖a2! ⩲; 49 ♔e3 ♘xf2! ⩲) 49 ... ♘xf2 50 ♖xb6+ axb6 51 ♕xb6+ ♔c8 52 ♕a6+ ♔b8 53 ♕b6+ ♕b7 54 ♕d6+ ♕c7 0-1

(239) Petrosian-Larsen
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b4 5 e3 ♗b7 6 ♗d3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 d6 8 0-0 c5 9 ♖e1 ♘c6 10 e4 e5 11 d5 ♘a5 12 ♘d2 ♗c8 13 ♘f1 0-0 14 ♗g5 h6 15 ♗d2 ♘h7 16 ♕h5 ♕f6 17 ♘e3 ♕g6 18 ♕f3 ♘f6 19 g3 ♖e8 20 ♖ab1 ♖b8 21 ♖b2 ♖b7 22 ♕g2 ♖be7 23 f3 ♕h7 24 ♗c1 g6 25 ♖f2 ♕g7 26

♕f1 ♔h8 27 ♔g2 ♘b7 28 ♕e2 ♘d8 29 a4 ♘b7 30 ♕c2 ♘g8 31 ♖ef1 f6 32 h4 ♖f7 ½-½

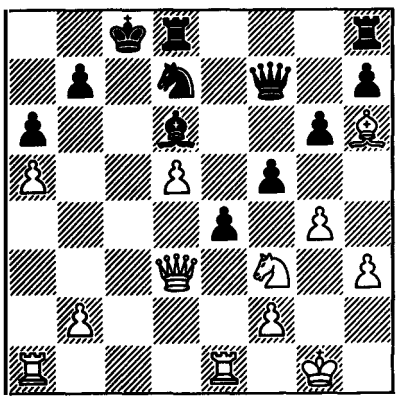
(240) Najdorf-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 ♗g6 10 ♗d3 (10 e4 ♗xc3 11 bxc3 ♘xe4 12 ♗a3! ±) **10 ... ♗h5 11 e4** (11 h3! ±) **11 ... e5 12 d5 cxd5** (12 ... ♗xc3 13 dxc6 ♗d4 14 cxd7+ ♘xd7 =) **13 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 14 exd5 ♗d6 15 h3 ♕e7 16 ♖e1 ± a6 17 g4 ♗g6 18 ♗g5 f6 19 ♗d2 ♕f7 20 ♘h4 ♗xd3 21 ♕xd3 g6 22 ♗h6! ± 0-0-0?! 23 a5 f5 24 ♘f3 e4**

(diagram 111)

25 ♕c3+ (25 ♕d4! exf3 26 ♕a7! ±; 25 ♕d4! ♔b8 26 ♗e3 ♗c5 27 ♘e5! ±) **25 ... ♔b8 26 ♘g5 ♕e7 27 ♘e6 ♖c8** (27 ... ♗e5!? ∞) **28 ♕g7 ♕xg7 29 ♗xg7 ♖he8 30 ♗c3 ♘e5 31 ♔f1 ♖e7 ∓ 32 ♖ad1 ♖d7 33 ♖e2 ♘f3 34 ♖e3 ♖c4 35 ♘d4 ♘xd4 36 ♗xd4 ♖xd4 37 ♖xd4 ♗c5 38 ♖d2 ♗xe3 39 fxe3 ♔c7 40 gxf5 gxf5 41 ♖d4! ♔d6 42 ♖b4 ♔xd5 43 ♖b6! ♔c4 44 ♔e2 h5 45 h4 ♖d5 46 ♖xb7 ♖xa5 47 ♖c7+ ♔b3 48 ♖h7 ♔xb2 49 ♖xh5 ♔c3 50 ♖g5 ♖a2+ 51 ♔f1 f4 52 ♖d5** (52 exf4 ♔d3 53 f5 e3 54 f6! ♖a1+ 55 ♔g2 e2 56 ♖d5+ ♔e4 57 ♖d8) **52 ... fxe3 53 h5 ♔c4 54 ♖d6? ++** (54 ♖g5!) **54 ... a5 55 h6 ♖h2 56 ♖c6+ ♔d3 57 ♖d6+** (57 ... ♔c2 58 ♖c6+ ♔d1 59 ♖d6+ ♖d2) **0-1**

111



(241) Petrosian-Pomar
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗d3 ♘bd7 6 0-0 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b5 8 ♗b3 ♗e7 9 ♖e1 ♗b7 10 e4 c5! 11 ♘c3 b4 (11 ... cxd4 12 ♘xd4 b4 13 ♘e2 ♘xe4 ∓; 12 ♕xd4 ∞) **12 e5 bxc3 13 exf6 ♗xf6 14 bxc3 ∓** (14 d5 ♘b6 ∓) **½-½**

1970

USSR Championship Play-Off Match
Moscow, February 1970

Petrosian	1	½	½	1	½	3½
Polugayevsky	0	½	½	0	½	1½

After he congratulated you on your victory, Lyev Polugayevsky said that he considered it to be deserved and convincing, and he spoke highly of your play. He also added that he was happy to have had the possibility of playing such a useful and instructive match. What can you say about the match, about its key moments, and about your opponent?

I always feel like calling such an event a short sprint. There is essentially no opening, middlegame and endgame to such a match, although mention should be made of the first game, which proved exceptionally important in the psychological sense . . .

After the successful outcome of his last year's match with Alexander Zaitsev, which made him USSR Champion, Polugayevsky complained quite a lot about the short length, and of psychological difficulties. The attentive reader could well have gained the impression that such matches do not suit Polugayevsky, and our encounter appeared to confirm my earlier observations: after the first game my opponent was unable to regain fully his composure. I sensed this throughout the match.

In the second game I was also quite aggressively inclined, but Polugayevsky overcame his difficulties.

Everyone is particularly interested in the third game . . .

I understand . . . Had it not been for my many years of chess experience, this game could have cost me dearly. When adjournment time arrived, I realized, of course, that I stood better. But I did not greatly want to analyze this position again, and besides, my advantage did not seem so significant. But on arriving home I involuntarily sat down at the board again, and became really upset: my initial assessment had been incorrect, and my advantage turned out to be very considerable. The time spent out of town on the free days returned my composure to me, and again instilled in me a desire to play.

In the fourth game a complicated struggle developed. In my opinion, the commentators assessed it incorrectly, since it was only Polugayevsky's time trouble mistakes which lost him half a point. And finally, in the last game I deliberately went in for a well known variation and . . . soon regretted it. White gained a decisive advantage, but did not find the correct plan, and I was able to defend.

What about your opponent, and about the difficulties of a short match?

This match did not show the Polugayevsky that chess fans have become accustomed to seeing in recent times. As for the very essence of a mini-match, as yet it is difficult for me to draw any final conclusions. I have soon to experience an even shorter length – four games in the match between the USSR and the Rest of the World. After that I may be able to say something more definite.

Game 1

(242) Polugayevsky-Petrosian

English Opening

(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 b3

The claim for developing this modern double-fianchetto system belongs to Botvinnik. It was in this way that he gained a famous victory over Larsen at Palma de Mallorca in 1967. Polugayevsky, too, frequently and successfully employs this opening set-up.

6 ... 0-0
7 ♗b2 d5

Thus the two sides' pawns have come into conflict.

8 e3 c5

In Geller-Kholmov (37th USSR Ch, 1969) Black avoided the usual 8 ... c5 and continued 8 ... ♘bd7. There followed 9 ♘c3 ♘e4!? 10 cxd5! ♘xc3 (*10 ... exd5* is unpleasant for Black, if only because of *11 ♘d4*) 11 ♗xc3 ♗xd5 12 ♕e2 ♘f6 13 ♖fd1 ♕c8 14 ♖ac1 a5 15 d3, with a positional advantage for White.

9 ♘c3 ♘bd7

This knight development is beginning to become popular. Black intends (in the event of exchanges on d5) to transform this square into a convenient base for his pieces. Formerly 9 ... ♘c6 was normally played here.

10 d3

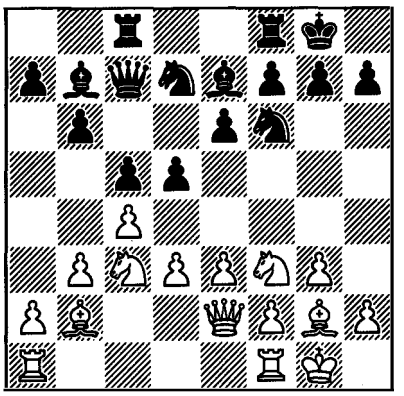
On 10 ♕e2 Black gains the opportunity for 10 ... ♘e4 (the same motif as in the Geller-Kholmov game).

10 ... ♖c8

Black adopts a sensible deployment of his forces. After, say, ... ♕c7 and ... ♖fd8 he has an ideal pawn formation and is fully prepared for the opening of the position.

11 ♕e2 ♕c7 *(112)*

112



12 e4

Since any change in the central pawn configuration (by d3-d4 or e3-e4) depended largely on White, he should not have been in a hurry to make this advance. It would have been more advisable first to complete his development, by centralizing his rooks.

12 ... d4
13 ♘b1

Perhaps White should have chosen 13 ♘d1, since (after ♘d2 and f2-f4) the knight could have come into play more quickly via f2.

13 ... ♘e8

This, at any rate, is more accurate than the immediate 13 ... e5, since it prevents the white knight from going to g5 or h4.

14 ♘e1 e5

The resulting set-up is a King's Indian Defence with colours reversed. It is true that White can attack his opponent's

centre with f2-f4, but Petrosian's counter-attack against e4 proves more effective.

15 f4 g6!

As soon transpires, this subtle move is an important part of Black's plan.

16 f5

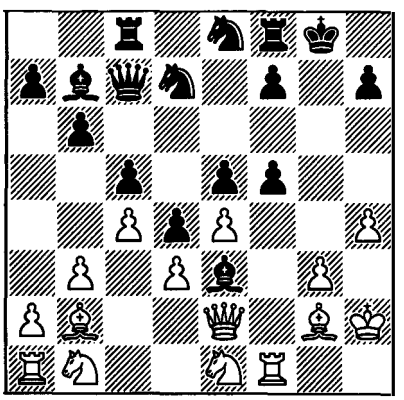
More circumspect was 16 ♘d2 or Khasin's recommendation of 16 ♗h3. Polugayevsky was obviously hoping to gain the initiative on the kingside, but Petrosian succeeds in breaking up his pawn chain.

16 ... ♗g5
17 h4

This outwardly active move is a serious mistake: the position of White's king soon becomes very shaky. Here too he should have overprotected his e4 square by 17 ♘d2. Another possibility was 17 ♔h1 followed by ♘f3-h4, retaining his outpost at f5.

17 ... ♗e3+
18 ♔h2 gxf5! *(113)*

113



A brief comparison of the two diagrams is sufficient to reveal the striking change which has taken place. Black is playing the middlegame whereas White is still having to solve development problems. The further course of the game is an excellent illustration of the theme 'attack on a strong point'. In the given case the point against which both sides are applying force is e4.

Here Polugayevsky thought for a long time. How should White continue? 19 ♖xf5 ♘g7 20 ♖f1 (the exchange sacrifice *20 ♗h3 ♘xf5 21 ♗xf5 ♘f6 22 ♘c3!? ♖cd8 23 ♘d5 ♗xd5 24 cxd5* is interesting, but nevertheless insufficient) 20 ... f5 21 exf5 ♖xf5 22 ♖xf5 ♘xf5 23 ♕g4+ ♘g7 24 ♘a3 ♘f6 leads to a clear advantage for Black. Another variation also required precise calculation: 19 ♗h3 fxe4! 20 ♕g4+ ♘g7 21 ♕xd7 ♕xd7 22 ♗xd7 ♖cd8 23 ♗h3 f5 24 ♘a3 f4 – although Black has only two pawns for a piece, it is doubtful whether White can save the game. Even so, it seems to me that 19 ♗h3 was his best practical chance.

19 exf5 e4! 20 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 21 dxe4

The interposition of 21 ♕g4+ ♔h8 22 ♕xe4 ♘ef6 followed by 23 ... ♖g8 would merely have aggravated White's difficulties.

21 ... ♘ef6 22 ♘g2 ♖fe8 23 ♘d2 ♗xd2

The simplest. Black takes play into a technically won ending.

24 ♕xd2 ♕xg3+! 25 ♔xg3 ♘xe4+ 26 ♔f4 ♘xd2 27 ♖fe1 ♘f6 28 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 29 ♖e1 ♘de4 30 ♖e2 ♔f8

Premature was 30 ... d3 31 ♖e1 d2 32 ♖g1, when White has chances of confusing matters.

31 ♔f3

White is unable to consolidate his position, since after 31 ♘e1 ♘h5+ 32 ♔f3 (*32 ♔g4 ♘ef6+ 33 ♔f3 ♖xe2 34 ♔xe2 ♘g3+* and *35 ... ♘xf5*) 32 ... ♘hg3 he loses a further pawn.

31 ... d3!

Now this wins by force.

32 ♖e3

Or 32 ♖e1 d2 33 ♖d1 ♘g4!.

32 ... ♖d8

Black could also have won by 32 ... d2 33 ♖d3 ♘g4! 34 ♖d7 (*34 ♘e3 ♘xe3 35 ♔xe3 d1=♕ 36 ♖xd1 ♘c3+* etc) 34 ... ♘h2+! 35 ♔f4 ♘f2 36 ♖xd2 ♖e4+, when White loses his rook (Antoshin).

33 ♖e1

White could have prolonged his resistance somewhat by 33 ♗xf6 d2 34 ♗e7+ ♔g7 35 ♗xd8 d1=♕+ 36 ♔xe4 ♕xd8.

33 ... d2 34 ♖d1 ♘g4! 35 ♘e3 ♘ef2 36 ♗c3 ♖d3

White resigns: major loss of material is inevitable.

Game 2
(243) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗f4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♘bd2 ♗e7 6 h3 0-0 7 c3 d5 8 ♘e5 ♘bd7 9 a4 ♘xe5 10 ♗xe5 ♘d7 11 ♗g3 c5 12 ♗e2 ♗f6 13 ♘f3 ♕e7 14 0-0 e5 15 dxe5 ♘xe5 16 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 17 ♗xe5 ♕xe5 18 ♗f3 ♖ad8 19 a5 ♗c8!= 20 axb6 axb6 21 ♖e1 ♗e6 ½-½

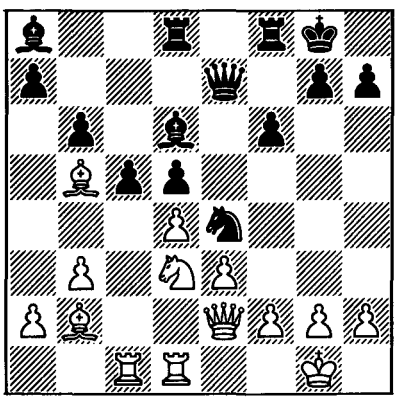
Game 3
(244) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 c5 7 ♖b1! ± ♗e7 8 ♘f3 0-0 9 ♗c4 (9 ♗d3!? ♘c6 10 d5 ±) **9 ... ♘c6 10 0-0 ♕c7 11 ♕e2 b6 12 ♖d1** (12 d5 ♘a5 13 dxe6 ♗xe6 14 ♗xe6 fxe6 ±; 13 ♗d3 c4 14 ♗c2 e5 ∞) **12 ... ♘a5 13 ♗d3 ♗b7 14 d5 c4** (14 ... exd5? 15 exd5 ♗xd5 16 ♗xh7+ ♔xh7 17 ♖xd5 ±±) **15 ♗c2 e5 16 ♗e3 ♗c8 17 h3 ♖d8 18 ♖f1 ♗d7 ∞ 19 ♘d2 ♗d6 20 ♕h5 f6 21 ♗d1!** (21 f4 [intending *21 ... exf4 22 e5* ±] 21 ... ♗c5! 22 ♗xc5 ♕xc5+ 23 ♖f2 exf4 24 e5 f5 ∞) **21 ... ♗c5 22 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 23 ♖b4! ♗e8?!** (23 ... b5 24 ♗g4 ♗e8!) **24 ♕h4 b5 25 ♗h5! g6 26 ♗g4?!** (26 ♕xf6!? gxh5 27 ♕e6+! ♗f7 28 ♕xe5 ∞; 26 ♗e2 ±) **26 ... ♔g7 27 ♖fb1 a6 28 ♖1b2 ♖a7 29 ♗e2 ♕e7! 30 a4 ♘b7!** ∓ **31 ♖a2 ♘c5 32 axb5 axb5 33 ♖xa7 ♕xa7 34 ♕g3 ♖a8** (34 ... ♘e6! ∓) **35 ♔h2 ♕e7 36 ♖b2 ♖a3 37 ♕e3 ♕a7 38 h4 ♘b7** (38 ... h5!?) **39 ♕h3 ♘d6 40 h5 ♕e7?** (40 ... ♕xf2 ∓∓) **41 h6+** ∓ **½-½**

Game 4
(245) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 d5 6 0-0 ♗d6 7 b3 0-0 8 ♗b2 ♘bd7 9 ♘c3 c5 10 cxd5 exd5 11 ♖c1 ♕e7 12 ♕e2 ♖ad8! = 13 ♖fd1 ♘e4 14 ♗a6 ♗a8 15 ♗b5 ♘df6 16 ♘e5 ♘xc3 17 ♗xc3 ♘e4 18 ♗b2 f6 19 ♘d3!? (19 ♘f3 =) *(114)*

114



19 ... ♔h8?! 20 ♘f4 ♕f7 21 ♕g4 f5 22 ♕e2 = (22 ♕f3!?) **22 ... ♗b7** (22 ... ♘g5!?)

23 ♗d3 ♗xf4?! (23 ... ♘g5!?; 23 ... ♖fe8!?) **24 exf4 ♖fe8 25 ♕c2** (25 ♗b5 ♘c3 26 ♕xe8+ ♕xe8 27 ♗xe8 ♘xd1) **25 ... ♖c8** (25 ... c4!? 26 bxc4 dxc4 27 ♗xc4 ♗d5 ∞) **26 dxc5 ♖xc5** (26 ... bxc5 27 f3 ♘d6 28 ♗e5 ±) **27 ♕b1 ± ♖xc1 28 ♕xc1 ♘c5 29 ♗e5! ♖c8 30 ♕b2 ♘xd3?** (30 ... a5; 30 ... ♘e6) **31 ♖xd3 ♖c6 32 h3 h6 33 ♖e3! ♖g6 34 ♗d4 ♔h7 35 ♕c2** (35 ♕a3!?) **35 ... ♕d7 36 ♔h2 ♗c8 37 ♖c3 ♗a6 38 ♖c7 ±± ♕e6 39 g4 ♗f1 40 ♕xf5 ♕xf5 41 gxf5 ♖g2+ 42 ♔h1 1-0**

Game 5
'(246) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 ♘f6 3 ♗g2 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 ♘bd7 7 ♕c2 c6 8 b3 b6 9 ♗b2 ♗b7 10 ♘c3 ♖c8 11 ♖ad1 b5 12 c5 b4 13 ♘b1! ♗a6?! (13 ... a5 14 ♘bd2 intending e2-e4 ±) **14 a3! bxa3 15 ♘xa3** (15 ♗xa3!?) **15 ... ♖b8 16 ♖a1 ± ♕c8 17 ♘b1 ♘e4 18 ♘c3 ♘xc3 19 ♗xc3 ♕b7 20 ♖a3 ♗b5 21 ♖fa1 ♖a8 22 e4** (22 ♕a2! a6 23 e3 intending ♗f1 ±±) **22 ... ♘f6 23 e5 ♘e4 24 ♗e1** (24 ♘d2 ±) **24 ... f5 25 exf6?!** (25 ♕a2! a6 26 ♗f1 ±±) **25 ... ♗xf6 26 ♘e5 ♗xe5 27 dxe5 ♘g5 ∞ 28 f4** (28 ♕d1 ±) **28 ... ♘f7 29 ♗f2 ♘h6 30 ♕d2 ♕f7 31 h3 a6 32 ♖d1 ♖ad8 33 ♖a2 ♘f5 34 ♕c3** (34 g4 ♘e7!) **34 ... h5 35 ♕f3 ♘h6 36 ♖d4 g5! 37 fxg5 ♕xf3 ∓ ½-½**

'Match of the Century'
USSR v. Rest of the World
Belgrade, March-April 1970

Board 2:				
Petrosian	0	0	½	½
Fischer	1	1	½	½

The following is part of an article written by Petrosian soon after the famous 'Match of the Century' in Belgrade.

Chess players have never had the problem of a close season, and yet every spring – with the exception of years when there is a World Championship match – the pulse of international life slows almost to nought, and in our country passions are aroused only in battles of local importance – championships of towns, regions and republics, which naturally do not receive a wide press and do not greatly excite the wider chess public. Perhaps it was for this reason that the chess spring this year seemed so hectic.

The event in which players from one country – the USSR – measured their strength against players selected from the rest of the world (in what other form of sport, apart from chess, would such an encounter be of interest?!) and which was universally christened the 'Match of the Century', was essentially of no competitive significance, in my opinion. Rather, it was a manifestation, a practical proclamation of the International Chess Federation's motto: "We are all one family".

The novelty of this undertaking (together with the 'torrent of stars' which descended on Belgrade in the last few days in March) was bound to play an important role in the propaganda of chess. And if one judges from the attention given to the match by the foreign, or more precisely, Western press, which is normally very miserly with chess information, then the aim was achieved. Interest in chess throughout the world took an upward turn.

Curiously, it was the losers who were the more satisfied with the result of the match (it ended in the narrowest possible

win for the USSR), mainly because on the top four boards our team had a score of no less than minus five (!). Now, it would seem that in team play, wins, draws and even losses are pooled together into a general melting-pot, there is no 'work payment differential', it does not matter on which board points are won or lost, and all that is important is the final, overall score. But the duels on the top boards, which saw the meeting of the World Champion and the seven grandmasters who today are most widely regarded as Candidates for the world title, found themselves at the centre of attention, and pushed into the background all remaining competitive and creative aspects of the match.

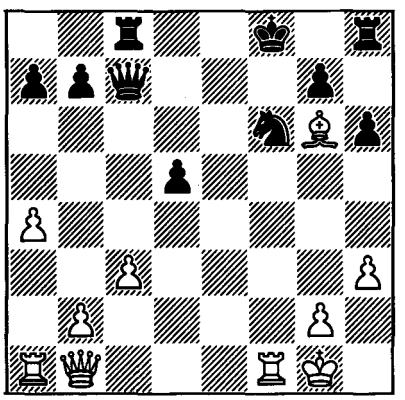
As one of the 'authors' of the minus score, I will not look for any objective cause in the brevity of the match – only four games, which, in view of the high standard of competition, put any grandmaster who lost first into an essentially hopeless position . . . Commentators on the football World Cup never tire of emphasizing the importance of the first goal that is scored in a match between two equal, high-class teams. And if you imagine that in Mexico the matches will last not ninety minutes, but only fifteen? Even so the recipe is simple: you must not be the first to concede a goal!

Fischer, as usual, kept everyone in a state of ignorance and tension. Well known for his intractability, it was only after thoroughly fraying everyone's nerves that he took the decision (was it really such a sudden one?) to concede to Larsen the top board, which the Danish grandmaster had been seeking with rare persistence right to the last minute, although before the match the leaders of the 'Rest of the World' team had had plenty of time to decide 'who is who'.

(247) Fischer-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 ♗d3 (4 c4) **4 ... ♘c6 5 c3 ♘f6 6 ♗f4** (6 h3 e5; 6 ♗g5 ♘e4 7 ♗xe4 dxe4 8 d5 ♘e5 9 ♕a4+ ♕d7 10 ♕xe4 ♕f5 ∞) **6 ... ♗g4** (6 ... g6) **7 ♕b3 ♘a5** (7 ... ♕c8 intending ... ♗h5-g6) **8 ♕a4+ ♗d7 9 ♕c2 e6** (9 ... a6) **10 ♘f3 ♕b6 11 a4!** (preventing ... ♗b5) **11 ... ♖c8** (11 ... ♘b3 12 ♖a2 ♖c8 13 0-0 ♗e7 ±; 11 ... ♕b3 12 ♕e2! ♗xa4? 13 ♖xa4 ♕xa4 14 ♗b5+) **12 ♘bd2 ♘c6 13 ♕b1 ♘h5** (13 ... g6) **14 ♗e3 h6** (14 ... f5 15 g4 fxg4 16 ♘g5 ♗d6 17 ♗xh7) **15 ♘e5 ♘f6** (15 ... ♘xe5 16 dxe5 ♗c5 17 a5! ♕c7 18 g4 ♗xe3 19 fxe3 ♕xe5 20 gxh5 ♕xe3+ 21 ♗e2 ♗b5 22 ♕d1 ±) **16 h3 ♗d6 17 0-0 ♔f8?** (17 ... 0-0 18 f4 with attack) **18 f4 ♗e8** (18 ... ♘xe5 19 fxe5 ♗xe5 20 a5) **19 ♗f2! ♕c7** (19 ... g6 20 f5! gxf5 21 ♗xf5 exf5 22 ♕xf5 ♕d8 23 ♗h4) **20 ♗h4 ♘g8 21 f5 ♘xe5 22 dxe5 ♗xe5 23 fxe6 ♗f6 24 exf7 ♗xf7 25 ♘f3! ♗xh4** (25 ... g5 26 ♗f2 ♔g7 27 ♗d4) **26 ♘xh4 ♘f6 27 ♘g6+ ♗xg6 28 ♗xg6** *(115)*

115



28 ... ♔e7!! 29 ♕f5 ♔d8 30 ♖ae1 ♕c5+ 31 ♔h1 ♖f8 (better 31 ... ♖c6 32 ♕e5 ♕d6) **32 ♕e5! ♖c7** (32 ... ♕c7 33 ♖xf6!, 33 ♕xd5+!) **33 b4! ♕c6 34 c4! dxc4 35 ♗f5 ♖ff7 36 ♖d1+ ♖fd7** (36 ... ♘d7 37

♖fe1) **37 ♗xd7 ♖xd7 38 ♕b8+** ♔**e7** (38 ... ♕c8 39 ♖xd7+ ♘xd7 40 ♕d6) **39 ♖de1+ 1-0** (Fischer, Petrosian)

(248) Petrosian-Fischer
English Opening

It is only extremely rarely that a game is published with comments by the loser. And this is no accident. Usually a player does not wish to make widely known those conclusions to which he later comes after analyzing his play.

And I was extremely averse to returning to my games with Fischer. But not because of the defeat I suffered. It was unpleasant to recall how helpless I looked at the start of the match.

After my loss in the first game I faced the difficult task of working out a course of action for the next encounter. To hurl myself headlong at the opponent would have been foolish, given the short length of the match, in which a second successive defeat would be disastrous.

Play for a draw? With White? Ridiculous. What sort of a mood would my opponent be in? Fighting or peaceable?

"I will consult with some knowledgeable person", I decided. "What sort of tactics does he think Fischer will adopt?"

"Bobby? Always and with everyone he plays chess", said an experienced tournament fighter.

Very well, if that's the case I must play solidly, trying to exploit the fact that my opponent will probably be aiming to build on his success. How should I open – d2-d4? There will probably be a Grünfeld Defence. I will do better to play 1 c4, incidentally, somewhat 'obscuring' things with my first move.

1 c4 g6

I seem to have guessed right. Fischer is leaving himself the option of employing Grünfeld ideas, or is perhaps even intending to revert to the King's Indian Defence. He has undoubtedly noticed that, for some reason, I have recently begun doing badly against it with White.

2 ♘c3 c5

The explanation is quite simple! With this move order Black practically prevents White from advancing his d-pawn. On 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 d4 there follows 4 ... cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘c6, when neither the exchange on c6 nor 6 ♘c2 or 6 e3 promises White any opening advantage. One gains the impression that Fischer was excellently prepared for 1 c4.

What I would like to know is: was all this done in Belgrade or earlier? . . .

The experience gained soon came in useful to me during the tournament in Rovinj/Zagreb. In the last round, again with White against the American grandmaster, after 1 c4 c5 I continued 2 ♘f3, and on 2 ... g6 – 3 e4, when 3 ... ♗g7 4 d4 ♘c6 5 dxc5! ♕a5+ 6 ♘fd2! ♕xc5 7 ♘b3 led to a position favourable for White.

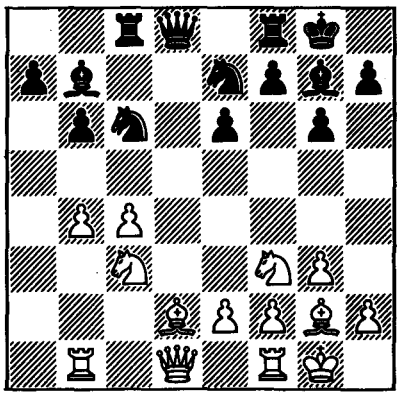
3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 e6 6 0-0 ♘ge7 7 d3 0-0 8 ♗d2 d5

Black has chosen a set-up which cannot be called anything but fire-proof. His solid pawn structure in the centre allows him to calmly develop his pieces. An important role is played by the 'unknown character' of the d-pawn, which may advance or, at a convenient moment, exchange on c4.

White's prospects in the centre are less clear. Neither the exchange on d5 nor the advance of the e-pawn achieves anything positive. Therefore he must reluctantly embark on the monotonous plan of playing b2-b4.

9 a3 b6 10 ♖b1 ♗b7 11 b4 cxb4 12 axb4 dxc4 13 dxc4 ♖c8 *(116)*

116



Black's position is already the more pleasant. The c4 pawn may become a burden to White, and against the clear centralizing plan of ... ♕d7 and ... ♖fd8 in combination with a possible ... ♘d4 it is not so easy to find an antidote.

Of course if he had set himself the aim of gaining equality, White could have decided on 14 ♘b5, and if 14 ... a6 15 ♘a3, preparing to exchange the queenside pawns.

14 c5? bxc5 15 bxc5 ♘a5 16 ♘a4 ♗c6!

When considering the position after Black's 13th move, I could not see a direct refutation of the plan with 14 c5, although I was unhappy about the entire venture. Black's 16th move and particularly his 17th are very strong. It turns out to be not easy to defend the c5 pawn.

17 ♕c2 ♘b7!

Of course, not 17 ... ♗xa4 18 ♕xa4 ♖xc5 19 ♗b4, when the rook cannot be maintained on the 5th rank.

18 ♖fc1 ♕d7
19 ♘e1 ♘d5

Fischer rejects the variation 19 ... ♗xa4 20 ♖xb7 ♕xb7 21 ♗xb7 ♗xc2 22 ♗xc8 ♖xc8 23 ♖xc2 ♘c6, in which, despite the great simplification, Black retains the better chances, and instead continues to strengthen his position.

20 ♘b2 ♗b5
21 ♘ed3

After 21 ♘bd3 ♗d4 22 ♕b3 it would have been not so simple as yet for Black to win the c5 pawn. At heart I had already given it up.

21 ... ♗d4 22 ♕b3 ♘xc5 23 ♘xc5 ♖xc5 24 ♖xc5 ♗xc5 25 ♘d3 ♗xd3 26 ♕xd3

Black is a healthy pawn to the good, but it is not at all easy for him to realize it. From a7 to a1 is a long way, and he has little hope of achieving positional gains on some other part of the board. White has no weaknesses, and his two bishops are worth something.

26 ... ♖d8

The possible exchange on d5 clearly does not appeal to Fischer, and so he supports his knight. After the queen moves from d7 he will have tactical chances involving moving his knight away.

27 ♗f3

It is hard to object to this move. White has to stick to waiting tactics.

27 ... ♕c7?

Had White now played 28 ♖c1!, he would have been able to breathe freely, since the threat of ♖xc5 followed by e2-e4 cannot be parried satisfactorily.

Just see what I thought up instead of this . . .

28 ♗g5? ♗e7
29 ♗xe7 ♕xe7

White has not only deprived himself of

the two bishops. His dark-square bishop, which was operating on both wings, has disappeared.

30 ♕d4?

It could almost be said that any other move would have been better. Now Fischer gradually establishes his pieces on dark squares and will be as though a piece up, since it is extremely hard to find employment for the white bishop.

30 ... e5 31 ♕c4 ♘b6 32 ♕c2

While the black pieces had not yet taken up ideal positions, White should have sought drawing chances in an endgame, by offering the exchange of queens with 32 ♕b4. In the event of Black avoiding simplification, the queen would have been well placed at b4.

32 ... ♖c8 33 ♕d3 ♖c4 34 ♗g2 ♕c7 35 ♕a3 ♖c3 36 ♕a5 ♖c5 37 ♕a3 a5 38 h4 ♘c4 39 ♕d3 ♘d6 40 ♔h2 ♔g7

In this position the game was adjourned, and I had to seal my next move. The knight is excellently placed at d6, and to gain the possibility of even the slightest activity, White must try to disturb it. This was the aim of the sealed move, instead of which 41 ♕a6 would have been better.

41 ♖d1 ♘e8!

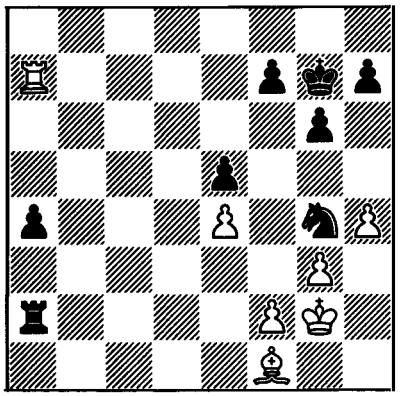
The knight heads for a square where White will be unable to reach it - f6. It also transpires that the possible check at g4 will be extremely unpleasant. The hopelessness of White's position is underlined by the variation 42 ♕a6 ♘f6 43 ♗a8 (g2 has to be vacated for the king) 43 ... a4 44 ♕xa4 ♖a5 45 ♕c6 ♕a7, and Black wins. Therefore White must try to exchange queens, although the endgame looks totally lost.

42 ♕d7 ♕xd7
43 ♖xd7 ♘f6

This appears very strong, but Fischer has by no means anticipated everything.

44 ♖a7 ♘g4+ 45 ♔g1 ♖c1+ 46 ♗f1 ♖a1 47 e4 a4 48 ♔g2 ♖a2 *(117)*

117



Black's last move looks like the concluding blow. To all his other advantages he has also added an attack on the f2 pawn. And yet White still had a camouflaged defensive possibility. After 49 ♔g1 it transpires that the f2 pawn is immune. Taking with the rook is not possible because of 50 ♗h3, while 49 ... ♘xf2 is very strongly met by 50 ♗c4.

When we analyzed this position afterwards (incidentally, Fischer had not seen 49 ♔g1), a rapid appraisal of the variation 49 ... ♘xf2 50 ♗c4 ♘h3+ 51 ♔h1 ♖f2 52 ♗e6! (this is the basis of White's entire plan) led us to decide that I could have saved the game, but equally rapidly someone suggested 52 ... a3 53 ♗xh3 a2 54 ♔g1 ♖b2 55 ♗f1 g5, when the advance of the black king decides the outcome, since the white pieces are essentially stalemated. That was how this variation appeared in the chess press as hopeless for White, since during the analysis a large number of chess journalists were present. But it is

not hard to see that, instead of 54 ♔g1?, 54 ♗g2 followed by 55 ♔h2 is correct.

So it remains an open question whether or not Black could have won after 49 ♔g1, but for White it was an excellent practical chance. The most annoying thing was that I saw this possibility, and was equally aware that the game continuation was hopeless.

49 ♖xf7+ ♔xf7 50 ♗c4+ ♔e7 51 ♗xa2 a3

Black has a straightforward win. The far-advanced a-pawn will inevitably attract the white king, and in the meantime Black will gain a decisive superiority on the kingside.

52 ♔f3 ♘f6 53 ♔e3 ♔d6 54 f4 ♘d7 55 ♗b1 ♘c5 56 f5 ♘a6 57 g4 ♘b4 58 fxg6 hxg6 59 h5 gxh5 60 gxh5 ♔e6 61 ♔d2 ♔f6 62 ♔c3 a2 63 ♗xa2 ♘xa2+ 64 ♔b2 ♘b4 65 ♔c3 ♘c6 66 ♔c4 ♘d4 White resigns

(249) Fischer-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3

This can be considered a slight moral success. Fischer does not repeat the variation from the first game, rightly thinking that the most natural move played in this game is also the strongest.

3 ... g6

A comparatively rare continuation, which, as experience shows, does not change the character of play typical of this opening. Black obtains a slightly passive, but solid position.

4 e5

4 h3, deemed by theorists the best way for White to develop, can be termed a typical instance of chess 'snobbery'. The continuation in the game cramps Black – a fairly weighty argument in its favour.

4 ... ♗g7
5 f4

To me, 5 ♗d3 seems better. Now Black has a comparatively easy game. He must try to exchange his light-square bishop for the opponent's knight or bishop and, setting up a screen of pawns on the light squares, gain the opportunity to develop his remaining forces.

5 ... h5 6 ♘f3 ♗g4 7 h3 ♗xf3 8 ♕xf3 e6 9 g3

Preventing once and for all the advance of the black pawn to h4, which would have sharply reduced White's chances on the kingside. Black could hardly have advanced his rook's pawn earlier on account of 9 f5!, opening the f-file.

9 ... ♕b6 10 ♕f2 ♘e7 11 ♗d3 ♘d7 12 ♘e2 0-0-0 13 c3

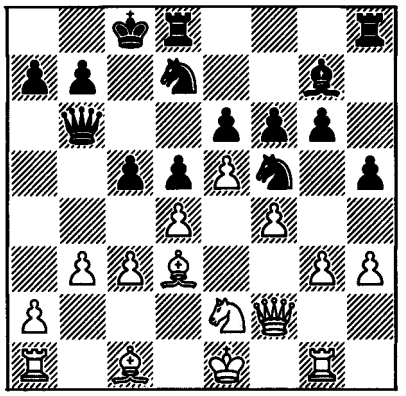
Behind a pawn formation just as solid as Black's, White intends to mobilize his forces in the most suitable way and only then take positive action.

If White should succeed in comfortably advancing g3-g4, the danger facing Black will become apparent: there will be no way of preventing the f4-f5 breakthrough. On the queenside too he may face a fairly unpleasant attack, the first move of which would be the advance of the c-pawn.

Black must take urgent measures. However, he does have some grounds for counterplay. The white king has remained in the centre, which, as is usual in such cases, disrupts the coordination of his pieces, in particular his rooks. As for White's pawn chain, it must be attacked as soon as possible and without fail from both sides.

13 ... f6 14 b3 ♘f5 15 ♖g1 c5 *(118)*

118



In this position, after long thought, Fischer decided, not without reason, to switch to passive defence. Black has acquired too many active possibilities, involving exchanging on e5 and d4 or a further undermining pawn move, ... g5. The appearance of a rook at f8 will also emphasize the uncomfortable position of the white queen.

16 ♗xf5 gxf5 17 ♗e3 ♕a6 18 ♔f1 cxd4 19 cxd4 ♘b8?

This routine manoeuvre of the knight to c6 is weak. Better chances of maintaining a complicated struggle with favourable chances for Black were offered by moving the bishop to f8. On the a3-f8 diagonal it would have occupied a good position, and at d7 the knight was perfectly well placed.

20 ♔g2 ♘c6
21 ♘c1!

The manoeuvre of the knight to d3 not only gets White out of any difficulties but even forces Black to observe a certain caution.

21 ... ♖d7 22 ♕d2 ♕a5 23 ♕xa5 ♘xa5

After the exchange of queens, the existence on the board of only one open file also decides the fate of the remaining heavy pieces. Here it is already more or less obvious that the game must end in a draw.

24 ♘d3 ♘c6 25 ♖ac1 ♖c7 26 ♖c3 b6 27 ♖gc1 ♔b7 28 ♘b4 ♖hc8 29 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 30 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 31 ♘xc6 ♔xc6 32 ♔f3 Draw agreed

(250) Petrosian-Fischer
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗d2 (Smyslov) **6 ... c5** (6 ... 0-0 7 ♖c1 ♘xc3 8 ♗xc3 ♕d5; 7 ... ♘b6 8 e3 ♘8d7 intending ... e5) **7 ♖c1!** (7 ... cxd4 8 ♘xd5) **7 ... ♘xc3 8 ♗xc3 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 0-0 10 e3 ♕d5!** (10 ... a6 11 ♗c4 b5 12 ♕f3) **11 ♘b5** (11 ♕b3 ♕e4!) **11 ... ♕xd1+ 12 ♖xd1 ♘c6 13 ♗xg7** (13 ♗c4 a6 14 ♗xg7 axb5 15 ♗xf8 bxc4 16 ♗h6 ♖xa2 ∞) **13 ... ♔xg7 14 ♗e2 ♗f5 15 g4 a6!** (15 ... ♗e6 16 ♘c7) **16 ♘c3** (16 ♘c7? ♖ac8 17 ♘xa6 ♗e6 18 ♘c5 ♗xa2) **16 ... ♗e6 17 f4 ♖fd8 18 ♔f2 ♘b4 19 a3 ♘d5 20 ♘e4 ♘f6** (20 ... ♖ac8 21 ♘g5 ♖c2 22 ♘xe6+ fxe6 23 e4) **21 ♘xf6 exf6** (21 ... ♔xf6 22 g5+ ♔g7 23 ♗f3 ♖ac8 24 ♗xb7 ♖c2+ 25 ♔g3 ♖xd1 26 ♖xd1 ♖xb2 27 ♗xa6 ♖b3!) **22 ♗f3 ♖ac8 23 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 24 ♖d1 ♖c8** (24 ... ♖xd1 25 ♗xd1 ♔f8 =) **25 ♖d2** (25 ♗xb7 ♖c2+ 26 ♔g3 ♖xb2 27 ♗xa6 ♖b3 28 ♖d3 ♖b6) **25 ... ♖c7 26 h4 h6 27 ♔g3 b5 28 ♖d6 ♖c2 29 b4 ♖c3 30 ♖xa6 ♗c4** (30 ... ♖xe3 31 ♔f2 intending ♗e2) **31 f5 g5 32 hxg5 hxg5 33 ♔f2 ♖c2+ 34 ♔g1 ♖c1+ 35 ♔g2 ♖c2+ 36 ♔g3 ♖c3 37 ♔f2 ♖c2+ 38 ♔e1 ♖c3 39 ♖a5 ♖xe3 40 ♔f2 ♖d3 41 ♗c6 ♔f8 42 ♗xb5 ♗xb5 43 ♖xb5 ♖xa3 44 ♖d5 ♖b3 45 ♖d4 ♔e7 46 ♔e2 ♖a3 47 ♔d2 ♖b3 48 ♔c2 ♖e3** (49 ♖d3 ♖e4; 49 b5 ♖e5 50 ♖b4 ♔d6 51

b6 ♖e8 52 b7 ♔c7) **49 ♔b2 ♔e8 50 ♔c1 ♖e2!** (50 ... ♔e7? 51 ♔c2! ♔e8 52 b5 ♖e5 53 b6 ♖b5 54 ♖d6 ♔e7 55 ♖c6; 51 ... ♖a3? 52 ♖d3) **51 ♔d1** (51 b5 ♖e5 52 b6 ♖b5 53 ♖d6 ♔e7 54 ♖c6 ♖b4!) **51 ... ♖a2 52 ♔e1 ♖b2 ½-½** (Fischer, Petrosian)

Petrosian gave the following mini-interview specially for a book on the 'Match of the Century', published in Moscow in 1971. All the participants in the match replied to these questions in Belgrade, immediately after the end of the event.

What is chess for you, and what is it in this game that most attracts you?

An unrealizable ideal is to play chess faultlessly, and it is this aim which most attracts me. It is possible that, at the height of their powers, grandmasters sometimes play faultlessly, but at other times mistakes are inevitable.

Every player, when playing an opponent, is at the same time struggling with himself. Every game or match is simultaneously an inner struggle. I have lost a number of important games mainly because I was unable to conquer myself.

Every grandmaster is a rather complex individual, representations of whom do not always accord with reality. Tal is not only 'sacrifices', Fischer is not only a 'computer', and Petrosian is not only 'caution'. Some consider that when I play I am excessively cautious, but it seems to me that the question may be a different one. I try to avoid chance. Those who rely on chance should play cards or roulette... Chess is something quite different.

I never thought that I would definitely become World Champion, and I do not regard the loss of this title as a tragedy for me. Now, as before, I first and foremost play chess.

How would you assess the competitive and creative results of the match?

I cannot speak too highly of the match in Belgrade, with the exception, of course, of my own result. The match showed that, when the strongest players meet and are free of qualification obligations, they always aim for a struggle. How much more sensible it was to spend resources on one such measure than on the numerous tournaments of little interest which are organized all over the place! I think that it would be desirable to run the next match on the Scheveningen System.

Which of the games you have ever played do you consider the best?

I think that here it may be a question of which games I like most. For me these are the 5th game of my match with Botvinnik and the 7th game of my first match with Spassky.

What is your opinion on the current system for deciding the World Championship?

It is hard to find an ideal system. The main thing is to play well, and then the system comes second. The drawback to Candidates matches is that the participants do not all meet one another, and therefore a six-player tournament with four rounds or else a four-player tournament with eight rounds would be more logical.

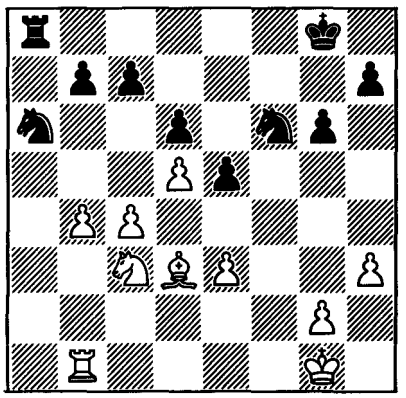
International Tournament Rovinj/Zagreb, April-May 1970

1 Fischer 13; 2-5 Gligorić, Hort, Korchnoi, Smyslov 11; 6 **Petrosian** (+5 -1 =11) 10½; 7-8 Minić, Ivkov 9; 9-11 Bertok, Kovačević, Uhlmann 8½; 12 Browne 7½; 13-15 Ghitescu, Kurajica, Parma 6½; 16 Marović 6; 17 Udovčić 5½; 18 Ničevski 3½.

(251) Petrosian-Ničevski
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 ♗g4 7 ♗e3 ♘fd7 8 ♖c1 e5 9 d5 a5 10 0-0 ♘a6 11 b3 ♗xf3 12 ♗xf3 f5 13 a3 ♗f6 14 ♖b1 ♗g5 15 ♗xg5 ♕xg5 16 b4 ♘f6 17 ♕e2 axb4 18 axb4 ♖f7 19 ♕e3 ♕xe3 20 fxe3 fxe4 21 ♗xe4 ♖af8 22 ♗d3 ♘g4 23 ♖xf7 ♖xf7 24 ♘d1 ♖f8 25 h3 ♘f6 26 ♘c3 ♖a8 *(119)*

119



27 g4 ♘b8 28 c5 ♖a3 29 ♖c1 e4 30 cxd6 cxd6 31 ♗e2 ♘bd7 32 g5 ♘e8 33 ♗b5 ♘e5 34 ♗xe8 ♘d3 35 ♘b5 ♖a8 36 ♖c4 ♖xe8 37 ♘xd6 ♘e5 38 ♖xe4 1-0

(252) Marović-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 d6 5 e3 c5 6 ♗d3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 ♘c6 8 ♘f3 e5 9 d5 ♘e7 10 h3 0-0 11 0-0 ♔h8 12 ♘d2 ♘d7 13 e4 ♘f6 14 ♖e1 ♘h5 15 ♘f3 ♘g6 16 ♔h2 h6 17 g3 ♘f6 ½-½

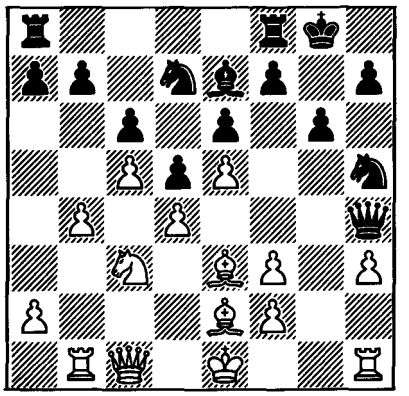
(253) Petrosian-Uhlmann
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 ♘bd7 7 ♗e3 e5 8 ♕d2 c6 9 d5 cxd5 10 cxd5 ♘e8 11 0-0-0 f5 12 ♔b1 a6 ½-½

(254) Kovačević-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 d4 ♗g4 4 ♘c3 g6 5 e4 ♗xf3 6 gxf3 c6 7 ♗e3 ♘bd7 8 b4 e6 9 ♖b1 ♘h5 10 ♗e2 ♕h4 11 h3 ♗e7 12 ♕c1 0-0 13 c5 d5 14 e5 *(120)*

120



14 ... f6 15 f4 fxe5 16 fxe5 ♘xe5 17 dxe5 d4 18 ♗xh5 dxe3 19 ♕xe3 ♕xh5 20 ♘e4 ♕xe5 21 0-0 a6 22 a4 ♖ad8 23 ♖fd1 ♖d5 24 ♘c3 ♕xe3 25 fxe3 ♖e5 26 ♖d7 ♗g5 27 ♘d1 ♖f7 28 ♖xf7 ♔xf7 29 ♔f2 h5 30 ♖b3 ♗h4+ 31 ♔e2 g5 32 ♘b2 ♖f5 33 ♘c4 ♖f2+ 34 ♔d3 ♖a2 35 ♘d6+ ♔e7 36 ♖b1 b5 37 axb5 axb5 38 ♖f1 ♗f2 39 ♔e4 ♖b2 40 ♔f3 ♗h4 41 ♔e4 ♖xb4+ 42 ♔d3 e5 43 e4 ♖b3+ 44 ♔c2 ♖xh3 45 ♖f7+ ♔e6 46 ♖c7 b4 47 ♘b7 g4 48 ♖xc6+ ♔d7 49 ♖h6 b3+ 50 ♔b2 ♗f2 0-1

(255) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence

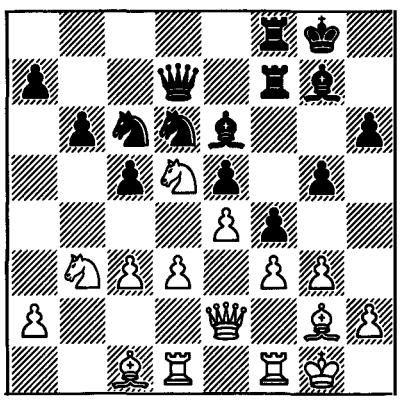
1 c4 g6 2 ♘f3 ♗g7 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 0-0 5 e4 d6 6 ♗e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘e7 9 b4

♘h5 10 ♘d2 ♘f4 11 a4 f5 12 ♗f3 g5 13 exf5 ♘xf5 14 g3 ♘d4 15 gxf4 ♘xf3+ 16 ♕xf3 g4 17 ♕h1 exf4 18 ♗b2 ♗f5 19 ♖fe1 f3 20 ♘de4 ♕h4 21 h3 ♗e5 22 ♖e3 gxh3 23 ♕xf3 ♗g4 24 ♕h1 h2+ 25 ♔g2 ♕h5 26 ♘d2 ♗d4 27 ♕e1 ♖ae8 28 ♘ce4 ♗xb2 29 ♖g3 ♗e5 30 ♖aa3 ♔h8 31 ♔h1 ♖g8 32 ♕f1 ♗xg3 33 ♖xg3 ♖xe4 0-1

(256) Udovčić-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♗g7 6 0-0 ♘ge7 7 ♖e1 0-0 8 c3 e5 9 ♘bd2 d6 10 ♘f1 h6 11 ♘e3 ♗e6 12 ♘h4 d5 13 ♕f3 d4 14 ♘d5 dxc3 15 bxc3 ♘c8 16 ♗e3 b6 17 ♕e2 ♘d6 18 ♖ad1 g5 19 ♘f3 f5 20 ♗c1 f4 21 ♘d2 ♕d7 22 f3 ♖f7 23 ♘b3 ♖af8 24 ♖f1 *(121)*

121



24 ... ♘e7 25 c4 ♘g6 26 ♗d2 h5 27 ♖f2 fxg3 28 hxg3 h4 29 ♗xg5 hxg3 30 ♖ff1 ♘f4 31 ♗xf4 exf4 32 e5 ♘f5 33 d4 ♕d8 34 ♘xf4 ♕h4 35 ♘h3 ♘xd4 36 ♘xd4 cxd4 37 ♕e4 ♖f4 38 ♖xd4 ♖xe4 39 ♖xe4 ♕h6 40 ♘f2 ♕h2 mate

(257) Petrosian-Bertok
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 ♘e4 6 0-0 f5 7 b3 ♗d6 8 ♗b2 0-0 9 ♘c3 ♘xc3 10 ♗xc3 ♕f6 11 ♕e2 ♗xf3 12 ♕xf3 ♘c6 13 ♖ac1 ♕h6 14 g3 ♔h8 15 ♕g2 a5 16 f4 a4 17 ♖a1 ♕f6 18 ♗e2 ♕e7 19 ♗f3 axb3 20 axb3 ♖xa1 21 ♖xa1 ♗b4 22 ♕d2 ♖c8 23 ♖a4 ♗xc3 24 ♕xc3 h6 25 ♔f2 ♘d8 26 b4 ♘f7 27 c5 b5 28 ♖a7 c6 29 ♕a1 ♕e8 30 e4 fxe4 31 ♗xe4 ♔g8 32 h4 ♘h8 33 h5 ♔f8 34 g4 ♕d8 35 ♔g3 ♘f7 36 ♗c2 ♖c7 37 ♖a3 ♖c8 38 ♗g6 ♕f6 39 ♖f3 ♖e8 40 g5 ♕e7 41 gxh6 ♘xh6 ½-½

(258) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 d4 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗e4 10 ♘e1 ♗xg2 11 ♘xg2 ♗f6 12 ♕d3 d5 13 ♖d1 ♘c6 14 ♗e3 ♘e7 15 ♘f4 g6 16 cxd5 exd5 17 ♖ac1 ♕d7 18 ♖c2 c6 19 f3 ♖ac8 20 ♗f2 ♖fe8 21 e4 dxe4 22 fxe4 ♗g7 23 ♕f3 ♔h8 24 ♖d3 ½-½

ς (259) Petrosian-Parma
Catalan Opening

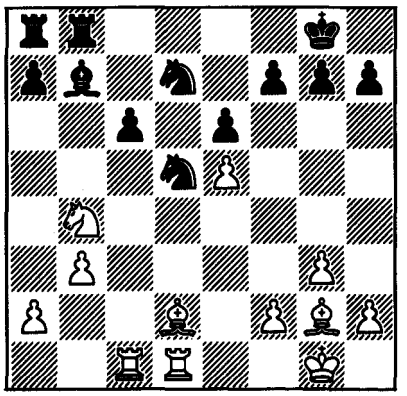
1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 e6 4 0-0 ♗e7 5 c4 0-0 6 d4 c6 7 ♘c3 b6 8 ♘e5 ♗b7 9 e4 dxc4 10 ♘xc4 b5 11 ♘e3 b4 12 ♘a4 ♘bd7 13 b3 ♗a6 14 ♖e1 ♘b6 15 ♘c5 ♗xc5 16 dxc5 ♕xd1 17 ♖xd1 ♘bd7 18 ♗d2 ♖fb8 19 ♘c2 ♘xc5 20 ♘xb4 ♗b7 21 e5 ♘d5 22 ♖ac1 ♘d7

(diagram 122)

23 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 24 ♖xc6 ♘xe5 25 ♖c5 ♖c8 26 ♗xd5 exd5 27 ♖xd5 f6 28 ♗f4 ♘g6 29 ♗e3 a6 30 ♔g2 ♘e5 31 h3 ♖c2 32 ♖a5 ♖c6 33 ♖d4 ♖e8 34 ♖e4 ♔f7 35 ♗d4 ♘d3 36 ♖xe8 ♔xe8 37 ♔f3 ♖e6 38 ♗e3 ♘e5+ 39 ♔e2 ♘c6 40 ♖a4 ♔d7 41 ♔d2 a5 42 ♖c4 ♔c7 43 a3 ♔b7 44 ♖c5 ♖d6+ 45

♔c2 ♖e6 46 ♖d5 ♖e7 47 ♖b5+ ♔c7 48 ♔c3 ♖e6 49 h4 g6 50 ♗f4+ 1-0

122



(260) Minić-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘b8 10 d4 ♘bd7 11 ♘bd2 ♗b7 12 ♗c2 ♖e8 13 b4 ♗f8 14 ♗b2 ♘b6 15 a3 ½-½

(261) Petrosian-Ivkov
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 ♗b4+ 4 ♘bd2 b6 5 a3 ♗xd2+ 6 ♕xd2 ♗b7 7 ♕c2 0-0 8 e3 d6 9 b4 ♘bd7 10 ♗b2 ♘e4 11 ♗d3 f5 12 0-0 ♘df6 13 d5 exd5 14 ♘d4 dxc4 15 ♗xc4+ d5 16 ♗d3 ♗c8 17 ♘c6 ♕e8 18 ♖ac1 ♗d7 19 ♖fe1 ♖f7 ½-½

(262) Ghitescu-Petrosian
Czech Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e5 4 ♘c3 d6 5 e4 ♘bd7 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 ♗d3 ♘f8 8 h3 ♗d7 9 ♕e2 a6 10 ♗e3 ♘g6 11 ♘d2 h5 12 a3 h4 13 ♘f3 ♘h5 14 ♕c2 ♘gf4 15 ♗f1 b5 16 ♖g1 ♕b8 17 ♘d2 0-0 18 ♗e2 ♘xe2 19 ♘xe2 f5 20 f3 bxc4 21 ♘xc4 a5 22 a4 ♖a7 23 ♗d2 ♗d8 24 ♗c3 fxe4 25 fxe4 ♗e8 26 ♖f1 ♖xf1+ 27 ♔xf1 ♗g6 28 ♗d2 ♖b7 29 ♔g1 ♔h7 30 ♖f1 ♘f6 31 ♘c3 ♖b4 32 ♕d3 ½-½

(263) Petrosian-Smyslov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 b6 4 d4 ♗b7 5 a3 d5 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♖c1 0-0 11 e3 ♖c8 12 ♗d3 c5 13 dxc5 ♖xc5 14 ♖xc5 ♕xc5 15 ♕c2 ♕xc2 16 ♗xc2 ♘d7 ½-½

(264) Kurajica-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♘e2 dxe4 5 a3 ♗e7 6 ♘xe4 ♘f6 7 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 8 ♗e3 0-0 9 ♕d2 e5 10 0-0-0 ♘c6 11 f3 exd4 12 ♘xd4 ♕d5 13 c4 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 ♕xd4 15 ♕xd4 ♗xd4 16 ♖xd4 c5 17 ♖d2 ♗e6 18 ♗e2 ♖fd8 19 ♖hd1 ♖xd2 20 ♖xd2 b6 21 ♔c2 ♔f8 22 ♔c3 ♔e7 23 f4 ♖d8 24 ♖xd8 ♔xd8 25 b4 ♔e7 26 b5 ♗c8 27 ♗f3 a6 28 a4 a5 29 g4 h6 30 ♔d3 f5 31 g5 hxg5 32 fxg5 ♔d6 33 h4 ♔e5 34 h5 f4 35 ♗e4 ♗g4 36 h6 gxh6 37 gxh6 ♔f6 38 ♔d2 f3 39 ♔e3 f2 40 ♔xf2 ♗d1 41 ♔e1 ♗xa4 42 ♔d2 ♗b3 43 ♗d3 ½-½

(265) Petrosian-Hort
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♘c6 4 e3 e6 5

d4 d5 6 a3 ♘e4 7 ♗d3 ♘xc3 8 bxc3 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 ♗e7 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♕e2 ♗d7 12 d5 exd5 13 ♗xd5 ♗f6 14 ♖b1 ♕c7 15 c4 ♖ab8 16 e4 ♗g4 17 ♕e3 b6 18 h3 ♗xf3 19 ♕xf3 ♘e7 20 ♖d1 ♗e5 21 ♕h5 ♖be8 22 ♖b3 ♗d4 23 ♕f3 ♘xd5 24 exd5 ♕d7 25 ♗e3 ♗xe3 26 ♖xe3 ♖xe3 27 ♕xe3 ♖e8 28 ♕f4 g6 29 d6 ♔g7 30 ♖d5 ♖e6 31 ♔h2 h5 32 ♕d2 h4 33 ♕f4 ♔g8 34 ♖d1 ♔g7 35 ♕d2 ♔h7 36 ♕d5 ♔g7 37 a4 a5 38 ♕d2 ♔h7 39 ♕f4 ♔g7 40 ♖d5 ♔g8 41 ♕g4 ♔g7 42 ♕f4 ♔g8 43 ♖d1 ♔g7 44 ♕d2 ♔g8 45 ♕d5 ♔g7 46 f4 ♖e8 47 ♖b1 ♖b8 48 ♖e1 ♖d8 49 ♖d1 ♖e8 50 ♖b1 ♖b8 51 ♕e5+ f6 52 ♕d5 ♕f5 53 ♕xf5 gxf5 54 d7 ♖d8 55 ♖xb6 ♖xd7 56 ♖c6 ♖d4 57 ♖xc5 ♖xf4 58 ♔g1 ♔g6 ½-½

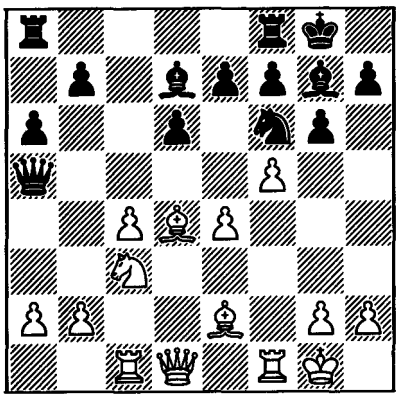
(266) Browne-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 ♗d3 c5 6 c3 b6 7 ♘gf3 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 ♕e2 ♘c7 10 0-0 ♗e7 11 ♖e1 h6 12 ♘f1 ♕c8 13 ♘g3 ♕a6 14 ♕e3 g6 15 b3 c4 16 bxc4 dxc4 17 a4 ♘d5 18 ♕d2 b5 19 ♗a3 ♗xa3 20 ♖xa3 ♘7b6 21 ♘e4 ♘xa4 22 ♖ea1 ♔f8 23 ♘c5 ♕c6 24 ♘xa4 bxa4 25 ♖xa4 ♔g7 26 ♖a6 ♕b7 27 h4 ♖hb8 28 ♖6a4 ♕c7 29 ♘h2 h5 30 ♘f1 ♖b3 31 ♘e3 ♘xe3 32 ♕xe3 a5 33 ♕f3 ♖a7 34 g3 ♔g8 35 ♔g2 ♖a6 36 ♖1a2 ♖b1 37 ♕e2 ♕b7+ 38 f3 ♖ab6 39 ♖c2 ♖6b2 40 ♖xc4 ♖xc2 0-1

(267) Petrosian-Fischer
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 e4 ♗g7 4 d4 ♘c6 5 dxc5 ♕a5+ 6 ♘fd2 ♕xc5 7 ♘b3 ♕b6 8 ♗e2 d6 9 0-0 ♘f6 10 ♘c3 0-0 11 ♗e3 ♕d8 12 ♖c1 ♗e6 13 ♘d4 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 ♕a5 15 f4 a6 16 f5 ♗d7 *(123)*

123



17 c5 ♗c6 18 cxd6 exd6 19 fxg6 fxg6 20 ♗c4+ ♔h8 21 ♗d5 ♖ae8 22 h3 ♗xd5 23 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 24 ♖xf8+ ♖xf8 25 exd5 ♕b4 26 ♗xg7+ ♔xg7 27 b3 ♕f4 28 ♖c3 ♕f2+ 29 ♔h2 ♖f7 30 a4 h5 31 ♖c4 ♖e7 32 ♕a1+ ♕f6 33 ♕c3 ♕xc3 34 ♖xc3 ♔f6 35 ♖f3+ ♔g5 36 ♖f8 ♖e3 37 g3 ♖e2+ 38 ♔g1 ♖b2 39 h4+ ♔g4 40 ♖f6 ♔xg3 41 ♖xg6+ ♔xh4 42 ♖xd6 ♖xb3 43 ♖g6 ♖b4 44 ♖g7 ½-½

4th European Team Championship
Kapfenberg, May 1970

Board 1, +1 -0 =5.

(268) Uhlmann-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 ♘f3 d5 2 d4 ♘f6 3 c4 dxc4 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 ♕e2 a6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 0-0 ♘c6 9 e4 b5 10 e5 bxc4 11 exf6 gxf6 12 ♕xc4 ½-½

(269) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5

♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 ♘bd7 8 ♕c2 a5 9 ♗g5 h6 10 ♗e3 ♘g4 11 ♗d2 ♘c5 12 h3 ♘f6 13 ♗e3 ♘h7 14 ♘d2 h5 15 0-0-0 ♗d7 16 h4 ♕e7 17 ♔b1 b6 18 f3 f5 19 ♖de1 ♘f6 20 ♗d3 ♘xd3 21 ♕xd3 ♖ae8 22 a3 ♖f7 23 b4 axb4 24 axb4 ♕f8 25 ♔b2 ♗h6 26 ♖a1 fxe4 27 ♘dxe4 ♗f5 28 ♗xh6 ♕xh6 29 ♕d2 ♕xd2+ 30 ♘xd2 e4 31 fxe4 ♘xe4 32 ♖he1 ♖fe7 33 ♘dxe4 ♗xe4 34 ♖a7 ♗xg2 35 ♖g1 ♗h3 36 ♖xg6+ ♔h7 ½-½

(270) Bobotsov-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 e4 e5 5 ♘f3 ♘d7 6 ♗e2 ♘gf6 7 d5 ♘c5 8 ♘d2 a5 9 ♕c2 ♗h6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♘b3 ♗xc1 12 ♖axc1 ♘fd7 13 ♗g4 ♘xb3 14 axb3 f5 15 exf5 ♘c5 16 ♘a4 ♘a6 17 ♕d2 gxf5 18 ♗e2 b6 19 f4 ♗d7 20 fxe5 ♗xa4 21 bxa4 dxe5 22 ♖c3 ♘c5 23 ♖g3+ ♔h8 24 ♖gf3 f4 25 ♗d3 ♕f6 26 ♗c2 ♖f7 27 ♔h1 ♖g8 28 g3 ♖g4 29 b3 ♔g8 30 gxf4 ♖xf4 31 ♖xf4 exf4 32 ♕g2+ ♔f8 33 ♕h3 ♔e8 ½-½

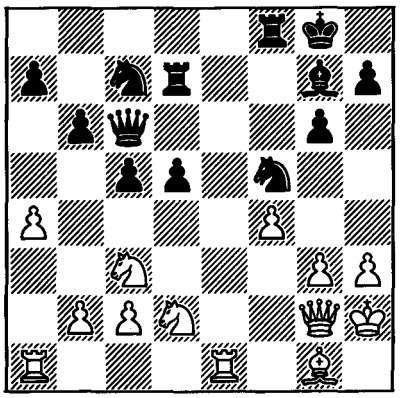
(271) Jakobsen-Petrosian
Benoni Defence

1 d4 g6 2 g3 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 c5 4 d5 d6 5 a4 ♘f6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 ♘a6 8 ♘c3 ♘c7 9 e4 ♘d7 10 h3 b6 11 ♗f4 ♘e5 12 ♘d2 ♗a6 13 ♖e1 ♕d7 14 ♗e3 e6 15 ♔h2 ♖ad8 16 ♗f1 ♗xf1 17 ♖xf1 f5 18 f4 ♘f7 19 dxe6 ♕xe6 20 ♗g1 fxe4 21 ♘dxe4 d5 22 ♘d2 ♕c6 23 ♕f3 ♖d7 24 ♕g2 ♘d6 25 ♖fe1 ♘f5

(diagram 124)

26 ♘c4 ♘xg3 27 ♔xg3 ♕f6 28 ♕d2 dxc4 29 ♕xd7 ♕xf4+ 30 ♔g2 ♕f3+ 31 ♔h2 ♗h6 32 ♘e2 ♗f4+ 33 ♘xf4 ♕xf4+ 34 ♔h1 ♕f3+ ½-½

124



(272) Hort-Petrosian
French Defence
(notes by Nei)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕c7 7 ♕g4 f5 8 ♕g3 cxd4 9 cxd4 ♘e7 10 ♗d2

The point of the early exchange on d4 is seen in the variation 10 ♕xg7? ♖g8 11 ♕xh7 ♕c3+ etc.

10 ... 0-0 11 ♗d3 b6 12 ♘e2 ♗a6 13 ♘f4 ♕d7 14 ♗b4 ♖f7!

In the game Spassky-Fuchs, Varna 1958, Black played the weaker 14 ... ♗xd3? 15 ♘h5 ♘g6 16 ♗xf8 ♗a6 17 ♗xg7 ♕b5 18 0-0-0 ♘c6 19 ♕h3 ♔f7 20 g4! with advantage to White.

15 h4

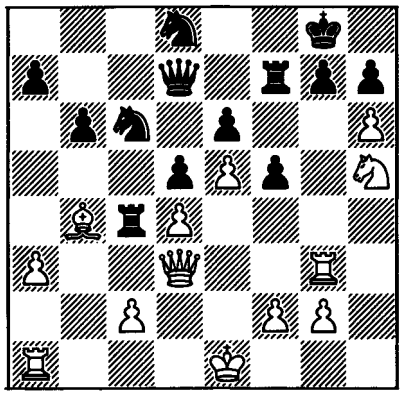
On 15 ♘h5 Black defends by 15 ... ♔h8.

15 ... ♗xd3 16 ♕xd3 ♘bc6 17 ♖h3 ♖c8!

Black transfers his queen's rook to c4.

18 ♖g3 ♘d8 19 h5 ♖c4 20 h6 ♘ec6 21 ♘h5 *(125)*

125



21 ... g6!

The Ex-World Champion has probably no equal in the handling of such positions. Black is not concerned about the loss of the exchange, since in the given situation his cavalry is highly effective. In passing, it should be noted that 21 ... ♖xd4? fails to 22 ♖xg7+ ♖xg7 23 ♘f6+ etc.

22 ♘f6+ ♖xf6
23 exf6 ♘f7

The natural 23 ... ♘xd4 is also strong.

24 ♕d2

On 24 c3 Petrosian was intending 24 ... e5, with more than sufficient compensation for the exchange.

24 ... ♖xd4 25 ♖d3 ♖h4 26 ♖h3 ♖g4 27 ♔f1 ♘d6 28 ♖e1 ♔f7 29 ♗c3 ♘e4 30 ♕d3 ♘c5 31 ♕d1 ♖c4 32 ♗b2 b5 33 ♕e2 ♕d6 34 ♔g1 ♘e4

White's scattered pieces have no way of achieving coordination, and Black unhurriedly strengthens his position.

35 ♖d3 ♕c5 36 ♖c1 e5 37 ♕e3 d4 38 ♕e2 ♘xf6

Black has established nominal material equality. White is helpless.

39 ♖dd1 ♘d5 40 ♕d2 e4 41 ♕g5 ♘c7 42 ♖d2 ♘e6 43 ♕h4 a5

The sealed move. On the resumption Black quickly realized his advantage.

44 ♖cd1 ♖xc2 45 ♖xc2 ♕xc2 46 ♖c1 ♕xb2 47 ♖xc6 d3 48 ♖a6 ♕d4
White resigns

A splendid game.

(273) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♖c1 ♗b7 11 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 12 ♗c4 ♗xf3 13 gxf3 ♘d7 14 ♗e2 ½-½

19th World Chess Olympiad
Siegen, September 1970

Board 2, +6 -0 =8.

(274) Petrosian-Fuller
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 ♗b4+ 6 ♘bd2 ♘e4 7 0-0 f5 8 ♕c2 ♘xd2 9 ♘xd2 0-0 10 f4 d5 11 ♘f3 ♘d7 12 b3 ♗d6 13 ♗b2 ♕e7 14 ♘e5 ♘f6 15 ♖ac1 c5 16 ♕e2 ♖ac8 17 ♖c2 ♖c7 18 ♖fc1 ♖fc8 19 ♕e1 ♘e4 20 ♗xe4 dxe4 21 dxc5 ♗xc5 22 a4 ♖d8 23 ♖d2 ♖cc8 24 ♖cd1 ♗d6 25 ♕g3 ♗xe5 26 ♗xe5 ♖xd2 27 ♖xd2 g6 28 ♕g5 ♕xg5 29 fxg5 ♗c6 30 ♔f2 ♔f7 31 ♔g3 ♔e8 32 ♔f4 ♗d7 33 ♗d6 a6 34 ♔e5 b5 35 axb5 axb5 36 c5 ♖a8 37 ♔f6 ♖a7 38 g3 ♖a1 39 ♗e5 ♖a3 40 ♖b2 ♖a7 41 ♗b8 ♖b7 42 ♗d6 ♖a7 43 h4 ♗c6 44 ♔xe6 b4 45 ♖d2 ♗d7+ 46 ♔d5 ♔f7 47 c6 ♖a5+ 48 ♗c5 ♗e6+ 49 ♔d6 ♗xb3 50

♖b2 ♗c4 51 ♖xb4 ♗a6 52 ♖b7+ ♗xb7 53 cxb7 ♖b5 54 ♔c6 ♖b1 55 ♗b6 ♖c1+ 56 ♔d6 ♖d1+ 57 ♔e5 1-0

(275) Pomar-Petrosian
Modern Defence

The Spanish grandmaster Arturo Pomar is one of those players who for many long years, if not his entire life, has remained true to certain systems of development. Having accumulated great experience in playing them, he tries to lead his opponent into well studied middlegame positions.

For a long time the Four Pawns Attack was an effective weapon in Pomar's hands against the King's Indian Defence. At one time he also had quite good results with the fianchetto of his bishop at g2 in combination with the development of his knight at e2. With all this in mind, I decided on a variation outwardly similar to the King's Indian Defence, a characteristic feature of which is the delay in developing the king's knight: the possibility is retained of bringing it out to e7 (which is what most often happens), to h6 (although there is not much for the knight to do there), or else to f6.

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘f3

I considered this last move to be already something of a success for me, since Pomar was now unable to play one of his well studied middlegame positions. But it is well known that one's appetite grows during a game. What about trying to lead the opponent off into the wilds?

4 ... ♗g4
5 g3 ♕c8

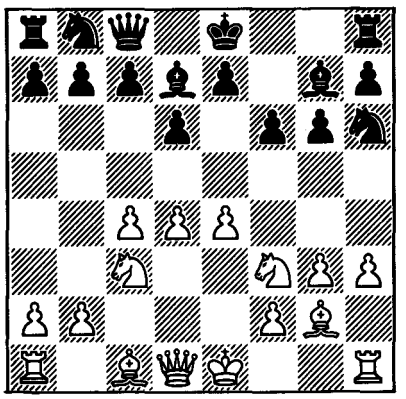
This type of manoeuvre was fashionable in former times, but today many strong players, if not all, are sceptical about such an idea. Never in my life did I believe in the possibility of exchanging the g2 bishop in this way, but the urge to be original had seized me.

6 ♗g2 ♘h6

Not 6 ... ♗h3, if the opponent is demonstrating his obvious disregard for this threat! As for the knight going to h6, see what was said above.

7 h3 ♗d7
8 e4 f6 *(126)*

126



Only eight moves have been made, but some conclusions can already be drawn. Black stands badly. White has without trouble occupied the centre with his pawns, has developed his forces better, and can without the least hindrance take active measures. His only difficulty is that his overwhelming position may make him equably inclined, and may inspire the hope that, by continuing to make obvious moves, he can wait for the ripe fruit itself to fall at his feet.

9 ♗e3 ♘f7
10 ♕d2

This was most probably the time for d4-d5, further aggravating the defects of Black's position.

10 ... c5
11 dxc5

Here too 11 d5 is possible. White plays very consistently. Having a lead in development, he tries to open up the game, hoping to make use of his better mobilized forces.

From the viewpoint of chess rules this all appears very sensible, but in Black's position there are no obviously vulnerable points, and at the same time its durability is noticeable. In such cases the successful approach lies in close contact between strategy and tactics. In short, one requires great tactical vision, a quality which Pomar fails to demonstrate in this game.

11 ... dxc5
12 0-0-0 ♘c6

Castling seems more natural, in order to bring at least one rook into play and to remove the king to a safe place. But after this it would not have been easy to play ... ♘c6. The natural knight advance to d5 (with gain of tempo!) would have gained in strength, whereas, by remaining in the centre, for the moment the king defends both the e7 pawn, and the bishop at d7. The main problem which concerned me during the game was the possibility of White taking the c5 pawn. It is true that, after moving his knight from c6 Black will attack the c4 pawn, but the whole question is where to move the knight.

In the event of 13 ♗xc5 ♘a5 a possible continuation is 14 b3 ♕xc5 15 ♕xd7+ ♔f8 with compensation for the pawn. But at the board I mainly examined 13 ♗xc5 ♘ce5 14 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 15 ♕d4! (the only way; things would be much easier for Black after the withdrawal of the bishop) 15 ... b6 16 ♗xe7! ♔xe7 17 ♕d6+ ♔e8 18 ♘d5, or 17 ... ♔f7 18 f4 ♗f8 19 ♕d4 (*19 ♕d2 ♗h6*) 19 ... ♗c5 20 ♕d2, with obvious advantage to White. After 16 ♗xe7 the interposition of 16 ... ♘c6 is unjustified in view of 17 ♕xd7+, transposing into an ending in which, with two pawns for the exchange and a good position, White clearly has the better chances.

13 ♔b1

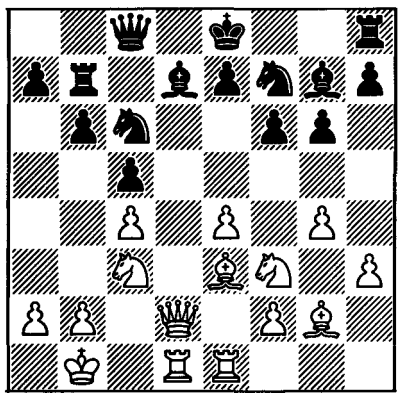
A loss of time. True, White has plenty of it, and so he does not especially value it.

13 ... b6 14 g4 ♖b8 15 ♖he1

White goes on preparing and preparing.

15 ... ♖b7 *(127)*

127



Comparing the positions in the two diagrams, we see that in a comparatively short space of time Black has made considerable progress. White has not managed to achieve anything tangible, and each of his last three moves causes perplexity, to say the least. It is hard to find direct fault with them, not because they are good, but because any move which is not a mistake in such a situation would not be bad.

16 e5

White remembers that there is no point in loading your gun unless you are intending to fire it.

16 ... fxe5 17 ♘g5 0-0 18 ♘d5?

I would have played 18 ♗d5 e6 19 ♘xf7 ♖xf7 20 ♗e4 followed by the advance of the h-pawn and the threat of ♘b5-d6.

18 ... ♘xg5 19 ♗xg5 ♗e8 20 ♗h6 e6!

Black could have probably defended after 20 ... ♗xh6 21 ♕xh6 ♖xf2 22 ♖f1 ♖f7, but the move played signals the start of the counterattack.

21	**♗xg7**	**♖xg7**
22	**♘c3**	**♘d4!**

With one move Black essentially covers securely both central files, on which White has so hopefully placed his heavy pieces. It hardly needs to be said that the re-establishment of material equality is no great consolation for White.

23	**♖xe5**	**♖gf7**
24	**♘e4?**	

White appears to have forgotten that the opponent can create dangerous threats. To be fair, it should be said that Black would also have retained a positional advantage after 24 ♖f1 ♗c6.

24	**...**	**♕c7!**

The white rook has fallen into a trap, and this decides the game.

25	**♖g5**	**♖f4**
26	**♕d3**	

Against the threat of ... h6 there is no defence. White's final few moves are a typical example of time trouble agony.

26 ... h6 27 ♘d6 hxg5 28 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 29 ♕xg6+ ♔f8 30 ♕xg5 ♕h7+ White resigns

(276) Petersen-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗e2 e6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♗e3 ♗d7 9 0-0 ♗e7 10 f4 0-0 11 g4 ♘xd4 12 ♗xd4 ♗c6 13 ♗d3 ♘d7 14 ♗e3 ♘c5 15 g5 d5 16 exd5 ♗xd5 17 ♘xd5 ♕xd5 18 ♗e2 ♕e4 19 ♔f2 ♖ad8 20 ♕c1 a5 21 ♗f3 ♕b4 22 b3 ♘e4+ 23 ♔g2 ♘d6 24 ♗d2 ♕c5 25 ♗e3 ♕c7 26 c4 ♘f5 27 ♕e1 ♗b4 28 ♕e2 ♘xe3+ 29 ♕xe3 ♗d2 30 ♕e4 ♗xf4 31 ♕xb7 ♖d2+ 32 ♖f2 ♖xf2+ 33 ♔xf2 ♕c5+ 34 ♔f1 ♗xh2 35 ♖d1 ♕xg5 36 ♔e1 g6 37 ♖d7 ♕c1+ 38 ♔e2 ♗g3 39 ♖d1 ♕g5 40 ♖d7 ♗d6 41 ♕c6 ♗b4 42 ♕e4 ♖d8 43 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 44 ♕c2 ♕d4 45 ♗c6 h5 46 ♗g2 ♗c5 47 ♔f3 0-1

(277) Petrosian-Trikaliotis
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♘xd5 exd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♖c1 ♗e6 11 ♕a4 c5 12 ♕a3 ♖c8 13 ♗b5 a6 14 ♗d3 ♖a7 15 dxc5 bxc5 16 b3 a5 17 0-0 ♘a6 18 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 19 ♖c3 ♔f8 20 ♖fc1 c4 21 ♕b2 ♖ac6 22 ♘d4 ♖c5 23 h3 h6 24 ♕d2 ♔g8 25 ♖3c2 ♕b7 26 g4 ♕e7 27 ♔g2 h5 28 ♕e2 hxg4 29 hxg4 g6 30 ♖h1 ♔g7 31 ♕f3 ♖h8 32 ♖xh8 ♔xh8 33 ♖c1 ♔g7 34 ♖h1 ♕g5 35 ♘xe6+ fxe6 36 ♕h3 ♖c8 37 f4 ♕d8 38 ♕h7+ 1-0

(278) Petrosian-O.Rodriguez
Slav Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 c6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♕c2 ♗d6 7 b3 e5 8 cxd5 exd4 9 ♘xd4 0-0 10 dxc6 ♘e5 11 ♗e2 bxc6 12 ♗b2 ♕a5 13 h3 ♘g6 14 0-0-0 ♗b7 15 ♘e6 fxe6 16 ♖xd6 e5 17 ♖hd1 ♘d5 18 ♗c4 ♔h8 19 ♖xg6 hxg6 20 ♕xg6 1-0

(279) Belkadi-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 e4 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 b6 7 ♗d3 a6 8 ♘ge2 c5 9 d5 ♘bd7 10 ♘g3 b5 11 cxb5 ♘e5 12 ♗e2 axb5 13 ♗xb5 ♗a6 14 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 15 0-0 ♕a5 16 ♕e2 ♖b8 17 f4 ♘ed7 18 ♖ad1 ♘e8 19 e5 dxe5 20 f5 ♘d6 21 ♘ce4 ♘f6 22 ♘xc5 ♖aa8 23 a3 ♕b5 24 fxg6 hxg6 25 ♖f2 ♘c4 26 ♘ge4 ½-½

(280) Schmid-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♘c3 ♕c7 6 ♗e2 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗b4 8 ♕d3 ♘c6 9 ♗d2 ♘xd4 10 ♕xd4 ♗d6 11 ♔h1 0-0 12 ♖ad1 b5 13 a3 ♗b7 14 ♕e3 ♗c5 15 ♕d3 ♖ac8 16 f4 d5 17 e5 ♘e4 18 ♘xe4 dxe4 19 ♕g3 ♖fd8 20 c3 ♗d5 21 ♗e3 ♗c4 22 ♕f2 ½-½

(281) Gligorić-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♗d3 ♗b7 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 c5 8 ♘a4 cxd4 9 exd4 ♗e7 10 ♘c3 d5 11 cxd5 ♘xd5 12 ♕e2 ♘d7 13 ♖d1 ♘7f6 14 ♗g5 ♘h5 15 ♕e5 ♗f6 16 ♗xf6 ♘hxf6 17 ♕g3 ♘h5 18 ♕e5 ♘hf4 19 ♘xd5 ♘xd3 20 ♖xd3 ♕xd5 21 ♘e1 ♖fd8 22 f3 ♖ac8 23 ♕xd5 ♗xd5 24 ♖d2 ♖c7 25 ♔f2 ♖dc8 26 b3 ♔f8 27 ♖b1 ♔e7 28 ♖bb2 ♔d6 29 ♖bc2 a5 30 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 31 ♘c2 ♖c3 32 ♘e3 ♔c6 33 ♔e2 ♔b5 34 ♖b2 ♖c6 35 ♔d3 a4 36 ♘c2 axb3 37 axb3 g5 38 ♘a3+ ♔a5 39 ♘c2 ♖c7 40 ♘e3 ♔b4 41 ♘c2+ ♔b5 ½-½

(282) Petrosian-Hort
Grünfeld Defence

1 g3 g6 2 ♗g2 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 c5 4 c3 ♘f6 5 d4 cxd4 6 cxd4 d5 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♘e5 e6 9 ♘c3 ♘bd7 10 f4 a6 11 a4 b6 12 b3 ♗b7 13 ♕d3 ♕c7 14 ♗b2 ♖ac8 15 ♖fc1 ♕b8 16 ♖c2 ♖fd8 17 ♖ac1 ♗f8 18 e3 ♕d6 19 ♗f3 ♕b4 20 ♘a2 ♕d6 21 ♘c3 ♕b4 22 ♘a2 ½-½

(283) Petrosian-Lengyel
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 a3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 ♗d6 8 ♘f3 ♘c6 9 e4 e5 10 d5 ♘e7 11 ♗g5 ♘g6 12 g3 h6 13 ♗d2 a6 14 h3 b5 15 ♗f1 ♗b7 16 ♗e3 c6 17 dxc6 ♗xc6 18 ♘d2 ♕e7 19 ♗g2 ♖fd8 20 ♖c1 ½-½

(284) Reshevsky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 a6 6 0-0 c5 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 ♗e7 9 ♖d1 0-0 10 ♘c3 cxd4 11 exd4 ♘b4 12 ♗g5 ♘fd5 13 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 14 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 15 ♕e4 ♘d5 16 ♘e5 ♘f6 17 ♕f4 ♘d5 18 ♕e4 ♘f6 19 ♕f4 ♘d5 20 ♕e4 ♘f6 ½-½

(285) Petrosian-Liebert
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 e4 6 ♘h4 0-0 7 ♗g2 ♖e8 8 0-0 ♗f8 9 d3 exd3 10 ♕xd3 ♘e5 11 ♕c2 c6 12 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 13 b3 d6 14 ♗b2 ♕h6 15 ♖ad1 ♘g6 16 ♘f5 ♕h5 17 ♘d4 ♘e5 18 f3 f5 19 ♖de1 ♗d7 20 e4 fxe4 21 ♖xe4 ♘g6 22 f4 ♖xe4 23 ♗xe4 ♖e8 24 ♗f5 ♗xf5 25 ♕xf5 ♕xf5 26 ♘xf5 ♘h8 27 ♔f2 ♘f7 28 ♘e3 ♗e7 29 ♖d1 ♗d8 30 ♗d4 ♗b6 31 ♗xb6 axb6 32 g4 g6 33 h4 ♔g7 34 g5 h6 35 ♘g4 hxg5 36 hxg5 ♖a8 37 ♖d2 ♖e8 38 ♘f6 ♖e7 39 ♖d3 ♖e6 40 ♖h3 ♖e7 41 b4

♖e6 42 ♖a3 ♘h6 43 gxh6+ ♔xf6 44 ♖e3 ♖xe3 45 ♔xe3 ♔f7 46 ♔e4 ♔g8 47 f5 ♔h7 48 fxg6+ ♔xg6 49 b5 1-0

(286) Suttles-Petrosian
1 ♘c3

1 ♘c3 d5 2 e4 c6 3 d3 g6 4 ♕e2 ♗g7 5 g3 dxe4 6 dxe4 e5 7 ♗e3 ♘f6 8 ♖d1 ♕a5 9 f3 ♘bd7 10 ♕f2 0-0 11 ♘ge2 ♖e8 12 ♘c1 ♕c7 13 ♗h3 b6 14 0-0 ♗a6 15 ♖fe1 ♖ad8 16 b4 ♗f8 17 a3 ♗b7 18 ♘b3 ♗e7 19 ♘a4 ♗a6 20 ♗f1 ♗c8 21 c4 ♔g7 22 c5 b5 23 ♘c3 ♘b8 24 ♘a5 ♖xd1 25 ♖xd1 ♖d8 ½-½

(287) Najdorf-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♗b4+ 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7 8 cxd5 exd5 9 ♗d2 ♗d6 10 ♘b5 ♗e7 11 ♖c1 c6 12 ♘c3 c5 13 ♘e5 ♘c6 14 ♗a6 ♕c8 15 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 16 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 17 dxc5 ½-½

International Tournament
Vinkovci, October 1970

1 Larsen 10½; 2-4 Bronstein, Gligorić, Hort 10; 5 Velimirović 9½; 6-9 Minić, **Petrosian** (+4 –1 =10), Szabo, Taimanov 9; 10 Marić 8½; 11 Quinteros 7; 12 Parma 6½; 13 Bertok 5; 14-15 Ledić, Osanić 3; 16 Tomić 1.

(288) Petrosian-Bronstein
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 e3 0-0 6 ♗e2 e6 7 0-0 ♕e7 8 b3 ♖d8 9 a4 ♘e4 10 ♗a3 ♕e8 11 ♖c1 ♘xc3 12 ♖xc3 c6 13 ♕c2 ♘d7 14 ♖c1 a5 15 ♗d3 dxc4 16 bxc4 c5 17 ♖b3 cxd4 18 ♘xd4 ♗f8 19 c5 ♘e5 20 ♗e2 ♗d7 21 ♘b5 ♖ac8 22 ♕c3 ♘c6 23 ♘d6 ♗xd6 24 cxd6 e5 25 ♕b2 ♘b4 26 ♗xb4 ♖xc1+ 27 ♕xc1 axb4 28 ♖xb4 ♗c6 29 a5 ♖xd6 30 a6 bxa6 31 ♖b6 ♕d7 32 ♖xa6 ♗b7 33 ♖xd6 ♕xd6 ½-½

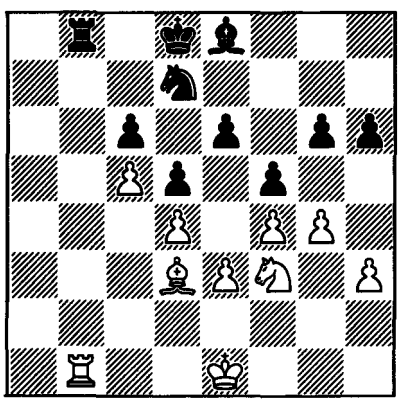
(289) Parma-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗h4 c5 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 11 ♕e2 cxd4 12 0-0-0 ♗c5 13 ♕e5 ♕e7 14 ♘xd4 0-0 15 ♘b3 ♖ac8 16 ♘xc5 ♖xc5 17 ♗xf6 gxf6 18 ♕d6 ♕xd6 19 ♖xd6 ♖fc8 20 c3 ½-½

(290) Petrosian-Ledić
Dutch Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 e6 5 e3 ♘e4 6 ♗d3 f5 7 ♘e2 ♗b4+ 8 ♘d2 ♘xd2 9 ♗xd2 ♕a5 10 a3 ♗xd2+ 11 ♕xd2 ♕xd2+ 12 ♔xd2 g6 13 ♖hc1 ♘d7 14 f4 ♔e7 15 ♘g1 ♘f6 16 ♘f3 ♗d7 17 ♘e5 ♖hc8 18 h3 ♖ab8 19 b3 ♗e8 20 c5 ♘d7 21 ♘f3 ♖a8 22 b4 a6 23 a4 ♖a7 24 ♖a2 ♖b8 25 ♖b2 ♖aa8 26 ♔e1 ♔d8 27 ♘g5 ♘f8 28 g4 ♔e7 29 ♖cb1 h6 30 ♘f3 ♘d7 31 b5 axb5 32 axb5 ♔d8 33 bxc6 bxc6 34 ♖xb8+ ♖xb8 *(128)*

128



35 ♖a1 ♔c7 36 ♔d2 ♖b2+ 37 ♗c2 ♖b7 38 ♖a6 ♖b2 39 ♔c3 ♔b7 40 ♖a1 ♖b5 41 ♗d3 ♘f6 42 ♗xb5 cxb5 43 gxf5 exf5 44 ♔b4 1-0

(291) Gligorić-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♘e2 ♗a6 6 ♘g3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 d5 8 ♗a3 dxc4 9 e4 ♕d7 10 ♗e2 ♘c6 11 0-0 0-0-0 ½-½

(292) Petrosian-Velimirović
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 g3 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 0-0 0-0 5 c4 d6 6 d4 c5 7 ♘c3 ♘c6 8 dxc5 dxc5 9 ♗f4 ♘h5 10 ♗d2 ♗d7 11 ♕c1 ♖e8 12 ♖d1 ♕c8 13 ♗h6 ♗h8 14 ♕d2 ♗h3 15 ♖ac1 ♗xg2 16 ♔xg2 ♘d4 17 ♕d3 ♕c6 18 b3 ♘f6 19 h3 ♖ad8 20 e4 ♘d7 21 ♘d2 ♘e5 22 ♕f1 ♘f5 23 ♗g5 h6 24 ♗f4 ♘d3 25 ♘d5 ♘xf4+ 26 ♘xf4 e6 27 ♕e2 ♖d4 28 ♔h2 ♘e7 29 ♖e1 ♖ed8 30 ♘f3 ♖4d7 31 h4 ♕c7 32 ♖ed1 ♘c6 33 ♔g2 ♖d6 34 ♖xd6 ♕xd6 35 ♖c2 ♘d4 36 ♘xd4 ♕xd4 37 ♘h3 ♕d1 38 ♘g1 ♔f8 39 ♘f3 ♗a1 40 ♕xd1 ♖xd1 41 ♖d2 ♖xd2 42 ♘xd2 f5 43 exf5 gxf5 ½-½

(293) Bertok-Petrosian
Czech Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e5 4 ♘c3 d6 5 e4 ♗e7 6 ♘ge2 ♘bd7 7 ♘g3 a6 8 ♗d3 h5 9 ♘f5 ♗f8 10 h4 g6 11 ♘e3 ♗h6 12 a3 ♔f8 13 g3 ♘e8 14 b4 b6 15 ♗d2 ♔g7 16 ♔f1 cxb4 17 axb4 a5 18 ♔g2 ♗a6 19 bxa5 ♘c5 20 ♗c2 bxa5 21 ♘a4 ♘b7 22 ♗d3 ♘f6 23 ♕e2 ♘d7 24 ♖hb1 ♕c7 25 ♖a3 ½-½

(294) Petrosian-Quinteros
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 d6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 e4 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d5 a5 8 ♗e3 ♘g4 9 ♗g5 f6 10 ♗h4 ♘a6 11 h3 ♘h6 12 ♘d2 ♗d7 13 f3 ♕e8 14 b3 f5 15 ♖b1 fxe4 16 ♘dxe4 ♘f5 17 ♗g5 h6 18 ♗d2 ♕e7 19 0-0 ♘c5 20 ♘xc5 dxc5 21 ♗d3 b6 22 ♘e4 ♘d4 23 ♘f2 ♗f5 24 ♗e4 ♕h4 25 ♕e1 ♖ae8 26 ♖b2 ♗f6 27 ♘g4 ♗xg4 28 fxg4 ♕xe1 29 ♗xe1 g5 30 ♖bf2 ♗g7 31 ♖xf8+ ♖xf8 32 ♖xf8+ ♗xf8 33 ♔f2 ♔f7 34 ♔e3 ♗e7 35 ♔d3 ♗f6 36 ♗f3 ♔e7 37 ♗d1 ♗g7 38 ♔e4 ♔d6 39 h4 ♗f6 40 g3 ♗g7 41 a3 ♔e7 42 ♗d2 ♗f6 43 ♗e3 ♔d6 44 h5 ♔e7 ½-½

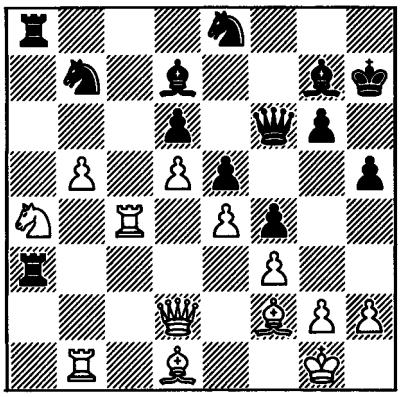
(295) Szabo-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 c3 d6 4 f4 c6 5 ♘f3 d5 6 e5 h5 7 ♗d3 ♘h6 8 ♘bd2 ♗f5 9 ♘f1 e6 10 ♘e3 ♘d7 11 ♘xf5 gxf5 12 ♕b3 ♕c7 13 ♗d2 ♘g8 14 c4 ♘e7 15 ♗b4 ♘b6 16 c5 ♘d7 17 ♕a3 ♘g6 18 g3 ♗f8 19 ♖c1 f6 20 ♗d2 fxe5 21 fxe5 ♗h6 22 ♖c2 ♗xd2+ 23 ♖xd2 ♘df8 24 b4 ♕g7 25 ♕c1 ♘e7 26 ♖f2 ♘h7 27 ♕e3 ♖g8 28 ♖hf1 b5 29 a4 bxa4 30 ♖a2 ♘g5 ½-½

(296) Petrosian-Osanić
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 e5 7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗e3 ♘c6 9 d5 ♘a5 10 ♘g3 c5 11 ♕d2 ♔h7 12 ♗d3 a6 13 ♖b1 b6 14 0-0 ♗d7 15 b3 ♖b8 16 ♖b2 b5 17 cxb5 axb5 18 b4 c4 19 ♗c2 ♘b7 20 a4 bxa4 21 ♘xa4 ♘e8 22 ♘c3 ♖a8 23 ♖c1 h5 24 ♘f1 ♘c7 25 b5 ♖a3 26 ♖cb1 f5 27 ♗d1 f4 28 ♗f2 ♕f6 29 ♖b4 ♖fa8 30 ♖xc4 ♘e8 31 ♘a4 1-0 *(129)*

129



(297) Hort-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 ♗c4 c6 5 ♗b3 ♘f6 6 ♕e2 0-0 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 ♘c3 ♘fd7 9 ♖d1 c5 10 dxc5 ♘xc5 11 h3 ♗xf3 12 ♕xf3 ♘c6 13 ♗e3 ♕a5 14 ♗d2 ♘d4 15 ♕e3 ♕d8 16 ♖ac1 ♖c8 17 ♗e1 ½-½

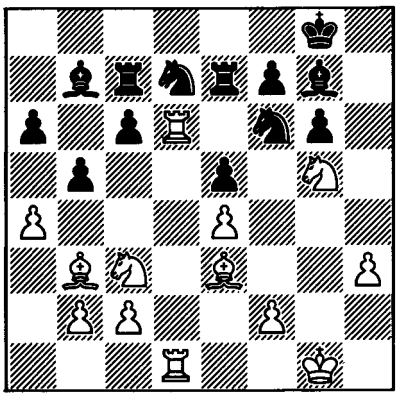
(298) Petrosian-Larsen
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 0-0 5 a3 ♗xc3 6 ♕xc3 d6 7 g3 b6 8 ♗g2 ♗b7 9 0-0 c5 10 b4 ♘c6 11 d3 ♖e8 12 b5 ♘e7 13 a4 a5 14 ♗b2 d5 15 ♕c2 ♘g6 16 ♘d2 ♖c8 17 e4 dxe4 18 dxe4 ♖c7 19 ♖fd1 ♕a8 20 f3 ♖d7 21 ♘f1 ♖ed8 22 ♘e3 ♕b8 23 ♖xd7 ♖xd7 24 ♖d1 ♕d8 25 e5 ♖xd1+ 26 ♕xd1 ♕xd1+ 27 ♘xd1 ♘d7 28 f4 ♗xg2 29 ♔xg2 f6 30 exf6 gxf6 31 ♔f3 ♔f7 32 ♘e3 h5 33 ♗a1 ♘e7 34 h3 ♘f5 35 ♘xf5 exf5 36 h4 ♘f8 37 ♗c3 ♘e6 38 ♔e3 ♘d8 39 ♔d3 ♘b7 40 ♗e1 ♘d6 41 ♗f2 ♔e6 42 ♗e1 ½-½

(299) Marić-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 e4 d6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 c6 4 ♘f3 g6 5 ♗e2 ♗g7 6 0-0 0-0 7 h3 ♘bd7 8 ♗e3 e5 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♕d6 ♖e8 11 ♗c4 ♕e7 12 ♕xe7 ♖xe7 13 a4 b6 14 ♖fd1 ♗b7 15 ♖d6 a6 16 ♖ad1 b5 17 ♗b3 h6 18 g4 ♖c8 19 g5 hxg5 20 ♘xg5 ♖c7 *(130)*

130



21 a5 ♔f8 22 ♗xf7 ♖xf7 23 ♘e6+ ♔g8 24 ♘xc7 ♗f8 25 ♘e8 ♔h7 26 ♖xd7 1-0

(300) Petrosian-Tomić
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 ♗e7 6 e3 c6 7 ♕c2 0-0 8 ♗d3 ♘bd7 9 ♘ge2 ♖e8 10 h3 ♘f8 11 0-0-0 ♘e4 12 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 13 ♗xe4 dxe4 14 g4 f5 15 gxf5 ♗xf5 16 ♘g3 ♗g6 17 h4 h6 18 ♖dg1 ♔h8 19 ♘ge2 ♗h7 20 ♘f4 ♖ad8 21 ♖g3 ♖d7 22 ♘ce2 ♕f7 23 b3 a5 24 ♖hg1 ♕f5 25 ♔b2 ♖a8 26 a3 ♖c8 27 ♕c3 ♖cc7 28 ♖3g2 ♕f6 29 ♘h5 ♕xh4 30 ♘ef4 ♘g6 31 ♖xg6 ♕xf2+ 32 ♔c1 ♗xg6 33 ♖xg6 ♖f7 34 a4 b5 35 ♖g2 ♕f1+ 36 ♔b2 bxa4 37 ♕xa5 axb3 38 ♕a8+ ♔h7 39 ♖xg7+ ♖xg7 40 ♘f6 mate

(301) Petrosian-Taimanov
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 g3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗g2 ♗e6 7 0-0 ♘b6 8 a3 ♗e7 9 b4 0-0 10 d3 a5 11 b5 ♘d4 12 ♘d2 ♕d7 13 ♗xb7 ♖ab8 14 ♗g2 ♘xb5 15 ♘xb5 ♕xb5 16 a4 ♕e8 17 ♗b2 ♗d6 18 ♗c3 ♗d7 19 ♗xa5 ♗xa4 20 ♕c1 ♗d7 21 ♘e4 ♗e6 22 ♘xd6 cxd6 23 ♕c7 ♘d7 24 ♕xd6 ♖b2 25 ♖fe1 ♕b8 26 ♗c7 ♕b3 27 ♗c6 ♘b8 28 ♗f3 ♘d7 29 ♗c6 ♘b8 30 ♗f3 ♘d7 31 ♖ec1 ♖c8 32 ♕a6 ♖e8 33 ♕a5 ♗h3 34 ♗d5 ♕b4 35 ♕xb4 ♖xb4 36 f3 h5 37 ♔f2 ♘f6 38 ♗c6 ♖e6 39 ♖a5 e4 40 dxe4 ♖b2 1-0

(302) Minić-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 ♗c4 c6 5 ♗b3 d5 6 ♘bd2 ♗g4 7 h3 ♗xf3 8 ♕xf3 e6 9 c3 ♘f6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♖e1 ½-½

1971

International Tournament
Wijk aan Zee, January 1971

1 Korchnoi 10; 2-5 Gligorić, Ivkov, Olafsson, **Petrosian** (+4 -0 =11) 9½; 6-9 Hort, Andersson, Hübner, Mecking 8½; 10 Langeweg 7; 11-13 Donner, Lengyel, Ree 6½; 14 Najdorf 5; 15 Kuijpers 4½; 16 van den Berg 2.

(303) Hübner-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 ♕c7 6 0-0 ♘f6 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 9 ♕xd4 ♗c5 10 ♕d3 d6 11 ♗f4 ♘d7 12 ♘a4 e5 13 ♗d2 b5 14 ♘c3 ♗b7 15 ♘d5 ♗xd5 16 ♕xd5 0-0 17 ♖ad1 b4 18 c3 a5 19 ♔h1 ♕a7 20 ♕d3 ♘f6 21 ♕e2 ♕a6 22 ♕f3 bxc3 23 ♗xc3 ♖ab8 24 ♖fe1 ♗b4 25 ♖d2 ♗xc3 26 ♕xc3 ♖fc8 27 ♕e3 ♕b6 28 ♕e2 ♖c6 29 ♖ed1 h6 30 b3 ♕c7 31 f3 ♖b4 32 ♗f1 a4 33 bxa4 ♖xa4 34 ♔g2 ♖a3 35 ♕f2 ♔h7 36 ♖d3 ♖c2 37 ♖1d2 ♖axa2 38 ♖xd6 ♕c3 39 ♖xc2 ♖xc2 40 ♗e2 ♕b2 41 ♔f1 ♕a3 42 ♖d3 ♕c1+ 43 ♖d1 ♕b2 44 ♕e3 g6 45 ♕d3 ♔g7 46 ♔e1 ♘h7 47 ♖d2 ♕a1+ 48 ♖d1 ♕a5+ 49 ♔f1 ♕a2 50 f4 ♕b2 51 ♕e3 ♘f6 52 fxe5 ♕xe5 53 ♕d4 ♕xe4 54 ♕xe4 ♘xe4 55 ♗d3 ♖d2 56 ♖xd2 ♘xd2+ 57 ♔e2 ♘b3 58 ♔e3 ♘c5 59 ♗c4 g5 60 ♔d4 ♘d7 61 ♗b5 ♘f6 62 ♗e2 ♔f8 63 ♔e5 ♔e7 64 ♗d1 ♘e8 65 ♗e2 ♘g7 66 ♗d1 f6+ 67 ♔d5 ♔f7 68 ♗e2 ♘f5 69 ♗h5+ ♔e7 70 ♗e2 ♘d6 71 ♗d1 ♘f7 72 ♔e4 ♘e5 73 ♔f5 ♔f7 74 ♗h5+ ♔g7 75 ♗e2 ♘c6 76 ♗d1 ♘d4+ 77 ♔e4 ♘b5 78 ♗h5 ♘d6+ 79 ♔d5 ♘f5 80 ♔e4 ♘e7 81 ♗e8 ♔g8 82 ♗h5 ♔f8 83 ♔d4 ♘f5+ 84 ♔e4 ♘g7 85 ♗e2 ♔f7 86 ♔d5 h5 87 ♗d3 ♘e6 88 ♗e2 g4 89 ♔e4 ♔g6 90 ♗f1 ♘g5+ 91 ♔f4 ♔g7 92 ♔f5 ♘f3 93 h3 ♘d2 94 ♗g2 ♘c4 95 ♔f4 ½-½

(304) Petrosian-Gligorić
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 b4 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 0-0 5 e3 c6 6 ♗e2 a5 7 b5 cxb5 8 cxb5 d6 9 ♘c3 ♘bd7 10 ♘a4 ♘b6 11 ♘xb6 ♕xb6 12 ♕a4 ♗d7 13 ♗d4 ♕c7 14 0-0 ♖fc8 15 h3 ♕d8 16 ♗b2 e5 ½-½

(305) Andersson-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘f6 5 exd5 ♕xd5 6 ♗c4 ♕c6 7 a4 ♕c7 8 0-0 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗d7 10 ♕e2 ♘c6 11 ♘2f3 a6 12 h3 ♘xd4 13 ♘xd4 ♗e7 14 b3 0-0 15 ♗b2 ♖fe8 16 ♖ad1 ♖ad8 17 ♘f3 ♗c8 18 ♘e5 ♖xd1 19 ♖xd1 ♖d8 20 ♖xd8+♕xd8 21 ♗d3 ♕c7 22 ♕f3 ♗d7 23 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 24 ♕e4 g6 25 ♕c4 ♕xc4 26 ♗xc4 ♔f8 27 ♗e2 ♘b8 28 ♗f3 ♘c6 29 ♗c3 ♔e8 30 ♔f1 ♔d8 31 ♔e2 ♔c7 32 g3 ♗c5 33 ♗g2 b6 34 f4 h5 35 g4 hxg4 36 hxg4 f5 37 gxf5 gxf5 38 ♗d2 ½-½

(306) Petrosian-Lengyel
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 e3 b6 4 ♗d3 ♗b7 5 0-0 d5 6 b3 ♗d6 7 c4 0-0 8 ♗b2 ♘bd7 9 ♘c3 a6 10 ♖c1 ♕e7 11 ♖e1 ♘e4 12 ♕c2 f5 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♘e2 c6 15 ♘g3 ♖f6 16 ♕e2 a5 17 ♘h4 ♕e6 ½-½

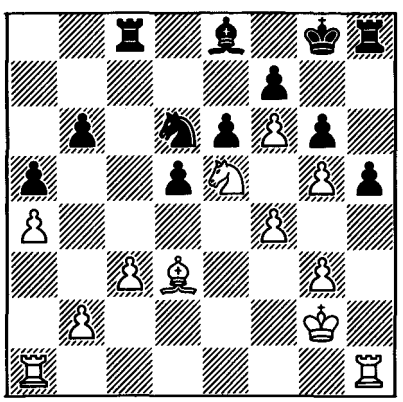
(307) Najdorf-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗e4 10 ♖d1 ♗f6 11 ♕e3 d5 12 ♗d2 ♘d7 13 ♗c3 c6 14 ♖ac1 ♕c7 15 ♘d2 ♗xg2 16 ♔xg2 ♕b7 17 ♕f3 b5 18 cxb5 cxb5 19 ♗b4 ♖fc8 20 ♘b3 h6 21 ♕d3 ½-½

(308) Petrosian-Mecking
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗g5 c5 4 e3 d5 5 c3 ♘c6 6 ♘bd2 cxd4 7 exd4 ♗e7 8 ♗d3 h6 9 ♗f4 ♘h5 10 ♗e3 ♘f6 11 ♘e5 ♘xe5 12 dxe5 ♘d7 13 ♗d4 ♘c5 14 ♗c2 a5 15 ♕g4 g6 16 0-0 ♗d7 17 ♖fe1 ♕c7 18 a4 ♘a6 19 ♕e2 ♔f8 20 ♘f3 ♔g7 21 ♗e3 ♘c5 22 ♘d4 ♖a6 23 ♗c1 ♖aa8 24 g3 b6 25 h4 h5 26 ♕f3 ♕d8 27 ♗d2 ♕e8 28 ♗g5 ♕d8 29 ♕f4 ♖c8 30 ♖e3 ♗xg5 31 hxg5 ♖a8 32 ♕f6+ ♕xf6 33 exf6+ ♔h7 34 ♔g2 ♖ae8 35 f4 ♖b8 36 ♖ee1 ♘b7 37 ♖h1 ♔g8 38 ♘f3 ♘d6 39 ♘e5 ♗e8 40 ♗d3 ♖c8 *(131)*

131



41 ♔f3 ♗c6 42 ♖h2 ♗e8 43 ♔e3 ♖c7 44 ♔d4 ♘b7 45 b4 ♘d8 46 ♖h4 ♘b7 47 ♖a2 ♘d6 48 ♖h1 ♘b7 49 b5 ♘c5 50 ♗c2 ♘d7 51 ♖a3 ♘c5 52 c4 ♘d7 53 ♖c3 ♘xe5 54 ♔xe5 dxc4 55 ♗e4 ♖c8 56 ♔d6 ♖c5 57 ♖hc1 h4 1-0

(309) Olafsson-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 e3 g6 5 d4 ♗g7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 b6 8 b3 e6 9 a4 a5 10 ♘e5 ♗b7 11 ♗a3 ♖e8 12 b4 ♘fd7 13 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 ½-½

(310) Petrosian-Hort
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 d5 ♗g7 4 ♘c3 d6 5 g3 e5 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 ♘f3 c5 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 e4 h6 10 ♗d2 ♘e8 11 ♕e2 ♔h7 12 a4 b6 13 a5 ♖b8 14 axb6 ♕xb6 15 ♖fb1 a6 16 ♗h3 ♕b7 17 ♘d1 ♘b6 18 ♗xc8 ♕xc8 19 ♘h4 ♘c7 20 ♘e3 ♕h3 21 b4 ♘d7 22 b5 axb5 23 ♖a7 ♖fc8 24 ♗a5 ♘b6 25 cxb5 ♕d7 26 ♔g2 c4 27 ♗xb6 ♖xb6 28 ♘xc4 ♖xb5 29 ♘b6 ♖xb6 30 ♖xb6 ♗f6 31 ♘f3 ♗e7 32 ♖c6 ♗d8 33 ♘d2 ♕e8 34 ♘c4 1-0

(311) Langeweg-Petrosian
Philidor's Defence

1 ♘f3 d6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♘bd7 4 e4 e5 5 g3 ♗e7 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 0-0 ♖e8 8 a4 ♗f8 9 a5 a6 10 b3 b5 11 d5 ♗b7 12 ♘e1 ♘b8 13 ♘d3 c6 14 ♘b4 c5 15 ♘d3 ♘bd7 16 ♘b1 g6 17 c4 ♗g7 18 ♗b2 ♘f8 19 ♘d2 b4 ½-½

(312) Petrosian-Kuijpers
Slav Defence

1 ♘f3 d5 2 c4 e6 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♕c2 ♗d6 7 b3 0-0 8 ♗b2 ♖e8 9 ♗e2 dxc4 10 bxc4 e5 11 0-0 exd4 12 ♘xd4 ♕c7 13 g3 ♘c5 14 ♗f3 ♗h3 15 ♖fe1 ♖ad8 16 ♖ad1 ♗g4 17 ♘ce2 ♗xf3 18 ♘xf3 ♘ce4 19 ♘c3 ♕c8 20 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 21 ♔g2 ♗f8 22 ♖xd8 ♕xd8 23 ♖d1 ♕a5 24 ♗d4 h6 25 ♖b1 b6 26 h3 ♕a6 27 ♘e5 ♘g5 28 h4 ♘e6 29 ♗a1 ♗d6 30 ♘f3 ♖d8 31 ♖d1 ♗e7 32 ♖xd8+ ♗xd8 33 ♘d4 ♘xd4 34 ♗xd4 ♗e7 35 h5 ♗f8 ½-½

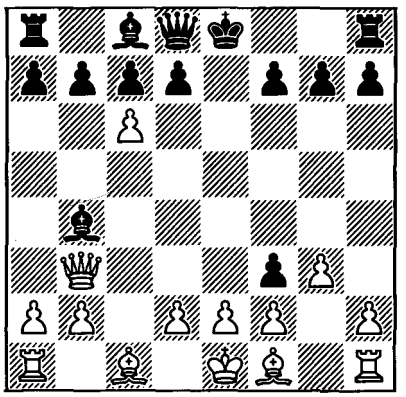
(313) Ivkov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 ♖c1 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 10 e3 ♗b7 11 ♗d3 ½-½

(314) Petrosian-Ree
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 ♘xd5 6 cxd5 e4 7 dxc6 exf3 8 ♕b3 1-0 *(132)*

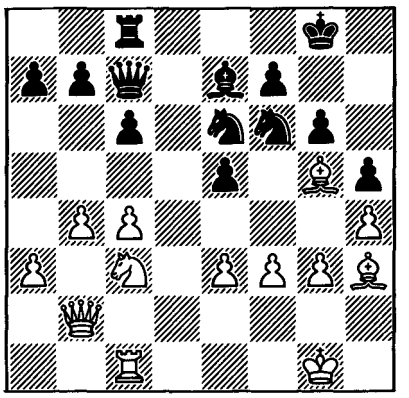
132



(315) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♘f3 c6 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 0-0 ♗g4 5 d3 ♘bd7 6 h3 ♗xf3 7 ♗xf3 e6 8 ♗g2 ♕c7 9 c4 dxc4 10 dxc4 ♗e7 11 ♘c3 0-0 12 ♕c2 ♖fd8 13 ♘a4 ♘c5 14 ♗e3 ♕a5 15 ♘c3 ♕b4 16 b3 e5 17 ♕b2 ♘e6 18 a3 ♕a5 19 b4 ♕c7 20 ♖ac1 g6 21 ♖fd1 ♖xd1+ 22 ♖xd1 h5 23 ♖c1 ♘d4 24 ♗g5 ♖c8 25 h4 ♘g4 26 f3 ♘f6 27 e3 ♘e6 28 ♗h3 *(133)*

133



28 ... ♘xg5 29 hxg5 ♘d7 30 ♘e4 ♖d8 31 ♕c2 ♘f8 32 ♖d1 ♖xd1+ 33 ♕xd1 a5 34 ♕d2 axb4 35 axb4 b6 36 ♔g2 ♕d8 37 ♕xd8 ♗xd8 38 f4 exf4 39 exf4 ♔g7 40 ♔f3 ♗e7 41 b5 cxb5 42 cxb5 ♘h7 ½-½

(316) Donner-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♕d2 c6 8 ♘f3 e5 9 0-0 ♖e8 10 d5 c5 11 ♘e1 ♕e7 12 ♘d3 ♕f8 13 f3 a6 ½-½

(317) Petrosian-van den Berg
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 e5 5 d3 ♘e7 6 ♘bd2 0-0 7 e4 c6 8 ♖e1 d4 9 a4 a5 10 ♗f1 c5 11 c3 ♘ec6 12 ♘c4 ♘a6 13 h4 h6 14 h5 g5 15 ♗e2 ♗e6 16 ♘fd2 ♘c7

17 ♗g4 dxc3 18 bxc3 ♕xd3 19 ♗xe6 ♘xe6 20 ♖e3 ♕d8 21 ♖b1 ♖b8 22 ♕e2 ♘e7 23 ♘b6 ♕c7 24 ♘dc4 ♖fd8 25 ♘xa5 ♘c8 26 ♘ac4 ♘xb6 27 ♘xb6 ♕c6 28 a5 ♘c7 29 ♗a3 ♗f8 30 ♔g2 ♗e7 31 ♘c4 f6 32 ♖b6 ♕a4 33 ♕a2 ♔g7 34 ♖f3 ♖d7 35 ♘xe5 1-0

Candidates Quarter-Final Match
Seville, May 1971

Petrosian	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	4
Hübner	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	3

At the time, the unexpected finish to the match (the German grandmaster resigned it after just one defeat) provoked much in the way of conjecture and supposition. This makes it all the more interesting to learn of the opinions expressed by Petrosian and Spassky in June of that year, i.e. 'hot on the heels'.

Tigran Petrosian relates:

"The choice of Seville for the venue did not give me any advantage, since it has long been known that Southerners do not like the sun. On our arrival we found that all the everyday conditions were good. We discussed all the questions and quickly came to an agreement. Hübner was agreeable to everything.

Although the first six games ended in draws, I had no doubts that the match would end favourably. The point was that Hübner began to grow nervous during the 5th game. He probably thought that in all the games I would be playing to win, and so on this occasion he played obviously for a draw with White.

It was only during the 6th game that Hübner began complaining about the noise. One of the telegraph agencies reported that the noise favoured Petrosian, who allegedly was able to switch off his hearing aid. I checked with Suetin and Zaitsev. They said that there was no noise.

In the 7th game there was a point when Hübner could have gone into a favourable ending. To clarify his intentions, I offered a draw. He declined it, but chose another continuation. Soon it was Hübner who began peace negotiations, but now I declined, although my opponent could have forced a draw. He again chose a different path, which in the end led to his defeat. Hübner was calm and self-possessed as he recorded the result, but a few minutes later he took the scoresheet out of his pocket, tore it up and dashed out.

Even so, no one anticipated the events which were to follow. That evening I met Hübner who, as usual, was playing table tennis. But the following morning Golombek, the chief arbiter, phoned Suetin and said that Hübner was resigning the match. Within a short time news of his departure was received. I cannot say that this pleased me, since I was already in the mood to try and exploit the match situation to increase my lead, and for me personally the victory achieved was not very convincing.

Conversing later with the match organizers, I was surprised to learn that since his arrival in Seville Hübner had been almost constantly complaining about one thing or another. Once, when playing table tennis, he had fainted, and the organizers had been constantly expecting some kind of incident. Personally, I merely observed with surprise how at times my opponent was strangely abstracted from the game, looking around from one side to the other, and so on."

Boris Spassky's opinion:

"As I expected, this match proved to be the most intriguing. Of course, I know

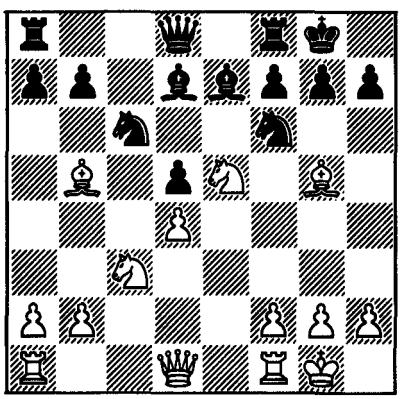
Petrosian well, since we have played each other roughly 60 times. Petrosian's most unique quality is his ability to 'hold' his opponent at a favourable distance. In earlier times this came more easily to him, but even now he has to a large degree retained this valuable skill. Incidentally, as Botvinnik aptly expressed it, Petrosian is a 'left hander'.

Sometimes a game with Petrosian seems to be developing peacefully and calmly, but . . . unexpectedly there comes a little spurt, and you realize that you stand badly. For many, such a style is not very well understandable, and it is not so enthusiastically received, but in it is displayed the extremely original and interesting chess 'essence' of the Ex-World Champion."

Game 1
(318) Hübner-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 c4 e6?! (2 ... d5) **3** ♘**c3** (3 d4 d5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 e5 ♗f5 6 ♘e2! ±) **3 ... d5 4 cxd5** (4 d4) **4 ...exd5 5 exd5 cxd5 6** ♘**f3** (6 ♗b5+ ±) **6 ...** ♘**f6 7** ♗**b5+** ♘**c6** (7 ... ♗d7 8 ♕b3 ♗xb5 9 ♕xb5+ ♕d7 10 ♘e5 ♕xb5 11 ♘xb5 ♘a6 12 d3! ±) **8 0-0** ♗**e7 9** ♘**e5** ♗**d7 10 d4 0-0 11** ♗**g5** (11 ♗f4 ±) *(134)*

134

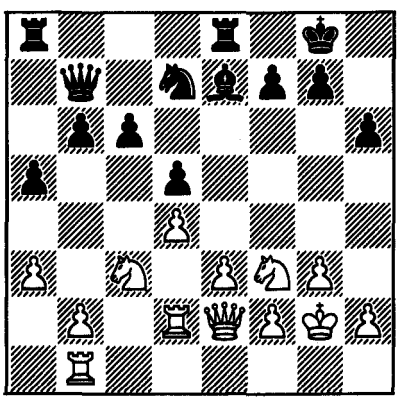


11 ... ♘**xe5!? 12 dxe5** ♘**e4 13** ♗**xe7** ♘**xc3 14** ♗**xd8** ♘**xd1 15** ♗**xd7** ♖**fxd8 16 e6!** (16 ♖fxd1 ♖xd7 17 ♖ac1 ♖e8 18 f4 f6! ∞) **16 ...** ♘**xb2 17** ♖**ab1** ♘**c4** (17 ... ♘d3? 18 ♗b5! ±) **18** ♖**xb7 fxe6 19** ♗**xe6+** ♔**h8 20** ♖**d1** (20 ♖e7! ±) **20 ...** ♘**b6** (20 ... ♖d6! 21 ♗f7 g6!; 21 ♖e7! ±) **21 f4 d4 22 f5** (22 ♗g4! ±) **22 ...** ♘**a4! 23 f6 gxf6 24** ♗**f5** ♘**c5 25** ♖**xh7+** ♔**g8 26** ♖**c7** ♖**d5 27** ♗**g6** (27 ♗g4! ±) **27 ...** ♖**f8 28** ♖**e1** ♖**g5 29** ♗**h7+** ♔**h8 30** ♖**ee7 d3 31 h4** ♖**e5! 32** ♖**xe5 fxe5 33** ♖**xc5** ♔**xh7 34** ♖**xe5** ♖**d8 35** ♖**e1** ♔**g6! = 36** ♔**f2 d2 37** ♖**d1** ♔**h5 38 g3** ♔**g4 39 a4 a5 40** ♔**e3** ♔**xg3 41 h5** ♖**h8** (42 ♔xd2 ♖xh5 43 ♔c3 ♖c5+ 44 ♔d4 ♖c8!; 44 ♔b3 ♔f4 =) ½-½ (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 2
(319) Petrosian-Hübner
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘**c3** ♗**e7 4** ♘**f3** ♘**f6 5** ♗**g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7** ♗**h4 b6 8** ♗**xf6** ♗**xf6 9 cxd5 exd5 10** ♕**d2!?** ♗**e6 11** ♖**d1** ♗**e7 12 a3** (12 ♗e2; 12 ♗b5!?) **12 ... c6 13 g3** ♕**c8 14** ♗**g2** ♗**h3 15 0-0** ♗**xg2 16** ♔**xg2** ♘**d7** (16 ... ♕a6! =) **17** ♕**e2** ♖**e8 18** ♖**d2** ♕**b7 19** ♖**b1 a5!** = *(135)*

135



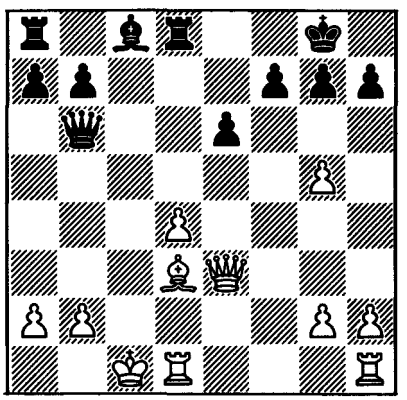
20 ♕**d1** ♗**d6 21** ♕**c2** ♖**ac8 22** ♖**bd1**

♘f6 23 ♔g1 ♕d7 24 ♔g2 ♖b8 (24 ... ♕b7! =) **25 ♖c1 ♖ec8 26 e4** (26 ♕d3) **26 ...dxe4 27 ♘xe4 ♕e6 28 ♘xd6** (28 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 29 d5 ♗c5! 30 dxc6 ♖xc6 31 b4 ♖bc8! =) **28 ... ♕xd6 29 ♕f5?** (29 ♘e5 ±) **29 ... ♖e8! = 30 ♖dc2 ♖bc8 31 ♕d3 ♘d5 32 ♖e2** (32 ♘e5?? ♖xe5 33 dxe5 ♘f4+) **32 ... ♖xe2 33 ♕xe2 ♕g6 34 ♔f1 ♕g4 35 ♘e5 ♕e6 36 ♘d3** (36 ♕a6?!) **36 ... ♕xe2+ 37 ♔xe2 f6 38 b4 axb4 39 ♘xb4 ♘e7 40 d5 c5 41 d6 ♖e8 42 dxe7 ♖xe7+ ½-½** (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 3
(320) Hübner-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗c4 ♗e7 7 ♗e3 0-0 8 f4? (8 ♗b3; 8 ♕e2) **8 ... d5 9 ♗d3** (9 exd5 exd5 10 ♗b3 ♖e8 ∓) **9 ... dxe4 10 ♘xe4 ♘d5! 11 ♕f3 ♘xe3** (11 ... ♘c6 ∓) **12 ♕xe3 ♕b6** (12 ... ♕a5+) **13 0-0-0 ♖d8** (13 ... ♘c6 14 ♕h3!; 13 ... e5? 14 fxe5 ♘c6 15 ♘c3! ♘xd4 16 ♘d5 ±) **14 c3 ♘c6 15 ♘g5** (15 ♘c2 ♕xe3+ 16 ♘xe3 ♔f8 ∓) **15 ... ♗xg5 16 fxg5 ♘xd4 17 cxd4** *(136)*

136

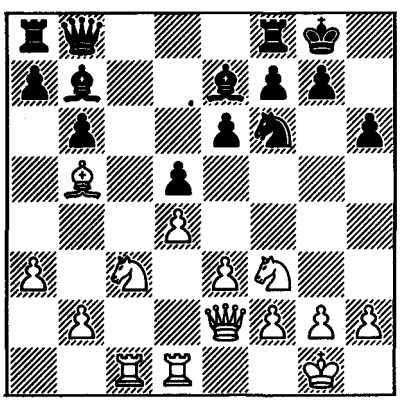


17 ... e5!? (17 ... ♗d7 18 h4 ♗b5 ∓; 17 ... g6 18 ♔b1! ♕xd4 19 ♕f3 ∞) **18 ♕xe5 ♗e6 19 ♔b1 ♖d5 20 ♕e4** (20 ♕e3 ♖a5 21 b3 ♗xb3 22 ♗xh7+ ♔xh7 23 axb3 ♖d8 ∓) **20 ... g6 21 ♗c4?! ♗f5 22 ♗xd5 ♗xe4+** (22 ... ♖d8 23 ♕xf5 gxf5 24 ♗f3 ♖xd4 25 ♖xd4 ♕xd4 26 ♗xb7 ∞) **23 ♗xe4 ♖d8 24 h4 ♖xd4 25 ♖xd4 ♕xd4 26 ♗xb7 ♔f8 27 ♗f3 ♕f2 28 ♔a1 ½-½** (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 4
(321) Petrosian-Hübner
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 ♖c1 ♗e7 (8 ... c6; 8 ... b6) **9 a3** (9 ♗e2; 9 ♗d3 c5 10 cxd5 cxd4 11 ♘xd4 exd5) **9 ... c6 10 ♗d3 ♘d7 11 0-0 b6 12 ♕e2 ♗b7 13 ♖fd1 ♕b8** (13 ... f5 14 cxd5 cxd5 15 ♗a6 ±) **14 cxd5** (14 e4 dxe4 15 ♕xe4 ♘f6 16 ♕e2 ♖e8 ±) **14 ... cxd5 15 ♗b5 ± ♘f6** (15 ... ♖d8 16 ♗xd7 ♖xd7 17 ♘e5 ♖d8 18 ♕h5! ±) *(137)*

137



16 ♗a6 (16 ♘e5 a6 17 ♗d3 ±) **16 ... ♗d6! = 17 ♖c2 ♘e8 18 ♖dc1 ♘c7 19 ♗d3 ♕d8 20 ♘e5 ♕e7 21 ♘b1** (21 f4) **21 ... ♖fc8 22 ♘d2 ♘e8 23 ♗a6 ♖xc2 24 ♖xc2 f6** (24 ... ♘f6) **½-½** (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 5
(322) Hübner-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 dxe5 5 ♘xe5 e6 (5 ... ♘bd7 6 ♘c4) **6 g3** (6 ♘c4; 6 ♗b5+ ♘bd7) **6 ... ♘bd7 7 ♘c4 ♘b6 8 ♕e2 ♘xc4 9 ♕xc4 ♗d7** (9 ... a6 10 a4 b5! ∓; 10 ♗g2 b5 11 ♕e2 ∞) **10 ♗g2 ♕c8 11 a4 ♗c6 = 12 ♗xc6+ ♕xc6 13 ♕b5 ♖c8** (13 ... ♔d7?! 14 ♕d3+ ♗d6! ∓; 14 ♕xc6+ ♔xc6 15 d3 ∞) **14 d3 ½-½** (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 6
(323) Petrosian-Hübner
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 ♕c2!? b6 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 e4!? ♘c6! (8 ... dxe4 9 ♕xe4 c6 10 ♗d3; 8 ... dxc4 9 e5 ♗e7 10 ♗xc4 ±) **9 0-0-0!? dxe4** (9 ... ♘b4?! 10 ♕b3 c5! 11 cxd5 exd5 12 dxc5 bxc5 13 ♘xd5 ♗e6! ⩲; 9 ... ♘b4?! 10 ♕d2 c5) **10 ♕xe4** (10 ♘xe4!? ♗xd4 11 ♘fg5 f5!) **10 ... ♗b7 11 h4** (11 ♘e5? ♘xd4! ∓) **11 ... ♘a5 12 ♕e3 ♕e7!** (12 ... ♗xf3? 13 ♕xf3 ♗xd4? 14 ♘b5 e5 15 ♘xd4 exd4 16 b4! ±) **13 ♘e4 ♗xe4 14 ♕xe4 c5 15 d5 ½-½** (Petrosian, Suetin)

Game 7
∫ **(324) Hübner-Petrosian**
Sicilian Defence
(notes by I.Zaitsev and Tal)*

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♘c3 e6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘f6 6 ♗e3

The Sozin Variation, employed by Hübner in the third game of the match, did not bring White any advantage.

6 ... ♗e7 7 f4 ♘c6 8 ♕f3

White's plan is to castle long and follow up with a kingside pawn storm. It was in this way, in particular, that I succeeded in winning the 10th game of my match with Larsen in 1965. Petrosian's reply is considered by modern theory to be the strongest.

8 ... e5

Because of this counter in the centre, the set-up chosen by White has lost many of its supporters in recent years.

9 ♘xc6

9 fxe5 is probably a little more accurate, and if 9 ... ♘xe5 10 ♗b5+.

9 ... bxc6
10 fxe5 dxe5

After 10 ... ♘g4 11 exd6 ♕xd6 (or 11 ... ♗xd6) the game enters a phase of tactical complications. The following is a curious variation: 11 ... ♕xd6 12 ♗f4 ♘e5 13 ♕g3 ♗f6 14 ♗c4 ♕e7 15 ♗xe5 ♗h4 16 ♗xf7+ ♔f8 17 0-0 with an unclear game.

11 ♗c4 0-0
12 h3

It is well known that Black can reply to 12 0-0 with 12 ... ♘g4 13 ♖ad1 ♘xe3! 14 ♗xf7+ (if 14 ♖xd8 then 14 ... ♗xd8 with more than sufficient compensation for the queen) 14 ... ♔h8 15 ♕xe3 ♕b6, when, despite being a pawn down, he has excellent chances in the endgame.

12 ... ♗e6
13 ♗xe6

The theoretical prescription – 13 ♗b3

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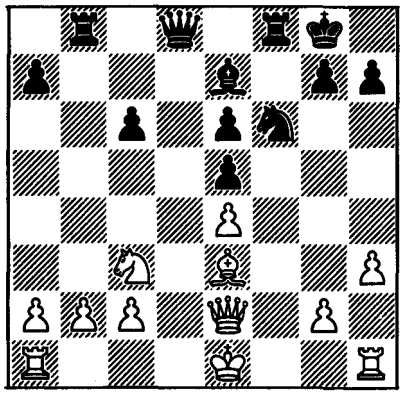
* Zaitsev's comments are in normal type and Tal's in italics.

c5 14 ♗xe6 fxe6 15 ♕e2 c4 16 ♕xc4 ♘h5 – gives Black a serious initiative for the pawn.

13 ... fxe6
14 ♕e2 ♖b8 *(138)*

138



The following piece sacrifice perhaps merits more serious consideration than it might seem at first sight: 14 ... ♘d5!? 15 exd5 ♗h4+ 16 ♔d1 cxd5.

15 0-0

The pawn defects in Black's position are sufficient compensation for White's minimal material deficit. 15 ♖b1 is well met by 15 ... ♖b4 16 ♕d3 (not 16 a3? ♘xe4!) 16 ... ♖d4 17 ♗xd4 exd4 18 ♘e2 ♗b4+ 19 ♔d1 (not 19 c3 dxc3 20 ♕xd8 c2+ 21 ♔f2 ♘e4++ 22 ♔e3 ♗c5+, and Black should win), when Black has a strong initiative for the exchange. One senses that Hübner has thoroughly prepared this entire opening variation.

15 ... ♖xb2

15 ... ♖b4 also came into consideration: if 16 a3, then 16 ... ♖xb2, and in contrast to the game the a3 pawn is under attack by the bishop. But here too White has no reason to complain after 17 ♘a4 ♖b7 18 ♕c4.

16 ♖ab1 ♖b4

As soon as the white queen appears at c4, Black will be forced onto the defensive. Petrosian temporarily prevents this: now White achieves nothing by 17 ♖xb4 ♗xb4 18 ♕c4 ♕a5.

17 ♕a6 ♕c7
18 a3 ♖xb1

There is no real point in playing 18 ... ♖bb8, since after 19 ♕c4 the a3 pawn is immune: 19 ... ♗xa3 20 ♘b5 ♕a5 21 ♘xa3 ♕xa3 22 ♗c5.

19 ♖xb1 ♖a8

Here White declined the offer of a draw. Obviously, Black can hardly be satisfied with the ending after 19 ... ♖b8 20 ♖xb8+ ♕xb8 21 ♕xc6. Petrosian is not afraid of the white rook invading the 7th rank – after 20 ♖b7 ♕c8 the white pieces are unpleasantly pinned. Black has more reason to fear the plan chosen by Hübner.

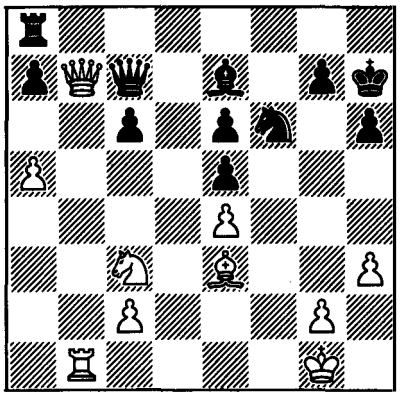
20 a4 h6

As Petrosian said after the game, he very much disliked the ending arising after 21 ♕b7 ♕xb7 22 ♖xb7 ♗d8 23 ♖xa7 (23 ♗xa7? ♖xa7) 23 ... ♖xa7 24 ♗xa7 ♗a5 25 ♘d1! ♘xe4 26 ♘e3, when, despite Black's extra pawn, it is only White who has winning chances. Hübner misses this favourable possibility.

21 a5 ♔h7!
22 ♕b7 *(139)*

In this situation the exchange of the queens certainly favours White, since his a-pawn (after capturing on a7) becomes very threatening, e.g. 22 ... ♕xb7 23 ♖xb7 ♗d8 24 a6 ♗a5 25 ♘a4 ♘xe4 26 ♖xa7. But with his last two moves Petrosian has prepared an exchange sacrifice, which sharply changes the character of the game.

139



22 ... ♕xa5
23 ♕xa8 ♕xc3

Curiously enough, in Petrosian's 1966 match with Spassky there was a very similar situation. There too the first six games ended in draws, and in the 7th Petrosian seized the initiative by an exchange sacrifice and gained a convincing victory.

24 ♕xa7 ♘xe4

At this point it was White's turn to begin peace negotiations, but since there was no risk attached, Black decided to play on.

25 ♖f1

This bears the stamp of desperation. The simplest way to draw was by 25 ♕xe7 ♕xe3+ 26 ♔h1! (26 ♔h2? ♕g3+ 27 ♔h1 ♘d2!), when although Black's position looks very imposing, the probable outcome is a draw.

25 ... ♗h4

Later Petrosian came to the conclusion that 25 ... ♘g3 26 ♖f7 ♕e1+ 27 ♔h2 ♘f5 28 ♗f2 ♕d2 would have been more vigorous, when both 29 g4 ♔g6 and 29 ♗g3 ♕d6 30 ♕a1 ♘xg3 31 ♔xg3 ♔g6 set White very difficult problems.

26 ♖f7 ♗f6 27 ♔h2 ♕xc2 28 ♕d7 ♕b3 29 ♗f2

The German grandmaster again misses the strongest continuation, 29 ♖f8, when after 29 ... ♕xe3 30 ♕e8 g5 (queen checks do not change anything) 31 ♕f7+ ♗g7 32 ♕g8+ ♔g6 33 ♕f7+ the game ends in a draw. White has slightly more difficult problems after 29 ... ♗h4, but even then, by 30 ♕f7! ♗g3+ 31 ♔h1 ♘f6 32 ♕a7! ♕b1+ 33 ♗g1 ♕g6 (suggested by Tal) Hübner could have reached a position where Black has nothing real.

29 ... ♕d5 30 ♕a7 ♕d2 31 ♕e3 ♕c2

The preceding concrete play had demanded of both players a great deal of effort and, more importantly, time, and time trouble was now approaching. 31 ... ♕d4 32 ♗g1 c5 was slightly more accurate.

32 ♗e1 c5 33 h4 c4 34 ♖c7 ♕d3 35 ♕f3

A mistake in reply. By 35 ♕h3! ♕d5 36 ♕g4 White could have maintained the balance.

35 ... ♕b1

By means of a little combination 'à la Capablanca' Petrosian achieves fresh positional gains. White cannot now play 36 ♖xc4 ♘d6 37 ♖c7 ♕xe1 38 ♕xf6 ♘e8 39 ♕xe6 ♕xh4+ 40 ♔g1 ♘xc7 41 ♕f5+ ♔g8 42 ♕c8+ ♔f7 43 ♕xc7+ ♕e7, when Black has a won queen ending.

36 ♕e3 ♘d6
37 ♕d2 ♘f5

37 ... e4! would have won, but by this point the flags on both players' clocks were almost horizontal.

38 ♖xc4 e4
39 ♕c2

An irreparable mistake: 39 ♕e2 or 39

♕b4 would still have given White real chances of a draw.

39 ... ♕xe1
40 ♖xe4 ♗e5+
White resigns

As Petrosian aptly commented, this first check to Hübner's king throughout the entire seven games also proved to be the last in the match.

Hardly had he congratulated Petrosian on his win when, in front of the numerous spectators, Hübner tore up his scoresheet in a fit of temper and rushed off the stage. Who knows, perhaps at this moment he had already taken the decision which we learned of later and which so staggered everyone.

The following morning, the chief arbiter Harry Golombek telephoned Petrosian's second, grandmaster Suetin, to say that Hübner would not be playing on and was resigning the match, pleading nervous exhaustion. We were staggered. Of course, after the psychological shock of his defeat in the seventh game, it was unlikely that the German grandmaster, who would have had Black in two of the three remaining games, could have saved the match, but this was no reason for capitulation. Going down into the hall, we met Hübner, who silently shook hands with us and continued nervously pacing up and down. Soon Golombek and the organizers appeared, and the necessary formalities were completed in literally a few minutes. Within a few hours the news was spreading round the chess world. Tigran Petrosian was the first to reach the semi-finals of the World Championship Candidates Series.

I.Zaitsev

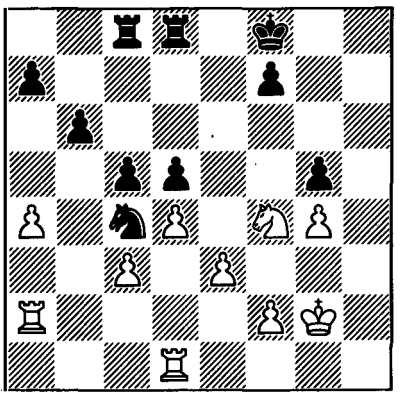
Candidates Semi-Final Match
Moscow, July 1971

Petrosian	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	1	½	5½
Korchnoi	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	½	0	½	4½

Game 1
(325) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 d5 5 cxd5 exd5 6 a3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 0-0 8 ♗g5 c5 9 e3 ♘bd7 (9 ... cxd4 10 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 11 cxd4 ♗f5 =) **10 ♗d3 ♕a5 11 ♘e2 b6 12 0-0 ♗a6 13 ♗xa6 = ♕xa6 14 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 15 ♘f4 ♕c4 16 ♕a2 ♕xa2** (16 ... cxd4; 16 ... ♕xc3?! 17 ♖fc1 ♕a5 18 dxc5) **17 ♖xa2 ♖ac8 18 a4 ♖fd8 19 ♖b1** (19 f3 cxd4 20 cxd4 ♖c3 21 ♔f2 ♖e8 22 ♖e1 g5 23 ♘h3 h6 ∓) **19 ... ♘e4 20 ♘e2 ♘d6 21 h4 ♘c4 22 ♘f4 ♔f8 23 g4 ±** (23 ♖d1) **23 ... g6 24 ♔g2** (24 g5 ♘d6) **24 ... h6 25 ♖d1 g5 26 hxg5 hxg5** *(140)*

140

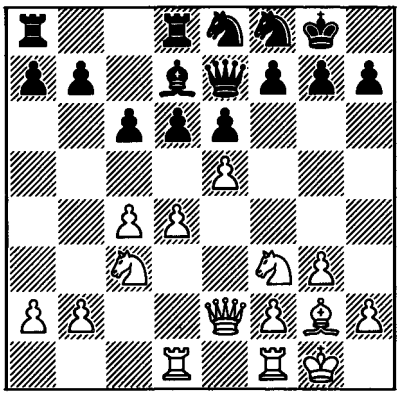


27 ♘e2 ♘d6 28 ♘g3 (28 ♖h1) **28 ... cxd4 29 ♖xd4 ♘e4 30 ♘xe4 dxe4 31 ♖xe4 ♖xc3 32 a5 ♖dc8 33 axb6 axb6 34 ♖b2 ♖3c4 35 ♖xc4 ♖xc4 ½-½** (Flohr)

Game 2
(326) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 (4 ♘bd2) **4 ... ♗xd2+** (4 ... ♕e7; 4 ... a5; 4 ... ♗e7) **5 ♕xd2 d6** (5 ... ♘e4 6 ♕c2 f5 7 g3 0-0 8 ♗g2 d6 9 0-0 ♕e7 10 ♘c3 ♘xc3 11 ♕xc3 ♘d7, Filip-Smyslov, 1970) **6 ♘c3 0-0 7 g3 ♕e7 8 ♗g2 ♖d8 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 ♖ad1** (10 e4) **10 ... ♘f8 11 e4 ♗d7 12 e5! ♘e8** (12 ... dxe5 13 ♘xe5) **13 ♕e2** (13 ♖fe1! intending d4-d5) **13 ... c6** *(141)*

141

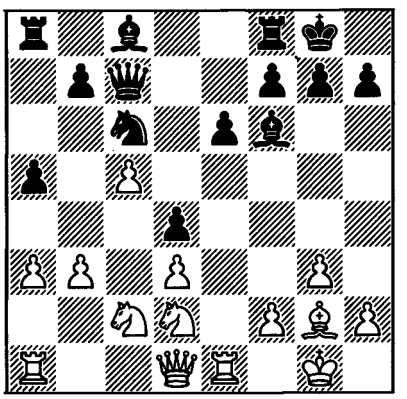


14 ♘d2 d5 15 a3 (15 f4 ♕b4! 16 ♖b1 dxc4; 15 c5 b6 16 ♘a4!) **15 ... ♘c7 16 ♖c1?! ♗e8!** (intending 17 ... dxc4; intending ... f6, ... ♗g6) **17 c5 b6! 18 b4 bxc5 19 bxc5** (19 dxc5 a5! 20 ♘b3 axb4 21 axb4 ♖db8) **19 ... ♖db8 20 ♖b1 f6! 21 f4 ♗g6 ∓ 22 ♖b3 ♘d7 23 exf6 ♕xf6 24 ♕e3 ♗c2 25 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 26 ♘a2 ♘b5!** (26 ... ♖b2? 27 ♘b4! intending 28 ♘xc6, 28 ♕c3!) **27 ♘f3 a5 28 ♖c1** (28 ♗h3) **28 ... ♗e4 29 a4! ♘c7** (29 ... ♗xf3 30 axb5! ♗xg2 31 bxc6 ±) **30 ♘d2 ♗xg2 31 ♔xg2 ♖b2 32 ♘c3 ♘xc5!?** (time trouble; 32 ... ♕f5!?; 32 ... ♕g6!?) **33 dxc5** (33 ♘d1 ♖xd2+ 34 ♕xd2 ♘b3 35 ♕b2 ♘xc1 36 ♕b8+ ♕f8 [*36 ... ♔f7*] 37 ♕xc7 ♘b3 38 ♕b6 ♕b4 ∓; 33 ♘b1 ♘e4! 34 ♖xc6 ♘e8 ∓) **33 ... d4 34 ♕d3 dxc3 35 ♖xc3 ♘d5 36 ♖b3 h6 37 ♔f3** (37 ... ♘b4 38 ♘e4 [only move] 38 ... ♕e7 39 ♕c4 ♖c2 intending 40 ... ♖xh2 ∓) **½-½** (Khasin)

Game 3
(327) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 d5 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d4 4 ♗g2 c5 5 0-0 (5 b4) **5 ... ♘c6 6 d3 ♘f6 7 e3 ♗e7 8 exd4 cxd4 9 ♖e1 ♘d7 10 ♘a3 ♘c5 11 ♘c2 a5 12 b3 0-0 13 ♗b2 ♗f6 14 ♗a3 ♕b6** (14 ... b6? 15 ♘fxd4 ±±) **15 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 16 ♘d2 ♕b6** (16 ... ♕f5?! 17 ♘e4 ♗e7 intending ... ♕g6, ... f5, ... e5) **17 a3 ♕c7 18 c5** (18 b4 ♖d8) *(142)*

142



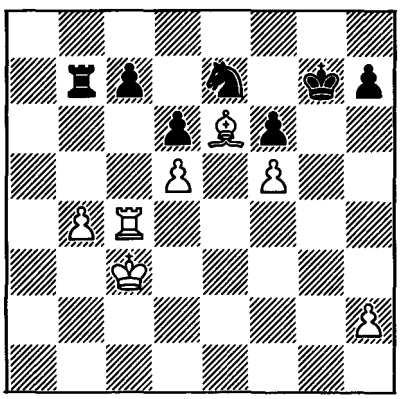
18 ... b5! 19 cxb6 (19 a4 bxa4 20 ♖xa4 ♗a6) **19 ... ♕xb6 20 ♘c4 ♕c7 21 b4 ♖b8** (21 ... axb4 22 axb4 ♖b8 23 ♕d2 ♗e7 24 ♖eb1 ±) **22 ♘xa5** = (22 ♗xc6 ♕xc6 23 ♘xa5 ♕d5 ∞) **22 ... ♘xa5 23 bxa5 ♕xa5 24 ♘b4 ♗b7 25 ♘c6 ♗xc6** (25 ... ♕a8 26 ♘xb8 ♗xg2 27 ♘d7 ±) **26 ♗xc6 ♖fc8 27 ♗e4 g6 ½-½** (Kholmov)

Game 4
(328) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 (5 e3) **5 ... ♘c6** (5 ... b6 6 ♘c3 ♗b7 7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 d6 9 a3 ♗xc3 10 ♗xc3 ♗e4 11 b4 ♘bd7 12 ♕b3 a6 ∞,

A.Zaitsev-Petrosian, 1969) **6 ♘c3 ♗xc3 7 ♗xc3 ♘e4 8 ♖c1 0-0 9 ♗g2 d6 10 d5 ♘d8 11 dxe6 fxe6** (weak point at d5) **12 0-0 ♗d7** (12 ... ♘xc3 13 ♖xc3 b6 14 ♘d4 ♗b7 15 ♗xb7 ♘xb7 16 ♖e3 e5 17 f4 ±) **13 ♗e1! ♘f6** (13 ... c5 [intending 14 ... ♗c6] 14 ♘e5! ♘f6 15 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 16 ♗c3 ♘c6 17 ♕d2 ±) **14 ♘d4 e5 15 ♘c2 ♘e6** (15 ... ♗c6 16 ♘e3 ♗xg2 17 ♔xg2 ♘e6 18 ♘d5 ♕f7) **16 ♘e3 ♕f7 17 b4 ♗c6 18 ♘d5 ± ♔h8 19 ♗c3 ♖ae8 20 f4 exf4 21 gxf4 a5 22 a3** (22 bxa5 ♘c5 ⩱) **22 ... axb4 23 axb4 b5!? 24 ♗xf6** (24 cxb5? ♗xd5 25 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 26 ♕xd5 ♘xf4 27 ♕xf7 ♖xf7 28 ♖c2 ♔g8! =) **24 ... gxf6 25 cxb5 ♗a8** (25 ... ♗xb5 ∞) **26 ♖c3** (26 ♔h1 ♖g8 27 ♗f3 intending ♕d1-d2-b2 ±) **26 ... ♖g8 27 ♖g3 ♘g7! 28 e4** (28 ♕d3 ♘h5! 29 ♖xg8+ ♖xg8 30 ♘e3 ♗xg2 31 ♘xg2 ♕g7 32 ♕h3 f5!) **28 ... ♗xd5 29 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 30 exd5 ♖b8 31 ♖c1 ♖xb5 ± 32 ♖c4 ♘f5 33 ♖xg8+ ♔xg8 34 ♔f2 ♖b7 35 ♗h3 ♘e7 36 ♗e6+ ♔g7 37 f5 ♖a7 38 ♔e3 ♖b7 39 ♔d3 ♔f8 40 ♔c3 ♔g7** *(143)*

143



41 ♖h4 ♖a7 42 ♔b3 ♖a1 43 ♖c4 ♖a7 44 b5 (44 ♖c2 ♔h6!) **44 ... ♖b7 45 ♔a4 ♖a7+ 46 ♔b4 ♔h6 47 h3 ♖b7 48 ♖h4+ ♔g5 49 ♖g4+** (49 ♖xh7 ♘xd5+! 50 ♗xd5 c5+) **49 ... ♔h6 50 ♔c4 ♖a7 51 ♖h4+ ♔g7!** (51 ... ♔g5? 52 ♖xh7 ♘xf5 53 b6! ±±) **52 ♔b3 ♖a1 53 ♖c4 ♖b1+ 54 ♔a3 ♖a1+ 55 ♔b4 ♖b1+ 56 ♔a3 ♖a1+ 57 ♔b3 ♖b1+ 58 ♔c2 ♖xb5 59 ♖xc7 ♔f8 60 ♔d3 ♖b3+ 61 ♔d4** (61 ♔c4 ♖f3 62 ♖d7 ♘xf5 63 ♖f7+ ♔e8 64 ♖xh7 ♖f4+! =; 63 ♗xf5 ♖xf5 64 ♖xd6 ♔e7 65 ♖a6 ♖f1 =) **61 ... ♖b4+ 62 ♖c4 ♖xc4+ 63 ♔xc4 ♔g7 64 ♔b5 ♔h6 65 ♔b6 ½-½** (Kholmov)

Game 5
(329) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 c5 5 e3 ♘c6 6 a3 ♘e4 7 ♕c2 ♘xc3 8 ♕xc3 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 10 ♕xd4 dxc4 11 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 12 ♗xc4 ♗d7 13 ♗d2 ♖c8 14 ♗d3 ♗d6 15 ♗c3 f6 ½-½

Game 6
(330) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 (intending 6 ... 0-0 7 ♕c2) **6 ... ♘e4 7 ♗d2** (7 ... 0-0 8 0-0 ♘xd2 9 ♕xd2 d6 10 e4 ♘d7 11 ♖fe1 ♗f6 12 ♖ad1 ±) **7 ... d6 8 d5 ♘xd2** (8 ... exd5? 9 cxd5 ♘xc3 10 ♗xc3 with initiative and play on the c-file) **9 ♘xd2 0-0 10 0-0 ♔h8** (10 ... e5 11 f4!; 10 ... ♕c8 11 ♗h3!) **11 ♕c2 ♘d7 12 b4 ♗f6 13 ♘de4 ♗xc3 14 ♘xc3 ♕e7 15 ♖fd1 ♘f6 16 a3 e5 17 ♖ab1** (17 e4 intending 18 ♘a4, c4-c5) **17 ... ♘e8 18 e3** (18 ♘a4 f5 19 c5 f4 [... e4] ∞) **18 ... g6 19 ♘e2 f5 20 c5** (intending c5-c6) **20 ... ♖d8 21 a4 ♘f6** (22 c6 ♗c8 23 a5 g5 with initiative) **22 ♕c4** (intending 23 a5) **22 ... a6 23 ♖bc1 ♖f7 24 cxb6 cxb6 25 ♕d3 ♔g8 ∓** (better 25 ... ♖ff8 intending ... ♖c8) **26 ♖c2 ♕e8 27 ♕b3 ♖c8 28 ♖xc8 ♕xc8 29 ♖c1 ♕a8** (weak point at d5) **30 h3 ♔g7** (30 ... ♘xd5 31 ♖d1 e4 32 ♘f4 ♘xf4 33

gxf4 d5 34 ♕c3 ⩱) **31 f4** (time trouble) **31 ... ♗xd5?** (time trouble; 31 ... ♖d7) **32 ♗xd5 ♕xd5** (better 32 ... ♘xd5 33 ♖d1 ♘f6 34 ♖xd6 ♕f3! ∓) **33 ♕xd5 ♘xd5 34 ♖c6 ♖d7 35 a5!** (35 ♔f2? ♘xb4 36 ♖xb6 a5 ∓) **35 ... bxa5 36 bxa5 ♘xe3 37 ♖xa6 ♘c4 38 ♖a8 ♖b7 39 a6 ♖b1+ 40 ♔f2 ♖a1 41 a7** (intending 42 ♖c8 ♘b6 43 ♖b8) **41 ... ♘d2 42 ♘c3!** (42 ... exf4 43 gxf4 ♘e4+ 44 ♘xe4 fxe4 45 ♔e3 d5 46 ♖d8 ♖xa7 47 ♖xd5) ½-½ (Kholmov, Gufeld)

Game 7
(331) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Grünfeld Defence

1 g3 d5 2 ♘f3 c5 3 ♗g2 g6 4 0-0 ♗g7 5 d4 cxd4 6 ♘xd4 ♘f6 7 c4 0-0 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘c3 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 ♘c6 11 ♘xc6 bxc6 12 ♗xc6 ♗h3 13 ♗g2 ♗xg2 ½-½

Game 8
(332) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 b6 4 g3 ♗a6 5 b3 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 d5 8 ♘e5 0-0 9 0-0 c6 10 ♗c3 ♘fd7 11 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 12 ♘d2 ♖c8 13 ♖e1 f5 14 a4 ♘f6 15 e3 ♖c7 16 a5 ½-½

Game 9
(333) Petrosian-Korchnoi
English Opening
(notes by Kotov)

In order to understand all that happened in this game, which decided the outcome of an important and difficult encounter, it is essential, in my opinion, to say something about the overall tactics of the two opponents.

Petrosian is a player with a long-established and distinctive style of play, which is hard to define in one or even a few words. One thing is clear: he does not aim to attack, and is not eager to provoke complications. In any position, even the most unfamiliar and unexplored, he decides with some sort of innate feeling where each piece should be placed, what to exchange, and what to leave on the board. His set-ups are always harmonious, and most often are aimed at solving defensive problems, but at any moment this 'defensiveness' may be transformed into a dangerous counterattack. And then, with enormous skill and mastery, Petrosian plays any position, even the sharpest and most complex.

His opponent is also regarded as a defensive and counterattacking player, but there is a great difference between him and Petrosian. Korchnoi never misses an opportunity to induce a storm, to provoke complications, and is always ready resourcefully and energetically to launch an attack.

And here, in this important match, the two opponents had played eight successive draws, in the majority of them, practically without a struggle. But while Petrosian had not changed his style, Korchnoi had clearly not been playing his usual game. And chess did not forgive this . . .

1 c4 e5 2 g3 c6 3 b3 d5 4 ♗b2 d4 5 ♘f3 ♗d6 6 d3 c5 7 ♗g2 ♘e7

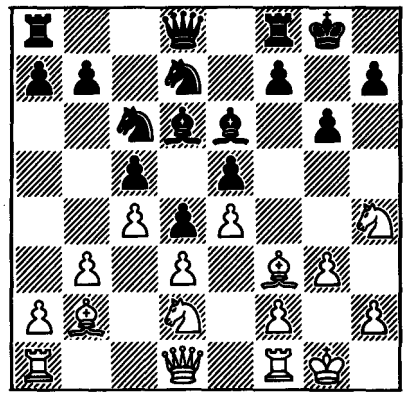
What can be said about the opening? Petrosian, with White, has played it as if he were Black. This was most probably provocation tactics on the part of the Ex-World Champion, who is as though saying to his opponent: "Come on, come on, attack me".

8 0-0 ♘ec6 9 e3 0-0 10 ♘bd2 ♗e6 11 e4

Why did Petrosian not play 9 e4, but 'divide' this advance into two parts? I gained the distinct impression that he avoided the immediate e2-e4, fearing that Black would take en passant. At any rate, with the knight at d2 this capture would have made sense: 10 ... dxe3 11 fxe3 f5 would have given Black good chances in the struggle for the central squares. But now the centre is blocked, and the play becomes sluggish.

11 ... ♘d7 12 ♘h4 g6 13 ♗f3 *(144)*

144



13 ... ♗c7

It is curious to follow how, starting from here, with inexplicable stubbornness Korchnoi makes several quite unnecessary moves, one after another. There is absolutely nothing for the bishop to do at c7. The position is simply 'crying out' for ... ♕e7 and ... ♖ae8, preparing ... f5.

14 a3 ♗a5

Again, a move which is not only unnecessary, but even very harmful. What is there for the bishop to do at a5? Go to c3? – absurd. Pin the d2 knight in the event of ♖fe1? – it is not such a terrible pin. Prevent b3-b4? One does not have to possess outstanding tactical ability to realize that at a5 the bishop merely helps this move, since it allows b3-b4 followed by an immediate ♘b3, as occurs, of course, in the game.

Even after the loss of a tempo, Black should still have played 14 ... ♕e7.

15 ♗c1 ♕e7
16 ♗g4

Once again the same: "Come on, come at me!"

16 ... f5 17 exf5 gxf5 18 ♗f3 ♘f6 19 ♗g2 ♖ad8

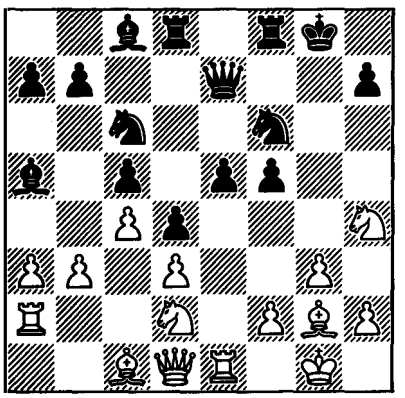
While Korchnoi's preceding mistakes spoiled Black's position, this move almost ruins it. Why the rook was needed at d8 we simply could not understand, when analyzing the game in the press centre. The obvious 19 ... ♖ae8 would still have left Black with an excellent position.

20 ♖a2!

A brilliant, purely Petrosian-like move. With his sixth chess sense the Ex-World Champion decides that from here the rook will be switched at the necessary moment to the most important part of the battlefield. That is in fact what happens.

20 ... ♗c8
21 ♖e1 *(145)*

145



21 ... ♔h8

Both an unnecessary withdrawal and simply an oversight, since a grandmaster should be bound to anticipate an operation such as the one which Petrosian now carries out. Again 21 ... ♖de8 was logical.

22 b4!

The tiger, which has long been lying in ambush, leaps out and begins to tear at its victim.

22 ... cxb4

Would it not have been better to retreat the bishop to c7 immediately? At any rate, it would not have been so easy for White to obtain a winning position, such as he quickly achieves after the capture of the pawn.

23 ♘b3 ♗b6 24 ♗xc6! bxc6 25 axb4

It is not difficult to appreciate that the position is now extremely difficult for Black; this makes all the more surprising the ease with which Korchnoi has spoiled in a few moves a game which was going so well for him. And then the thought occurs: perhaps he lost the art of conducting a complicated struggle in that series of colourless draws, for which he aimed in most of the games of the match? If it is also remembered that in the 10th game too, where there was again a complicated position, he played extremely unsurely, then the correctness of the above supposition becomes virtually obvious.

25 ... a6

Had Black played 25 ... ♖g8, the win would have been achieved by the same method of a mass attack on the e5 pawn by 26 ♘f3 or 26 ♗f4.

26 ♘f3 e4 27 c5 ♗c7 28 ♘fxd4 ♕f7 29 ♖d2!

Here it is: the long-foreseen decisive concentration of all White's forces on the most important part of the battlefield! The capture on c6 is threatened.

29 ... ♗d7
30 ♗b2

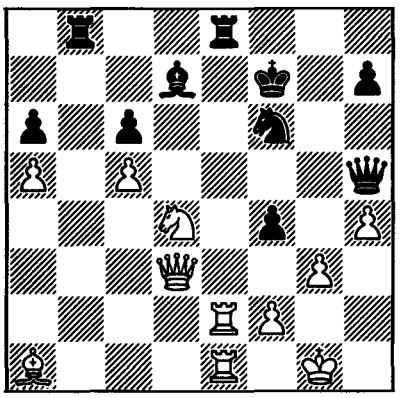
And now the harm done by moving the king to h8 is emphasized.

30 ... ♔g8 31 ♘a5 ♗xa5 32 bxa5 ♖b8 33 ♗a1 ♖fe8 34 ♖de2 ♕h5 35 ♕d2!

A move with many threats: the queen intends in some cases to go to f4, but is also ready to restrict itself to 'modest' mating threats by occupying c3.

35 ... ♔f7 36 h4 exd3 37 ♕xd3 f4 *(146)*

146



38 ♘f3!

An excellent move, even though made in time trouble. For the moment the black bishop is hanging (after 39 ♗xf6), but White also has a dozen other threats.

38 ... ♖xe2 39 ♕xe2 ♕xc5 40 ♘e5+! ♔f8 41 ♘xd7+ ♘xd7

Here Petrosian was going to seal 42 ♕e6 with inevitable mate, but Korchnoi forestalled him by **resigning**.

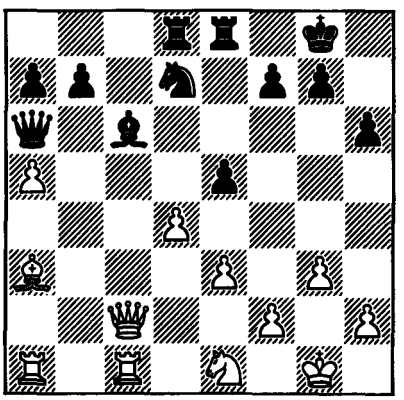
This game shows very strikingly the mastery of Tigran Petrosian at playing 'off the ball' (to put it in footballing

language). He once again demonstrated his ability to prepare and carry out a counterattack, employing a wide variety of weapons from his tactical chess arsenal.

Game 10
(334) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 dxc4 5 ♕a4+ ♗d7 6 ♕xc4 ♗c6 7 ♘f3 ♗d5 8 ♕a4+ (8 ♕d3 ♗e4 9 ♕d1) **8 ... ♕d7 9 ♕d1 ♘c6 10 ♘c3** (better 10 0-0 ♗xf3 11 ♗xf3 ♘xd4 12 ♗xb7 ♖d8 13 e3 c6 14 ♗a6 ♘b5 15 ♕xd7+ intending 16 a4) **10 ... ♗b4 11 0-0 ♗xc3** (weak points at d5, e4, c4) **12 bxc3 0-0 13 ♖e1** (13 ♗g5) **13 ... h6 14 e3 ♖fe8** (14 ... ♖fd8) **15 ♗b2?** (15 c4 ♗xc4 16 ♕c2 with initiative; 15 ♗h3 ♕d6 16 ♘d2 e5 17 c4; 15 ♗h3 b5 16 ♘d2 ♘a5 17 e4 ♗b7 ∞) **15 ... ♘a5! 16 ♗f1** (16 ♘e5 ♕b5) **16 ... ♘c4 17 ♗xc4** ∓ **♗xc4 18 ♘e5 ♕b5 19 ♕c2** (19 ♘xc4 ♕xc4 20 ♕b3) **19 ... ♖ad8 20 a4 ♕a6 21 a5** (21 e4 c5 22 ♖ad1) **21 ... c5 22 ♗a3 cxd4 23 cxd4 ♗b5** (23 ... ♗d5 24 e4 ♖c8) **24 ♖ec1** (better 24 ♕b2) **24 ... ♘d7 25 ♘f3 ♗c6 26 ♘e1 e5** *(147)*

147



27 ♗b2 exd4 28 ♗xd4 ♘e5 29 ♕c3 ∓ (29 ♕f5) **29 ... ♕e2!** (30 ♗xe5 ♖d2) **30 ♕b2 ♕h5** (30 ... ♘f3+ 31 ♘xf3 ♕xf3 32 ♖xc6 bxc6 33 ♗xg7 ♖xe3) **31 h4 a6 32 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 33 ♕b4 ♖dd5** (33 ... ♕f5 intending ... ♕h3) **34 ♘g2 ♖b5 35 ♕f4 ♕f3** (35 ... ♖f5!) **36 ♕xf3 ♗xf3 37 ♖c8+ ♔h7 38 ♘e1 ♗c6 39 ♘d3 ♖xa5 40 ♖c1 ♖e7** ∓∓ ½-½ (Polugayevsky)

Candidates Final Match
Buenos Aires, November 1971

Petrosian	0	1	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	2½
Fischer	1	0	½	½	½	1	1	1	1	6½

The final Candidates Match between Petrosian and Fischer took place in distant Buenos Aires. Viktor Baturinsky, the leader of the Soviet delegation, described his Argentinian impressions on the pages of a then popular magazine. Here are a few extracts from his 'Argentinian diary':

"And so, the draw has been made, and Buenos Aires, the capital of distant Argentina, has been chosen as the venue for the Final Candidates Match. The lengthy exchange of telegrams and telephone calls between Moscow, New York, The Hague (the residence of FIDE) and Vancouver (the FIDE Congress) has ended, and, perhaps, has ended not in our favour. Now, following Taimanov and Larsen, Tigran Petrosian too has to cross the Atlantic Ocean for a meeting with Bobby Fischer.

On an overcast autumn morning our small chess delegation sets off on a lengthy flight: Moscow-Paris-Nice-Dakar-Buenos Aires. No more and no less than 14,000 kilometres.

There is an unanticipated landing in

Montevideo: Buenos Aires airport is temporarily closed. Several tiring hours of waiting, a thirty-minute flight, and we arrive. The aircraft taxis up to the imposing airport building, and from the windows we can already see people on the flat roof with large banners, welcoming the Ex-World Champion in Spanish, Russian and Armenian. Ahead of everyone at the gangway is, of course, Miguel Najdorf, cheerful, effusive and noisy as ever. There are crowds of journalists and photographers, and a direct television broadcast. The first handshakes, the first interviews. A warm meeting with workers from the Soviet embassy. Also present is the General Secretary of the Argentine Chess Federation, Jorge Sanguinetti; friendly and cordial, he has done much for the organization of the match. Finally we set off for the city.

Everywhere the attitude to Soviet chess players is cordial and friendly. Chess is very popular in Argentina, as can be seen from the interest in the match, the thousands of attentive spectators at every game, and the great number of chess books in the shops. Among them are game collections of Botvinnik, Keres, Petrosian, Tal and Bronstein, as well as translations of works by Soviet theorists – Sokolsky, Boleslavsky and others . . .

28 September – a press conference in the Ministry of Social Security. Some 200 journalists are present, as well as Soviet, American (Byrne and Kashdan) and Argentine grandmasters. Only Petrosian and Fischer answer questions. The American sits with the bored expression of a person who is wasting time in vain. The impression is that even now he is continuing to ponder over some variation or other. "Bobby", a voice calls out, "is it true that you cry after a defeat?" Bobby angrily brushes it aside. "Come on, Bobby" they insist, "everyone knows that you used to cry". "Well, I may cry", replies Fischer, "but after a defeat the Russians fall ill".

It seems to me that this curious exchange, which was reported in the press, to some extent influenced Petrosian's decision not to claim a postponement after the 6th game. However, this is an assumption on my part.

29th September – the Opening Ceremony. That day in Argentina there is a general strike, and perhaps for this reason there are not many spectators present – only 200-300. The start is set for 8 o'clock in the evening. Fischer is late. Journalists take the opportunity to crowd round Petrosian. "Do you think that Fischer's lateness is a battle of nerves?" "No", comes the quick reply, "it is a question of upbringing". Soon Fischer arrives and everyone takes their seats.

The drawing of lots is a two-stage affair. Schmid invites Petrosian (as the older of the two players) to chose one of two envelopes. Petrosian picks the one with his name inside. Fischer is handed one white pawn and one black. He is markedly nervous, and fiddles about with them for a long time behind the table. He asks for some smaller pawns, since these supposedly will not fit in his hands. There are no other pawns. Finally Fischer hides his hands with the pawns behind his back. Petrosian quickly points at the left hand, which contains the black pawn. Fischer is happy, he smiles . . .

The sympathies of Argentine chess fans, and of the many people who are distant from chess but are displaying a lively interest in the match, are, naturally, divided. The sensational victories gained by Fischer in recent times, his youth, his fanatical devotion to chess and even some of his quirks make Fischer a highly popular figure.

But Petrosian too has many supporters in Argentina, I would think, not less than Fischer. There is an explanation for this. In Argentina there are many emigrants from Eastern Europe, including about 600,000 Armenians. They were born in various countries, many of them have never been to Armenia, and yet many, irrespective of their political and religious convictions, regard the Soviet Union as their real fatherland, take a lively interest in its life and achievements, and love and respect its outstanding representatives in science, culture and art. These feelings are also fully manifested with regard to Tigran Petrosian.

But this explains far from completely the large number of people whose sympathies lie with the Soviet grandmaster. Here, among other things, one could mention Tigran's cordial, sociable nature, in contrast to Fischer, who is reserved, solitude-seeking, capable at times of not answering a greeting, not shaking hands, refusing autographs – not deliberately, with the aim of offending someone, but as a result of some kind of constant inner abstractedness. Another question, and one best answered by psychologists, is this: to what extent will this difference in character influence the intellectual struggle at the chess board?

When Petrosian resigned the first game, the spectators stood up, and there was loud and prolonged applause. At this unpleasant moment we stood up together with the entire hall, experiencing bitterness and disappointment, on account not only of the defeat, but also the 'wasted' excellent opening innovation, and the missed drawing chances in the endgame. But when, five days later, Fischer, pale and soaked in sweat, on the 32nd move stopped the clocks and extended his hand to Tigran, the ovation which burst out in the hall greatly exceeded in both strength and duration the one after the first game.

But those who followed the match from afar, and those who were direct witnesses, gained the impression that in it there were two Fischers and two Petrosians, and that the boundary of this transformation was the sixth game. Indeed, as has been pointed out several times, in the first five games, despite the level score, the Soviet grandmaster had an obvious advantage, whereas in the last four the American grandmaster enjoyed a clear superiority, as coolly and with mechanical consistency he began winning point after point. In the first five games there was not the Fischer – the hero of Vancouver and Denver, and in the last four there was not the usual Petrosian – the subtle positional player, sensing and suppressing danger from afar, steadfast and resourceful in defence.

It would seem that it was not the sixth game but the third which had the most psychological and practical significance for the course of the match. After withstanding White's prolonged onslaught on his weakened kingside, Petrosian obtained a heavy-piece ending with good winning chances, but then, fatigued by the tense struggle, he overlooked a three-fold repetition of the position.

He overlooked it, and did not deliberately agree to a draw, as some supposed. When Fischer called the arbiter and said to him in English that he was demanding that the game be declared a draw after 34 ♕e2, at first Petrosian did not even understand what was going on, and it was only when Schmid went off behind the stage to check the position on a spare set that Petrosian began studying his scoresheet. Whereas Fischer jumped up and followed the arbiter, so as to make sure of the draw as quickly as possible. Petrosian was distressed by

this result no less than by his loss in the first game. However strong Fischer may be now, he still reacts badly to a defeat, and it is hard to say whether or not a second successive defeat would have influenced the entire course and outcome of the match . . ."

* * *

One of those most interested in the outcome of the Petrosian-Fischer match was undoubtedly Boris Spassky, since he had to face the winner of this, the final event in the Candidates cycle. Spassky appeared twice on Central TV, sharing his impressions of the play with millions of chess fans.

Here is a shortened transcript of his second talk, made after the conclusion of the match:

"If you recall, in my first commentary I was optimistic to start with, but less so later on. After the first five games I already thought it was dangerous for Petrosian that he was frequently getting into time trouble. In chess this normally plays a very important role.

I will briefly recall what I said in my first talk. I said that after Petrosian had 'caught' Fischer in the first game in a prepared variation, he could have hoped for a win. But this did not happen. Moreover, Petrosian lost this game. I thought then, and still think, that this must have had a most unfavourable effect on Petrosian.

But in the second game, as it seems to me, the unanticipated happened. Petrosian won in brilliant style. The impression was that Petrosian was completely unrestrained.

This was Fischer's first defeat in all his Candidates matches. It was quite clear that Petrosian had gained an enormous moral advantage, which – this is my deep conviction – he should have definitely consolidated and developed.

And indeed, the match developed such that in the third game Petrosian with Black exerted very strong pressure on Fischer's position. As is known, the game ended rather unexpectedly – Petrosian allowed a three-fold repetition of the position. I personally do not know whether this was an oversight on Petrosian's part, or whether he considered it not especially advantageous to play on. A report has since appeared in the press that this was a result of a mistake by Petrosian. In any event this was a bonus for Fischer, who succeeded in avoiding defeat.

With regard to the fourth game, I will allow myself to criticize Petrosian slightly for the fact that, with White, he essentially avoided a struggle. I think that, if one of the contestants in a match has a moral advantage, it sometimes makes sense for him to take risks, and play for a win, when even in the event of failure the retention of his fighting spirit enables him to compensate for a defeat, and for his nervous exertion.

In the fifth game Petrosian outplayed Fischer in a quiet manoeuvring struggle. In the fifth hour of play, when Petrosian should have been taking energetic measures, in order to reap the fruits of his strategy, he did not manage to do this, perhaps on account of nervous fatigue. It was then that I said that up till then Fischer had not been in the match, and suggested that it was not so much that Fischer could win the match, as that Petrosian could lose it. True, this was not said so directly and openly.

Nevertheless, what occurred was unanticipated by many fans, including myself. If after the fifth game someone had said that there were only four games left, and

that the match would end in a brilliant victory for Fischer, I think that a very small percentage of fans would have believed this.

And yet this is what happened. The last few games contrast strongly with the first five. One gains the impression that Petrosian somehow lowered his fighting potential too sharply, and in the last few games avoided a real struggle. I think that in short matches – and in my chess career I have already played six short matches – it is necessary, definitely necessary, to fight to the last, even if one sometimes feels physically unwell . . . "

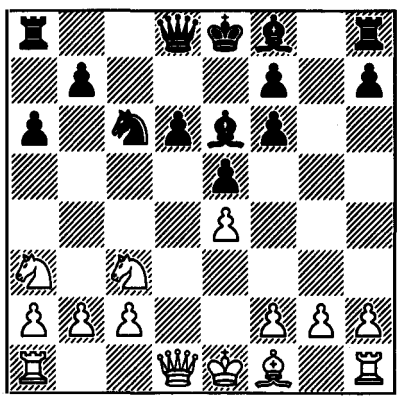
Game 1

(335) Fischer-Petrosian

Sicilian Defence

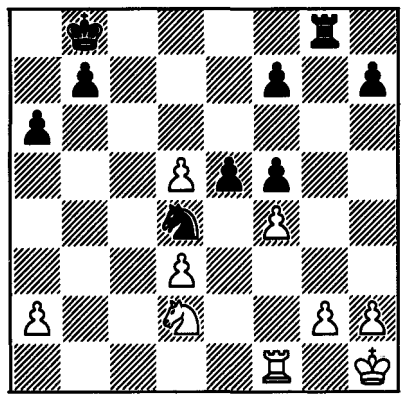
1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘c6 5 ♘b5 d6 6 ♗f4 e5 7 ♗e3 ♘f6 8 ♗g5 ♗e6 9 ♘1c3 a6 10 ♗xf6 gxf6 11 ♘a3 *(148)*

148



11 ... d5 12 exd5 ♗xa3 13 bxa3 ♕a5 14 ♕d2 0-0-0 15 ♗c4 ♖hg8 16 ♖d1 ♗f5 17 ♗d3 ♗xd3 18 ♕xd3 ♘d4 19 0-0 ♔b8 20 ♔h1 ♕xa3 21 f4 ♖c8 22 ♘e4 ♕xd3 23 cxd3 ♖c2 24 ♖d2 ♖xd2 25 ♘xd2 f5 *(149)*

149



26 fxe5 ♖e8 27 ♖e1 ♘c2 28 ♖e2 ♘d4 29 ♖e3 ♘c2 30 ♖h3 ♖xe5 31 ♘f3 ♖xd5 32 ♖xh7 ♖xd3 33 h4 ♘e3 34 ♖xf7 ♖d1+ 35 ♔h2 ♖a1 36 h5 f4 37 ♖xf4 ♖xa2 38 ♖e4 ♘xg2 39 ♔g3 ♖a5 40 ♘e5 1-0

Game 2

(336) Petrosian-Fischer

Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♗f4

In recent times the main variation of the defence – 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 – has been extensively tested, and the analysis of it has reached the depths of the endgame.

4	**...**	**♗g7**
5	**e3**	**c5!?**

The books recommend 5 ... 0-0!.

6	**dxc5**	**♕a5**
7	**♖c1**	**♘e4!**

The strongest move. Black's attack on c3 looks dangerous. But it turns out that 'the devil is not so black as he is painted', as Petrosian convincingly demonstrates. (Kholmov)

8	**cxd5!**	**♘xc3**
9	**♕d2**	

Recommended by Boleslavsky.

9 ... ♕xa2

On 9 ... ♕xc5 White retains the advantage by 10 ♘e2. The variation 9 ... 0-0 10 ♘e2 ♘xe2 11 ♕xa5 ♘xc1 12 ♕d2 ♘xa2 13 ♗c4 is also unsatisfactory for Black. (Petrosian, Suetin)

10 bxc3

10 ♖xc3 0-0! would have led to a complicated game with roughly equal chances. (Petrosian, Suetin)

10 ... ♕a5

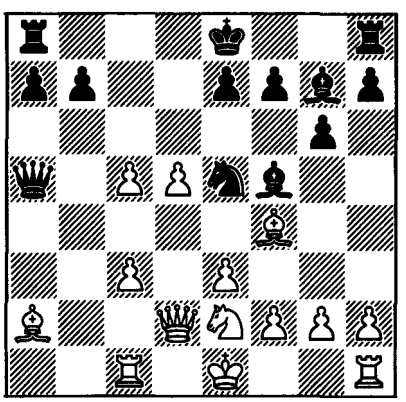
After 10 ... ♕xd2+ 11 ♔xd2 ♘d7 12 ♗b5 a6 13 ♗xd7+ ♗xd7 14 e4 ♖c8 15 ♗e3 Black might not have managed to regain his pawn. (Kholmov)

11 ♗c4 ♘d7
12 ♘e2 ♘e5

After 12 ... ♕xc5 13 ♗a2 0-0 14 0-0 b5 15 c4! b4 16 e4 a5 17 ♗e3 ♕c7 18 c5 the impression is that White 'gets in' first. 14 ... ♘f6, preventing e3-e4, is possibly better for Black, but even then 15 ♗e5 b6 (*15 ... ♘e4 16 ♕d4!* with advantage to White) 16 ♗d4 gives White a good game. The manoeuvre conceived by Black also fails to solve his problems – he falls behind in development. (Kholmov)

13 ♗a2 ♗f5? *(150)*

150



13 ... ♕xc5 would have given approximate equality. (Petrosian, Suetin)

14 ♗xe5!

Eliminating the important knight, on which Black was pinning such great hopes! Black's manoeuvre would have been justified in the event of 14 0-0? ♘d3 15 ♖a1 ♘xf4 16 ♘xf4 ♕xc5 or 14 ♗b1? ♘c4 15 ♕a2 ♕xc5 16 ♗xf5 gxf5 with a good game. (Kholmov)

14 ... ♗xe5
15 ♘d4! ♕xc5

Retreating the bishop with 13 ... ♗d7 would have allowed White a great advantage after 14 c6 bxc6 15 dxc6 ♗c8 16 f4. (Petrosian, Suetin)

16 ♘xf5 gxf5
17 0-0 ♕a5

In his book *How to beat Bobby Fischer*, E.Mednis considers this to be the decisive mistake. It would have been logical to play 17 ... f4, and after 18 exf4 ♗d6 to castle long. White would have retained the advantage, of course, but the win would have been a long way off.

18 ♕c2! f4

After 18 ... ♗f6 19 ♗b3 ♖c8 20 c4 e6 21 c5 or 18 ... ♖c8 19 ♕xf5 ♕c7 20 f4 ♗xc3 21 d6! exd6 22 ♗xf7+ White would have retained a great advantage. (Teschner)

19 c4! fxe3

Black could have prevented the further advance of the pawn by 19 ... b6, but then after 20 exf4 ♗xf4 21 ♖ce1 ♗d6 22 ♗b1 with the threat of 23 ♕b2, with material equal White would have retained a splendid attacking position. (Kholmov)

20 c5 ♕d2

A reasonable chance. It is possible that

the planned switching of the queen to the kingside is the best solution. (Kholmov)

21 ♕a4+ ♔f8

On 21 ... ♔d8 too there would have followed 22 ♖cd1, when after both 22 ... exf2+ 23 ♖xf2 ♗xh2+ 24 ♔f1 ♕h6 25 d6 exd6 26 ♖xf7 and 22 ... e2 23 ♖xd2 ♗xh2+ 24 ♔xh2 exf1=♕ 25 d6 White wins.

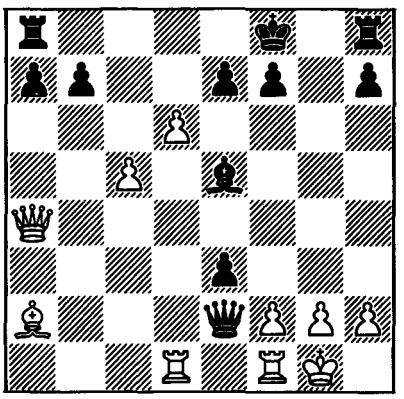
22 ♖cd1

The sharpest continuation. White is prepared to sacrifice the exchange to maintain his attack. However, the positional 22 ♖c2 may have been even more effective. (Mednis)

22 ... ♕e2
23 d6?! *(151)*

The chess world was delighted with this move, but later Petrosian himself recommended 23 g3!. (Mednis)

151



23 ... ♕h5? *(151)*

An interesting defensive idea was pointed out by the Moscow candidate master I. Loktev, consisting in not allowing White to open the f-file. Indeed, after 23 ... ♗xh2+! which, incidentally, escaped Fischer's attention, Black has chances of a successful defence. For example: 24 ♔xh2 ♕h5+ 25 ♔g1 e2 26 ♕d4! (*26 ♖d3? ♕h1+!; 26 dxe7+ ♔g7 27 ♖d5 exf1=♕+ 28 ♔xf1 ♕g6! 29 ♕d4+ f6 30 ♖d8 h5 31 ♕d7 ♔h6*) 26 ... f6 (if immediately *26 ... exf1=♕+*, then after *27 ♖xf1 f6* White wins by an exceptionally subtle move: *28 ♖e1!! ♖e8 29 d7 ♖d8 30 ♖xe7!*, and if *28 ... e5* then *29 ♕d5*, and against the threats of *30 ♕xb7* and *30 ♖e3* there is no defence) 27 ♖d3 exf1=♕+ 28 ♔xf1 ♕h1+ 29 ♔e2 ♕h5+ 30 ♔d2 ♕g5+ 31 ♔d1 ♕h5+ 32 ♔c1 ♕g5+ 33 ♔c2 ♕f5!, and White does not appear to have anything decisive.

24 f4 e2?

After 24 ... ♗f6! Black's defensive resources would still have been very considerable. (Kholmov)

25 fxe5 exd1=♕ 26 ♖xd1 ♕xe5 27 ♖f1 f6

27 ... ♕xc5+ would also not have helped in view of 28 ♔h1 b5 29 ♕e4!, when White wins. Or 28 ... f6 29 ♕b3 ♕h5 30 ♕e6 etc. (Kholmov)

28 ♕b3 ♔g7

After 28 ... e6 29 ♕xb7 ♖e8 30 c6 it would be time for Black to resign.

29 ♕f7+ ♔h6
30 dxe7 f5

On 30 ... ♖hg8 the strongest is 31 ♗b1!. (Petrosian, Suetin)

31 ♖xf5 ♕d4+
32 ♔h1 Resigns

Game 3
(337) Fischer-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗e7 6 ♗xf6 gxf6 7 g3 f5 8 ♘c3 ♗f6

9 ♘ge2 ♘c6 10 d5 exd5 11 ♘xd5 ♗xb2 12 ♗g2 0-0 13 0-0 ♗h8 14 ♘ef4 ♘e5 15 ♕h5 ♘g6 16 ♖ad1 c6 17 ♘e3 ♕f6 18 ♔h1 ♗g7 19 ♗h3 ♘e7 20 ♖d3 ♗e6 21 ♖fd1 ♗h6 22 ♖d4 ♗xf4 23 ♖xf4 ♖ad8 24 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 25 ♗xf5 ♘xf5 26 ♘xf5 ♖d5 27 g4 ♗xf5 28 gxf5 h6 29 h3 ♔h7 30 ♕e2 ♕e5 31 ♕h5 ♕f6 32 ♕e2 ♖e5 33 ♕d3 ♖d5 ½-½

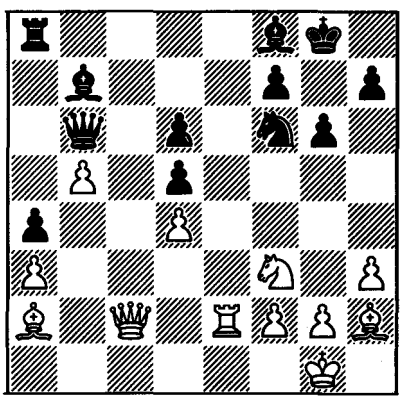
Game 4
(338) Petrosian-Fischer
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘c6 5 e4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 d6 7 f3 ♘xd4 8 ♕xd4 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♕a5 11 ♖c1 ♗e6 12 b3 ♖fc8 13 ♗e2 a6 14 ♘d5 ♕xd2+ 15 ♔xd2 ♘xd5 16 cxd5 ♗d7 17 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 18 ♖c1 ♖xc1 19 ♔xc1 ♔f8 20 ♔c2 e6 ½-½

Game 5
(339) Fischer-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 d4 ♘f6 6 ♗d3 ♗e7 7 h3 0-0 8 0-0 c6 9 ♖e1 ♘bd7 10 ♗f4 ♖e8 11 c4 ♘f8 12 ♘c3 a6 13 ♕b3 ♘e6 14 ♗h2 ♗f8 15 ♖e2 b5 16 ♕c2 ♗b7 17 ♖ae1 g6 18 b4 bxc4 19 ♗xc4 ♘c7 20 ♗b3 ♖xe2 21 ♖xe2 ♘cd5 22 a3 a5 23 ♘xd5 cxd5 24 b5 a4 25 ♗a2 ♕b6 *(152)*

152

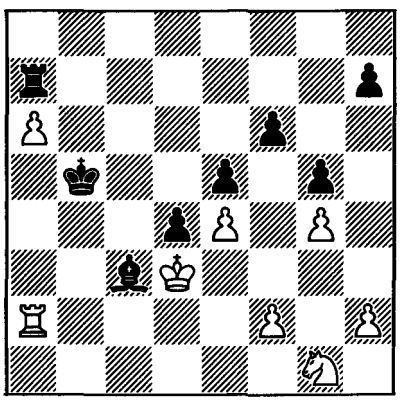


26 ♕b1 ♖a5 27 ♖b2 ♘e4 28 ♗f4 ♘c3 29 ♕c2 ♖xb5 30 ♖xb5 ♘xb5 31 ♕xa4 ♕a6 32 ♕xa6 ♗xa6 33 ♗e3 ♘xa3 34 ♗xd5 ♗c4 35 ♗c6 ♘c2 36 ♗d2 ♗e2 37 ♗e4 ♗xf3 38 ♗xc2 ½-½

Game 6
(340) Petrosian-Fischer
Nimzowitsch Opening

1 ♘f3 c5 2 b3 d5 3 ♗b2 f6 4 c4 d4 5 d3 e5 6 e3 ♘e7 7 ♗e2 ♘ec6 8 ♘bd2 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 e4 a6 11 ♘e1 b5 12 ♗g4 ♗xg4 13 ♕xg4 ♕c8 14 ♕e2 ♘d7 15 ♘c2 ♖b8 16 ♖fc1 ♕e8 17 ♗a3 ♗d6 18 ♘e1 g6 19 cxb5 axb5 20 ♗b2 ♘b6 21 ♘ef3 ♖a8 22 a3 ♘a5 23 ♕d1 ♕f7 24 a4 bxa4 25 bxa4 c4 26 dxc4 ♘axc4 27 ♘xc4 ♘xc4 28 ♕e2 ♘xb2 29 ♕xb2 ♖fb8 30 ♕a2 ♗b4 31 ♕xf7+ ♔xf7 32 ♖c7+ ♔e6 33 g4 ♗c3 34 ♖a2 ♖c8 35 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 36 a5 ♖a8 37 a6 ♖a7 38 ♔f1 g5 39 ♔e2 ♔d6 40 ♔d3 ♔c5 41 ♘g1 ♔b5 *(153)*

153



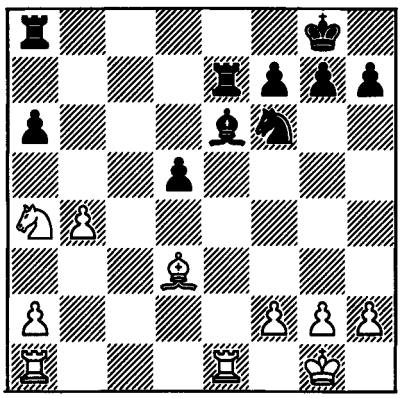
42 ♘e2 ♗a5 43 ♖b2+ ♔xa6 44 ♖b1 ♖c7 45 ♖b2 ♗e1 46 f3 ♔a5 47 ♖c2 ♖b7 48 ♖a2+ ♔b5 49 ♖b2+ ♗b4 50 ♖a2 ♖c7 51 ♖a1 ♖c8 52 ♖a7 ♗a5 53 ♖d7 ♗b6 54 ♖d5+ ♗c5 55 ♘c1 ♔a4 56 ♖d7 ♗b4 57 ♘e2 ♔b3 58 ♖b7 ♖a8 59 ♖xh7 ♖a1 60 ♘xd4+ exd4 61 ♔xd4 ♖d1+ 62 ♔e3

♗c5+ 63 ♔e2 ♖h1 64 h4 ♔c4 65 h5 ♖h2+ 66 ♔e1 ♔d3 0-1

Game 7
(341) Fischer-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘xc6 bxc6 7 0-0 d5 8 c4 ♘f6 9 cxd5 cxd5 10 exd5 exd5 11 ♘c3 ♗e7 12 ♕a4+ ♕d7 13 ♖e1 ♕xa4 14 ♘xa4 ♗e6 15 ♗e3 0-0 16 ♗c5 ♖fe8 17 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 18 b4 *(154)*

154

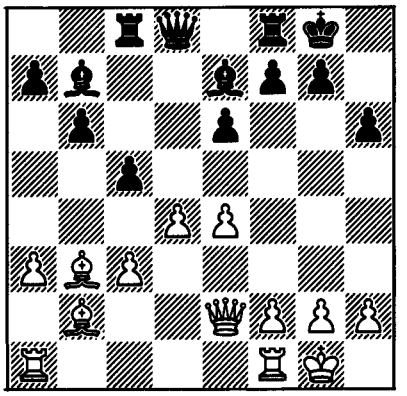


18 ... ♔f8 19 ♘c5 ♗c8 20 f3 ♖ea7 21 ♖e5 ♗d7 22 ♘xd7+ ♖xd7 23 ♖c1 ♖d6 24 ♖c7 ♘d7 25 ♖e2 g6 26 ♔f2 h5 27 f4 h4 28 ♔f3 f5 29 ♔e3 d4+ 30 ♔d2 ♘b6 31 ♖ee7 ♘d5 32 ♖f7+ ♔e8 33 ♖b7 ♘xf4 34 ♗c4 1-0

Game 8
(342) Petrosian-Fischer
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 c5 5 e3 ♘c6 6 a3 ♘e4 7 ♕c2 ♘xc3 8 bxc3 ♗e7 9 ♗b2 0-0 10 ♗d3 h6 11 0-0 ♘a5 12 ♘d2 dxc4 13 ♘xc4 ♘xc4 14 ♗xc4 b6 15 e4 ♗b7 16 ♕e2 ♖c8 17 ♗b3 *(155)*

155



17 ... b5 18 f4 ♕b6 19 ♔h1 cxd4 20 cxd4 b4 21 axb4 ♗xb4 22 d5 ♗c3 23 ♗xc3 ♖xc3 24 ♗c2 exd5 25 e5 ♖e3 26 ♕d2 d4 27 ♖ab1 ♕a6 28 ♖f2 ♖d8 29 ♔g1 ♗e4 30 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 31 h3 d3 32 ♖b3 ♕c4 33 ♖b2 ♖dd4 34 g3 ♖d5 35 ♔h2 ♖b5 36 ♖a2 ♖b1 37 g4 ♖e2 38 ♖xe2 dxe2 39 ♕xe2 ♕xf4+ 40 ♔g2 ♖b3 0-1

Game 9
(343) Fischer-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘c6 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5 ♗g4 7 h3 ♗xf3 8 ♕xf3 ♗e7 9 ♗g5 a6 10 ♗xc6+ bxc6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖fe1 h6 13 ♗h4 ♕d7 14 ♖e2 a5 15 ♖ae1 ♗d8 16 b3 ♖b8 17 ♘a4 ♘e4 18 ♗xd8 ♖bxd8 19 ♕f4 ♕d6 20 ♕xd6 cxd6 21 c4 ♘f6 22 ♖c1 ♖b8 23 cxd5 cxd5 24 f3 ♘h5 25 ♖c6 ♘f4 26 ♖d2 ♖fe8 27 ♖xd6 ♖e1+ 28 ♔f2 ♖h1 29 ♔g3 ♘h5+ 30 ♔h4 g6 31 ♖xd5 ♖e8 32 ♖xa5 ♖ee1 33 ♘c3 ♘f4 34 ♔g4 ♘e6 35 ♖e5 f5+ 36 ♔g3 f4+ 37 ♔h4 ♔h7 38 ♘e4 g5+ 39 ♔g4 ♘g7 40 ♘xg5+ hxg5 41 ♖xe1 ♖xe1 42 ♔xg5 ♘e6+ 43 ♔f5 ♖e2 44 ♖xe2 ♘xd4+ 45 ♔e5 ♘xe2 46 a4 1-0

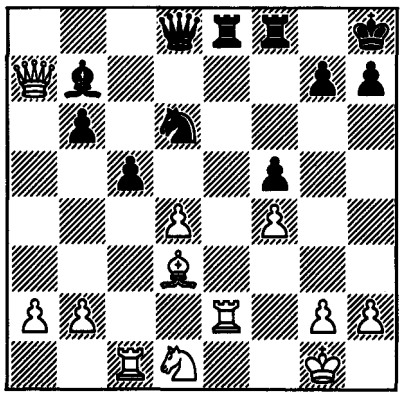
Alekhine Memorial Tournament
Moscow, November-December 1971

1-2 Karpov, Stein 11; 3 Smyslov 10½; 4-5 **Petrosian** (+4 -1 =12), Tukmakov 10; 6-7 Spassky, Tal 9½; 8-10 Bronstein, R.Byrne, Hort 9; 11 Korchnoi 8½; 12-14 Gheorghiu, Olafsson, Savon 7½; 15-16 Balashov, Uhlmann 6½; 17 Parma 6; 18 Lengyel 4½.

(344) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 ♕b3 ♗e7 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 e3 0-0 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♖fd1 ♔h8 11 ♖ac1 ♘e8 12 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♕a4 ♘d6 15 ♕a3 ♖ae8 16 ♖e1 f5 17 ♘e5 ♘xe5 18 dxe5 ♕xe5 19 ♕xa7 d4 20 f4 ♕f6 21 ♘d1 ♕d8 22 ♖e2 c5 23 exd4 *(156)*

156

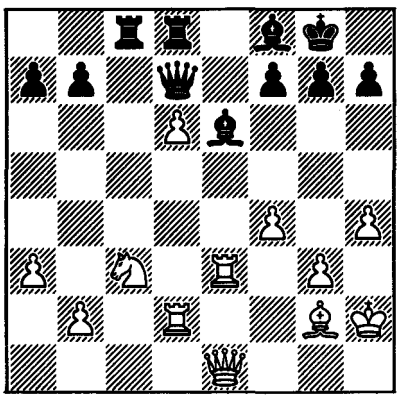


23 ... c4 24 ♖xe8 ♖xe8 25 ♗f1 ♖e1 26 ♕a3 ♘e4 27 d5 ♘d2 28 ♔f2 ♖xf1+ 29 ♔e2 ♗xd5 30 ♕e3 c3 0-1

(345) Petrosian-Balashov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♘e2 cxd4 6 exd4 ♘e4 7 ♗d2 ♘xd2 8 ♕xd2 d5 9 a3 ♗e7 10 cxd5 exd5 11 ♘f4 0-0 12 ♘fxd5 ♗g5 13 f4 ♖e8+ 14 ♗e2 ♗h4+ 15 ♔f1 ♘c6 16 ♖d1 ♗e6 17 ♗f3 ♘a5 18 g3 ♘c4 19 ♕f2 ♗e7 20 ♔g2 ♗f8 21 ♖he1 ♖c8 22 ♘e3 ♘xe3 23 ♖xe3 ♕d7 24 h4 ♖ed8 25 ♔h2 ♗b3 26 ♖d2 ♖c7 27 ♗g2 ♗e6 28 ♕e1 ♖dc8 29 d5 ♖d8 30 d6 ♖cc8 *(157)*

157



31 f5 ♗xf5 32 ♖e7 ♖e8 33 ♖xd7 ♖xe1 34 ♖xb7 ♖d8 35 ♖xa7 ♖xd6 36 ♖xd6 ♗xd6 37 ♖a8+ ♗f8 38 a4 g6 39 ♗d5 ♖c1 40 a5 ♖c2+ 41 ♔h1 ♔g7 42 ♖a7 ♖c1+ 43 ♔g2 ♖c2+ 44 ♔f3 ♗c5 45 ♖xf7+ ♔h8 46 g4 ♗d3 47 ♘e4 ♗xe4+ 48 ♔xe4 ♖xb2 49 ♖c7 ♖b4+ 50 ♔f3 ♗g1 51 g5 h6 52 h5 ♖b5 53 ♖c8+ ♔h7 54 ♖c7+ ♔h8 55 ♖d7 ♖xa5 56 ♖d8+ ♔h7 57 ♖d7+ ♔h8 58 hxg6 ♖xd5 59 ♖xd5 hxg4 60 ♔e4 1-0

(346) Stein-Petrosian
Philidor's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 ♘bd7 5 ♗c4 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 a4 c6 8 a5 h6 9 ♗a2 ♖e8 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♕e2 ♗f8 12 ♖d1 ♕c7 13 ♘h4 ♘c5 14 ♘f5 ♔h7 15 ♕f3 ♘g8 16 b4 ♘e6 17 ♖b1 g6 18 ♘e3 ♗g7 19 ♘c4 ♘d4 20 ♕d3 ♖d8 21 ♕f1 ♗e6 22 ♘e3 ½-½

(347) Petrosian-Uhlmann
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ♗g7 7 ♗c4 0-0 8 ♘e2 ♘c6 9 0-0 b6 10 ♗g5 ♘a5 11 ♗d3 ♕d7 12 ♕d2 c5 13 ♖ab1 ♗b7 14 d5 c4 15 ♗c2 e6 16 dxe6 ♕xe6 17 ♖fe1 ♖fe8 18 ♘d4 ♕d6 19 ♕e3 ♕c5 20 ♕g3 ♘c6 ½-½

(348) Smyslov-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 c6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 e6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 7 ♕b3 ♘d7 8 e4 dxe4 9 ♘xe4 ♕f4 10 ♗d3 ♗e7 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖fe1 ♖d8 13 ♖ad1 ♕c7 14 ♗b1 ♘f8 15 c5 b5 16 ♘g3 ♗d7 17 ♕e3 ♗e8 18 ♗c2 a5 19 a3 ♖a7 20 h4 ♕b8 21 h5 f6 22 b4 ♗f7 23 ♗b3 ♖e8 24 ♕e4 ♕c7 25 ♕c2 ♕b8 26 ♘h4 ♗d8 27 ♘g6 ♗c7 28 ♖e3 a4 29 ♗a2 f5 30 ♘f1 ♗f4 31 ♖ee1 ♗xg6 32 hxg6 ♔h8 33 ♕e2 ♗g5 34 ♕f3 ♕c8 35 ♕h5 ♕d8 36 ♘h2 ♕f6 37 ♘f3 ♔g8 38 ♘e5 ♖c7 39 g3 f4 40 ♗b1 ♖d8 41 ♔g2 ♖dc8 1-0

(349) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit Accepted
(notes by Kholmov)

1 d4 d5
2 c4 dxc4

This defence occurs extremely rarely in the games of the World Champion. At any rate, Spassky did not employ it once in his matches with Petrosian.

3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♘d5

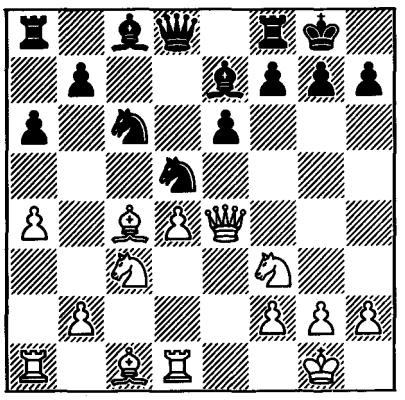
11 ... ♘b4 is another popular continuation. In the tenth game of the Botvinnik-Petrosian match (1963) there followed 12 ♗g5 ♗d7 13 d5 exd5 14 ♘xd5 ♘bxd5 15 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 16 ♖xd5 ♗xg5 17 ♘xg5 h6 18 ♕d2 hxg5 19 ♖xd7 ♕f6, and for the pawn Black obtained counterplay sufficient for a draw.

Of course, few have been willing to go in for such a variation, where the limit of Black's dreams is a draw.

In the game Vaganian-Kokh (USSR Team Championship, 1969), instead of 12 ... ♗d7 Black played 12 ... ♘bd5, but this did not get him out of his difficulties. After 13 ♘e5 ♘xc3 14 bxc3 ♘d5 15 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 16 ♗d3 ♘d5 17 ♗c2 ♕c7 18 c4 ♘f6 19 ♖a3! White built up a dangerous attack.

12 ♕e4 *(158)*

158



The 16th game of the Botvinnik-Petrosian match went 12 ♗d3 ♘cb4 13 ♗b1 ♗d7 14 ♕e4 g6 15 ♘e5 ♗f6 16 ♕f3 ♗g7 17 ♕g3 ♗e8 18 h4, and Black had to conduct a difficult defence.

Another way of handling the attack was demonstrated by Kuzmin in a game with Suetin (Sochi, 1970): 12 h4!?. After 12 ... ♘cb4 13 h5 h6 14 ♘e5 b6 15 ♕g4 ♘f6 16 ♕f3 ♘fd5 17 ♘xd5 exd5 18 ♘c6! ♘xc6 19 ♗xd5 ♗g4 20 ♕xg4 ♕xd5 21 ♗xh6 White had the advantage.

As far as I am aware, the continuation employed by White in the present game had not occurred previously.

12 ... ♘cb4

It would be interesting to know where the queen would have moved to after 12 ... ♘f6. Most probably back to e2, since after 13 ♕h4 ♘d5 14 ♕g3 Black can equalize with 14 ... ♗d6, e.g. 15 ♕h3 e5 16 ♕h5 ♘f6 17 ♕h4 ♗g4! 18 dxe5 ♘xe5 19 ♘xe5 ♗xd1 20 ♘xf7 ♖xf7, and now:

(a) 21 ♘xd1 ♗xh2+ 22 ♔xh2 ♕xd1 23 ♗xf7+ ♔xf7 24 ♕c4+ ♕d5.

(b) 21 ♗xf7+ ♔xf7 22 ♕c4+ ♔f8 23 ♘xd1 ♗xh2+ 24 ♔xh2 ♕xd1, and White does not achieve anything after either 25 ♗f4 ♕h5+ 26 ♔g1 ♕d5 or 25 ♕b4+ ♔g8 26 ♕xb7 ♕h5+, with a draw by perpetual check.

In search of a complicated struggle, the World Champion avoids the natural 12 ... ♘f6, but after the move played he later has difficult problems to solve.

13 ♘e5 ♖a7

Black can no longer develop normally: 13 ... b6 is met by the unpleasant 14 ♘c6! after which I do not see a single acceptable position for Black – in all variations he stands worse, for example:

(a) 14 ... ♘xc6 15 ♘xd5, and now:

(a1) 15 ... exd5 16 ♗xd5 ♗g4 17 f3! (White does not achieve anything by the direct *17 ♗xc6 ♗xd1 18 ♗xa8 ♗f6 19 ♗e3 ♗xa4 20 ♖xa4 ♕xa8,* while Black has the advantage after *20 ♗c6 ♗xc6 21 ♕xc6 ♗xd4 22 ♖d1 ♕f6!,* and he also holds on after *20 ♗b7 ♖e8 21 ♕f4 ♗b5 22 ♖c1 h6 23 ♖c7? ♕xd4!*) 17 ... ♘xd4?! 18 ♗e3!, and White has an obvious advantage, since all the black pieces are hanging: 18 ... ♗f5 19 ♕xd4 ♖b8 (*19 ... ♗c5 20 ♕c3*) 20 ♕e5 ♗d7 21 ♗c6 etc.

(a2) 15 ... ♗b7 16 ♘xe7+ ♕xe7 17 d5 ♘a5 18 ♗d3 g6 19 ♗h6 ♖e8 20 ♕d4!.

(a3) 15 ... ♖a7 16 ♘xe7+ (White also gains the better prospects by *16 ♗d3 f5 17 ♘xe7+ ♘xe7 18 ♕e2 h6 19 ♗f4*) 16 ... ♘xe7 17 ♗g5 ♗b7 18 ♕h4! (*18 ♕g4?* is well met by *18 ... ♕d7*, controlling d5; in the absence of his knights, White's attack on the kingside is no longer so effective: *19 ♖a3 ♗d5 20 ♖g3 ♘g6!*) 18 ... ♗d5 19 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 20 ♗xa6, winning a pawn.

(b) 14 ... ♘xc3 15 ♘xe7+ ♕xe7 16 bxc3 ♗b7 17 ♕g4 (*17 d5? ♕f6!*) 17 ... ♖fc8! 18 ♗g5! (*18 ♗h6? ♕f6*) 18 ... ♕f8 19 ♗xe6 ♖xc3 20 ♗d2!, and if 20 ... ♖d3 21 ♗c4, while 20 ... ♖c2 is very strongly met by 21 ♗xb4 ♕xb4 22 ♗xf7+!, and 20 ... ♖c7 by 21 ♕f4!.

14 ♗b3 ♘f6

For some reason Black avoids switching his rook along the seventh rank: 14 ... b6 15 ♘xd5 exd5 16 ♕f3 ♖c7 17 ♗f4 ♗e6 18 ♖ac1 ♗d6. Possibly this position did not appeal to Spassky. White would certainly have retained some advantage, but how significant would it have been?

15 ♕h4 b6
16 ♕g3 ♗b7

16 ... ♔h8 was better, since Black did not yet have to fear 17 d5, e.g. 17 ... exd5 18 ♘xd5 ♘fxd5 19 ♗xd5 ♘xd5! (but on no account *19 ... ♗e6*, which could lead to a pretty finish after *20 ♗h6! gxh6 21 ♗xe6 ♕e8 22 ♘xf7+ ♖xf7 23 ♗xf7 ♕xf7 24 ♕b8+ ♗f8 25 ♖d8 ♔g7 26 ♖xf8!*), when on 20 ♘c6 Black has the spectacular rejoinder 20 ... ♘c3!.

17 ♗h6 ♘e8

Of course, 17 ... ♘h5 is weaker because of 18 ♕g4.

18 ♖ac1 ♔h8 *(159)*

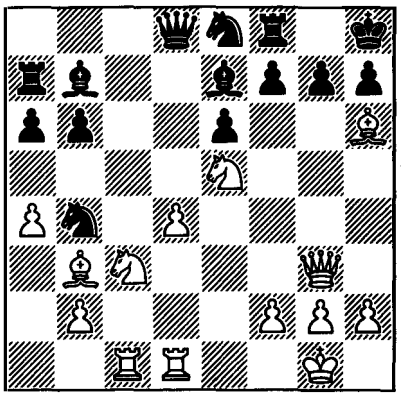
18 ... ♗h4 19 ♕g4 f5 20 ♗xe6+ ♔h8 did

not work in view of 21 ♕h5! gxh6 22 ♘g6+.

18 ... ♘d5 was best, when after 19 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 20 ♘c6 ♗xc6 21 ♖xc6 ♖d7! the rook comes into play, or 20 ♗xd5 ♕xd5 21 ♖c8 ♗f6 22 ♘g4, and here Black maintains the balance by 22 ... ♗d8!.

Black evidently reckoned that he would blockade the d5 square after the retreat of the attacked bishop, but this calculation proved to be faulty.

159



19 d5! exd5

In the event of 19 ... gxh6 White does not achieve anything by 20 ♘xf7+ ♖xf7 21 dxe6 ♖g7! 22 ♖xd8 ♖xg3 23 ♖xe8+ ♖g8 24 ♖xe7 ♗xg2! with a draw, since if 25 ♖e8 ♖xe8 26 ♔xg2 ♘d3!.

But after 20 dxe6 ♘d6 21 exf7! (*21 ♘xf7+ ♘xf7! 22 ♖xd8 ♘xd8* or *22 exf7 ♕b8!* is unclear) it is unlikely that Black has any defence.

No better is 19 ... ♘xd5 20 ♘xd5 exd5 21 ♗e3! (*21 ♗xd5? ♗xd5 22 ♘c6 ♗xc6! 23 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 24 ♖xc6 gxh6*, and Black has the advantage) 21 ... ♖a8 22 ♘c6, when Black has a difficult position.

20 ♗e3!

A classic example of Alekhine-like strategy. By diversionary operations on the kingside, Petrosian has forced the black pieces to take up unfavourable positions, and now the decisive blow is landed on the queenside.

20 ... ♖a8

20 ... a5 seems strong, to answer 21 ♘c4 with 21 ... ♖a6, but White has the good rejoinder 21 ♘xd5! ♘xd5 22 ♗xd5 ♗xd5 23 ♘c6 with a big advantage. 20 ... ♗c5 also does not help because of 21 a5 ♘f6 22 ♘a4!.

21 ♘c4

White regains his pawn, maintaining a clear positional advantage.

21 ... ♘d6

On 21 ... ♗c5 White has the unpleasant 22 ♘a5!.

22 ♗xb6

Not 22 ♘xb6 because of 22 ... ♘f5! 23 ♕h3 ♘xe3 24 ♕xe3 ♗g5 25 f4 ♗xf4!.

22 ... ♕b8

Many thought that 22 ... ♕d7 would have been stronger:

(a) It is hardly worth White going in for the unclear variations after 23 ♗d4 ♘f5 24 ♕g4!? (*24 ♘b6? ♕d8 25 ♕g4 ♘xd4 26 ♕xd4 ♘c6 27 ♕e3 d4*), when Black has two continuations:

(a1) 24 ... ♖ad8 25 ♗b6 ♖c8 26 ♘e3 g6 27 ♗a5 h5 28 ♕h3, with advantage to White.

(a2) 24 ... ♕e6, leading to complicated play, e.g. 25 ♘a5 ♗c8 26 ♖e1! (*26 ♘xd5? ♘xd5 27 ♖c6 ♘f6! or 27 ♗c3 ♘f6!*, while if *27 ♖e1 ♘xd4 28 ♖xe6 ♘xb3 29 ♖xc8 ♖axc8 30 ♘xb3 fxe6* with advantage to Black) 26 ... ♕h6! 27 ♘xd5 ♘d3!, and the situation is unclear.

(b) 23 ♘a5 ♖ac8!, and Black has

sufficient defensive resources:

(b1) 24 ♘xb7 ♕xb7 25 a5 ♘c4 26 ♗d4 (or *26 ♘xd5 ♗d6!*) 26 ... f6 and 27 ♘xd5 fails to 27 ... ♕xd5 28 ♗xf6 ♕xd1+ and 29 ... ♗xf6.

(b2) 24 ♗d4 f6 25 ♘xb7 (after *25 ♕f3 ♗a8!* White again does not achieve anything) 25 ... ♕xb7 26 ♕f3 ♘c4!, and 27 ♘xd5 is bad because of 27 ... ♘d2!.

(c) I think that White would have replied 23 ♘e3!. This is the most dangerous continuation for Black, after which he remains a pawn down with insufficient counterchances: 23 ... ♖ac8 24 ♘exd5 ♘xd5 25 ♗xd5 ♗xd5 26 ♖xd5 ♕c6 27 ♗d4! etc, or 23 ... ♕e6 24 ♗c5 a5 25 ♗xb4 axb4 26 ♘xd5.

23 ♘a5

Here too 23 ♘e3! was better.

23 ... ♘f5?

Black could have put up a tenacious resistance by 23 ... ♖c8!.

24 ♕xb8 ♖axb8 25 ♘xb7 ♖xb7 26 a5 ♗g5 27 ♖b1 d4

Black's position would also have been hopeless after 27 ... ♘e7 28 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 29 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 30 ♖xd5.

28 ♘d5 ♘c6

If 28 ... ♘xd5 then 29 ♗xd5 ♖d7 30 ♗e4!.

29 ♗a4 ♖c8
30 f4 ♘ce7

On 30 ... ♗d8 White would again have replied 31 ♖bc1!.

31 ♖bc1 ♖cb8 32 fxg5 ♘xd5 33 ♗c6 ♖xb6 34 axb6 ♘de3 35 b7!

White returns the exchange, obtaining a completely won position.

35 ... ♘xd1 36 ♖xd1 g6 37 g4 ♘g7

If 37 ... ♘d6 then 38 ♖xd4 ♘xb7 39 ♖b4, and 37 ... ♘e7 also fails to save the game after 38 ♗f3 ♔g7 39 ♖xd4 f5 40 gxf6+ ♔xf6 41 ♖a4.

38 ♖xd4 ♘e6
39 ♖d7 Resigns

On 39 ... ♘xg5 White wins by 40 ♖c7, or if 39 ... ♔g8 40 ♗d5 ♘d8 41 ♖c7.

(350) Savon-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 g3 e5 5 ♘gf3 ♘bd7 6 ♗g2 ♗d6 7 0-0 0-0 8 exd5 cxd5 9 c4 d4 10 ♘g5 a5 11 ♘de4 ♘xe4 12 ♘xe4 ♗e7 13 g4 ♖a6 14 f4 exf4 15 ♗xf4 ♘c5 16 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 17 ♕f3 ♖e6 18 ♖ae1 b6 19 ♖xe6 ♗xe6 20 h3 ♕d7 21 b3 h6 22 ♕g3 ♖e8 23 ♗e4 f6 24 ♕f3 ♖e7 25 ♗c6 ♕d8 26 ♖e1 ♔h8 27 ♖e2 ♗g8 28 ♖xe7 ♕xe7 29 ♕e4 ♕d8 30 ♗d5 ♗h7 31 ♕e2 ♗g6 32 ♗e4 ♗f7 33 ♕h2 ♕d7 34 ♕g3 ♗e6 35 ♔g2 ♕a7 36 ♗b8 ♕d7 37 ♕c7 ♔g8 38 ♕xd7 ♗xd7 39 ♗c7 ♔f7 40 a3 g6 41 b4 axb4 42 axb4 ♗xb4 43 ♗xb6 ♗c3 44 ♔f3 f5 45 gxf5 gxf5 46 ♗a8 ♔e6 47 ♔e2 ♗a4 48 h4 ♔d6 49 ♗f3 ♔e6 50 ♗c5 ♗b2 51 ♗d5+ ♔f6 52 ♗b6 ♔e7 53 ♗a7 ♗d7 54 ♗c5+ ♔f6 55 ♔f2 ♗a4 56 ♗b6 ♔e7 57 ♔e2 ♔d6 58 h5 ♗e8 59 ♗f3 ♗a4 60 ♔f2 ♔e6 61 ♗c5 ♗c2 62 ♔e2 ♗a4 63 ♗f8 ♗c1 64 ♗g7 ♗e3 65 c5 ♗b5 66 ♗f8 ♔d7 67 ♗d5 ♗a4 68 ♗g7 ♗b5 69 ♗e5 ♗a4 70 ♔f3 ♗b5 71 ♔e2 ♗a4 72 ♗g3 ♗b5 73 ♗b7 ♗a4 ½-½

(351) Petrosian-Tal
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 c6 7 b3 b6 8 ♗b2 ♘bd7 9 ♘bd2 ♗b7 10 e3 dxc4 11 bxc4 c5 12 ♕e2 ♕c7 13 ♖fd1 ♖fd8 14 a4 ♘e4 ½-½

(352) Parma-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence
(notes by Kholmov)

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♕c7 5 ♘c3

I think that 5 ♘b5 ♕b8 6 c4 would have been more in accordance with Parma's style. The move played leads to a position in which it is essential for White to attack, and, moreover, energetically.

5 ... e6 6 ♗e3 a6 7 f4 b5 8 ♘b3 d6 9 ♗d3 ♘f6 10 0-0 ♗e7 11 ♕f3 ♗b7

This position has occurred frequently in the games of modern masters, but there is no clear opinion as to its assessment. Some happily play it as White, and others as Black.

Precisely this position was reached in the games Kostro-Schmidt (Poland, 1968) and Ciocaltea-Darga (West Germany v. Romania, 1971). In the first of these, after 12 ♕h3 h5! 13 ♔h1 ♘g4 14 ♗g1 g6 15 ♗e2 ♗f6 16 ♖ad1 0-0-0! the initiative was seized by Black.

In the second game White played more energetically: 12 ♖ae1 ♘b4 13 ♕h3 ♘d7 14 a3 ♘xd3 15 cxd3 ♘c5 16 ♘xc5 dxc5 17 f5 e5 18 ♕g3 ♗f6 19 ♖c1 ♖d8 20 d4!, and succeeded in piercing Black's defences.

Parma chooses another path. But by later playing passively, he does not create any problems at all for Black, and the Ex-World Champion quickly seizes the initiative.

12 a4 b4
13 ♘b1

There was some sense in withdrawing the knight to e2, planning a later g2-g4 and ♘g3.

13 ... a5 14 ♘1d2 0-0 15 ♔h1

Alas! White is obliged to spend precious time on preparatory moves. The immediate 15 ♘c4 was tempting, but would have proved ineffective after 15 ... d5 16 exd5 exd5 17 ♗b6 ♕b8 18 ♘cxa5 ♘xa5 19 ♘xa5 ♖xa5! 20 ♗xa5 ♕a7+.

15 ... ♘b8

Black's main strategic problem is to put pressure on the e4 pawn and to prepare ... d5. The knight at c6 clearly hinders this, and Petrosian makes a re-grouping.

16 ♘d4

If 16 ♕h3 ♘bd7 17 ♖ae8 then 17 ... e5, and the knight can no longer go to d4.

16 ... ♘bd7
17 ♘b5?

17 ♕h3 should have been played, and only on 17 ... ♘c5 - 18 ♘b5! with advantage to White, since the important advance e4-e5! can be made. The attempt by 17 ... ♗a6 to neutralize the light-square bishop leads after 18 e5 dxe5 19 ♘xe6 fxe6 20 ♕xe6+ ♔h8 21 ♗xa6 ♗c5 22 fxe5! to very sharp and unclear play. 17 ... ♖fc8 18 ♘2f3 would have led, in view of the threat of ♘xe6, to a complicated struggle with chances for both sides.

17 ... ♕b8 18 ♖ae1 ♖c8 19 ♕h3 ♘c5!

The knight arrives here at just the right time!

20 ♗xc5

20 e5 dxe5 21 fxe5 would have failed to 21 ... ♘xd3! 22 exf6 ♘xe1, with an attack on g2.

20 ... ♖xc5
21 ♘b3

There is nothing for the knight to do here, and instead the sharp 21 ♘c4 came seriously into consideration. Then 21 ...

♘xe4 22 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 23 ♖xe4 d5 does not work because of 24 ♖xe6! fxe6 25 ♕xe6+ ♔h8 26 ♘e5 etc. After 21 ... ♖h5 22 ♕g3 (threatening e4-e5) 22 ... d5 23 exd5 ♘xd5 24 ♖e5! all the play is still to come. Now, however, Black gains the advantage.

21 ... ♖h5! 22 ♕f3 e5 23 f5

23 g4 ♖h4 24 fxe5 dxe5 25 g5 ♖f4 was even worse.

23 ... d5!
24 ♘d2

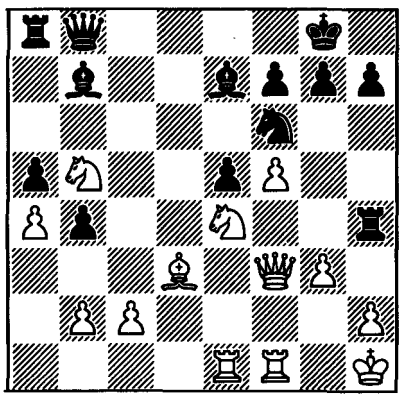
White tries to hold the important e4 point, with the fall of which his entire position may collapse.

24 ... ♖h4!

The terrible threat of 25 ... ♖f4 forces White to go in for a further weakening. It should be noted that here 25 exd5 is altogether impossible because of 25 ... e4, when the h2 square cannot be defended.

25 g3 dxe4
26 ♘xe4 *(160)*

160



26 ... ♖xe4!!

With this exchange sacrifice Black lures the white pieces into a deadly pin, from which there is no escape.

27 ♖xe4

27 ♗xe4 ♘xe4 28 ♖xe4 could also have been answered by 28 ... ♕d8, when White's defence is even more difficult. Now at least his bishop controls c2.

27 ... ♕d8
28 ♖fe1

The attempt to remove at least one major piece from the pin by 28 h3 ♖c8 29 ♔h2 ends in catastrophe: 29 ... ♘xe4 30 ♗xe4 ♖xc2+! 31 ♔h1 ♕d2, and White must resign.

28 ♔g2 ♖c8 29 ♔h3 is also unsuccessful, although playing for brilliancy does not work: 29 ... ♘xe4 30 ♗xe4 ♖xc2 31 ♗xb7 ♕d2 32 ♖h1 ♕h6+ 33 ♔g4 ♕g5+! 34 ♔h3 g6, and against the threat of 35 ... ♕h6+ and 36 ... ♕h5 mate there is no defence, but instead White has 32 f6!, and there is no mate. And 31 ♖d1! is even better, when White wins. Therefore Black should not force matters, but should play 29 ... ♕d5 30 ♖fe1 ♕a2 31 b3 ♘xe4 32 ♗xe4, and only now 32 ... ♖xc2!.

28 ... ♖c8
29 ♖1e2

29 ♕e2 was worse because of 29 ... ♖c4! 30 ♗xc4 (*30 ♕f3 ♖xe4 31 ♖xe4 ♕d5* etc) 30 ... ♘xe4, when White is defenceless.

29 ... ♕d5
30 b3 h6

The pin is a mortal one, and Black has no need to hurry.

31 ♔g2 ♕d7 32 h3 ♗c5 33 h4 h5 34 ♔h3 ♗b6 35 ♔h2 g6! 36 fxg6 ♘g4+ 37 ♔g2

If 37 ♖xg4 then 37 ... ♗xf3 38 gxf7++ ♔xf7.

37 ... f5
White resigns

(353) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 c4 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♗d2 d5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖c1 ♘d7 11 ♗f4 c5 12 ♘d2 ♘xc3 13 bxc3 ♘f6 14 dxc5 ♗xc5 15 ♘b3 ♗a3 16 ♖c2 ♖c8 ½-½

(354) Olafsson-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♕d2 e5 8 d5 ♘c5 9 ♗f3 a5 10 ♘ge2 c6 11 ♘g3 cxd5 12 ♘xd5 ♘e6 13 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 14 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 15 0-0 ♘d4 16 ♗d1 ½-½

(355) Petrosian-Hort
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 g3 ♘c6 4 ♗g2 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♘c3 e6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♘xd5 exd5 9 d4 0-0 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♕d3 h6 12 a3 a5 13 ♗f4 ♖e8 ½-½

(356) Lengyel-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 a6 6 ♕e2 c5 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 e4 b5 10 ♗d3 ♗b7 11 ♘bd2 ♗e7 12 ♘b3 0-0 13 ♗d2 b4 14 a3 a5 15 axb4 axb4 16 ♗f4 ♕b6 17 ♘fd2 ½-½

(357) Petrosian-Tukmakov
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 c4 ♗g7 4 g3 0-0 5 ♗g2 c6 6 0-0 d5 7 b3 ♗f5 8 ♗b2 a5 9 ♘c3 ♘e4 10 ♖c1 ♘xc3 11 ♗xc3 ♗e4 12 ♘d2 ♗xg2 13 ♔xg2 ♘d7 14 e4 e6 15 e5 f5 16 f4 ♕b6 17 g4 a4 18 c5 ♕a6 ½-½

(358) Gheorghiu-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♗e3 a6 5 ♕d2 ♘c6 6 d5 ♘b8 7 ♘f3 c5 8 dxc6 bxc6 9 ♗d4 ♘f6 10 e5 dxe5 11 ♘xe5 0-0 12 0-0-0 ♕c7 13 ♕e3 ♘d5 14 ♕g3 ½-½

(359) Petrosian-Bronstein
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♗f4 ♗g7 5 e3 c5 6 dxc5 ♕a5 7 ♕a4+ ♕xa4 8 ♘xa4 ♘a6 9 cxd5 ♘xd5 10 ♗b5+ ♗d7 11 c6 ♗xc6 12 ♗xc6+ ½-½

(360) R.Byrne-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 g6 4 h3 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗g7 6 ♘f3 ♘d7 7 ♗c4 ♘gf6 8 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♗f5 11 c3 ♕c7 12 ♕e2 ♖ae8 13 ♘e5 ♘d5 14 ♗b3 ½-½

Moscow Olympiad
December 1971

(361) Averbakh-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 e3 a6 6 a3 ♘bd7 7 b4 ♗d6 8 c5 ♗c7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 ♗b2 e5 11 dxe5 ♘xe5 12 0-0 ♖e8 13 ♖e1 ♕e7 14 ♕c2 ♘eg4 15 ♘d1 ♘e4 16 h3

♘e5 17 ♗d4 ♘xf3+ 18 ♗xf3 ♕h4 19 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 20 ♘c3 ♖e6 21 f4 ♗xf4 22 ♕d1 ♗c7 23 ♕f3 ♖g6 24 ♖f1 f6 25 ♘xd5 cxd5 26 ♕xd5+ ♔h8 27 ♖a2 ♗xh3 0-1

(362) Petrosian-Shamkovich
English Opening

1 c4 c6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 e3 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 cxd5 cxd5 6 ♗b5+ ♘c6 7 b3 ♘f6 8 ♗b2 0-0 9 ♘a4 ♗d7 10 ♗e2 b6 11 0-0 ♕b8 12 a3 e5 13 d4 e4 14 ♘e5 ♗e8 15 ♖c1 ♕d6 16 b4 ♘e7 17 ♘c3 a6 18 b5 axb5 19 ♕b3 b4 20 ♕xb4 ♕xb4 21 axb4 ♘d7 22 ♘xd7 ♗xd7 23 ♗d1 b5 24 ♗b3 ♗c6 25 ♘e2 ♖fc8 26 ♖c5 ♗f8 27 ♖fc1 ♗b7 28 h3 ♘c6 29 ♖xd5 ♘xb4 30 ♖d7 ♘d3 31 ♗xf7+ ♔h8 32 ♖xb7 ♘xb2 33 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 34 ♖xb5 ♖c2 35 ♔f1 ♘a4 36 ♖b3 ♖a2 37 g4 ♘b2 38 ♘c1 ♖a1 39 ♖xb2 ♖xc1+ 40 ♔g2 1-0

(363) Petrosian-Smyslov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 ♘e4 6 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 7 ♗f4 ♗e7 8 e3 0-0 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 d6 11 e4 ♘d7 12 0-0 c6 13 ♖fd1 ♖c8 14 b4 ♘f6 15 e5 ♘h5 16 ♗e3 g6 17 c5 d5 18 ♗h6 ♘g7 19 ♖a2 ♕c7 20 ♖c1 bxc5 21 dxc5 ♖fd8 22 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 23 ♕a6 ♖d7 24 ♘d4 ♗g5 25 ♖e1 ♕b7 26 ♕f1 a5 27 ♖b2 axb4 28 axb4 ♖dc7 29 ♖b3 ♖a8 30 f4 ♗e7 31 ♖a1 ♖cc8 32 g3 ♖a7 33 ♖xa7 ♕xa7 34 ♕c1 ♖a8 35 ♔g2 ♕a4 36 g4 ♔h8 37 ♕b2 ♖b8 ½-½

1972

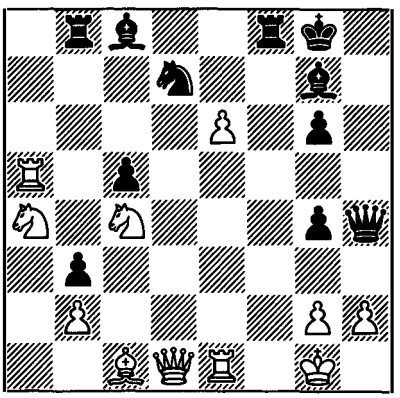
USSR Spartakiad
Moscow, March 1972

Board 1, +2 –0 =5.

(364) Petrosian-Kapengut
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♘bd7 8 e4 ♗g7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♕e7 11 a4 b6 12 ♖e1 ♖b8 13 f4 a6 14 ♗f3 b5 15 axb5 axb5 16 ♖a5 b4 17 ♘a4 h5 18 ♘c4 ♘g4 19 e5 dxe5 20 ♗xg4 hxg4 21 fxe5 b3 22 e6 fxe6 23 dxe6 ♕h4 *(161)*

161



24 ♖a7 g3 25 hxg3 ♕xg3 26 exd7 ♕f2+ ½-½

(365) Mukhin-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘e2 d5 7 a3 ♗xc3+ 8 bxc3 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 e5 10 ♗b2 0-0 11 0-0 ♕c7 12 ♖c1 ♖d8 13 ♕c2 b6 14 ♗a2 ♗a6 15 ♖fd1 ♘a5 16 c4 exd4 17 exd4 cxd4 18 ♗xd4 ♖d6 19 ♘g3 ♖c6 20 c5 bxc5 ½-½

(366) Petrosian-Tal
Queen's Gambit
(notes by Suetin)

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4

This forcing variation, favoured by Alekhine, was revived by Spassky in the 5th game of his 1969 match with Petrosian.

6 ... ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗c4

Undoubtedly the most critical move. White does not achieve anything by 11 ♖c1 ♘c6 12 ♗b5 ♗d7 13 0-0 ♘e7! 14 ♕b4 ♕b6 15 a4 ♘c6, when Black has no difficulties, Pomar-Korchnoi, Palma de Mallorca, 1969.

11 ... ♘d7

Currently the most fashionable variation. 11 ... ♘c6 has been more heavily studied: 12 0-0 b6 (*12 ... ♕a5 13 ♕e2 ♕h5 14 ♖ab1 b6 15 ♖fc1 ♗b7 16 ♗a6!* leaves White with an obvious advantage, Hort-Platonov, Beverwijk, 1970) 13 ♖ad1 (hardly very promising for White is *13 ♖fd1 ♗b7 14 ♖ac1 ♖c8 15 d5 exd5 16 ♗xd5 ♘a5 17 ♖xc8 ♕xc8 18 h3 ♕b8* with approximate

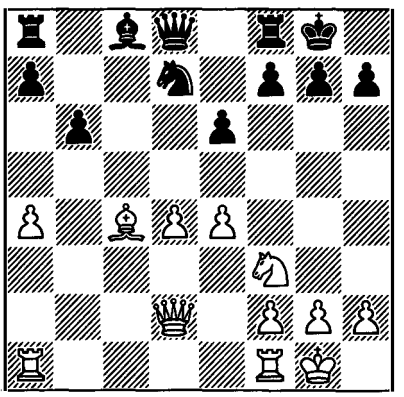
equality, Vranesic-Lengyel, Siegen Olympiad, 1970) 13 ... ♗b7 14 ♖fe1 ♖c8 15 d5! exd5 (*15 ... ♘a5 16 dxe6 ♕xd2!* deserves consideration, although even here after *17 exf7+ ♔h8 18 ♘xd2 ♘xc4 19 ♘xc4 ♖xc4 20 e5!* the advantage is with White) 16 ♗xd5 ♘a5 17 ♕f4!, and White had a persistent initiative in Spassky-Petrosian, 5th match game, 1969.

Later games have shown that neutralizing White's initiative is no simple matter. Thus Polugayevsky-Tal (USSR Championship, 1969) went 14 ... ♘a5 (instead of *14 ... ♖c8*) 15 ♗d3 ♖c8 16 d5, and White went onto the offensive.

It is for this reason that Black's searches have more often become associated with the development of the knight at d7.

12 0-0 b6
13 a4! *(162)*

162



A valuable innovation. The usual continuation here was 13 ♖fe1 (White does not achieve anything real by *13 e5 ♗b7 14 ♕e3 ♖c8 15 ♗d3 h6 16 ♖ac1 ♖xc1 17 ♖xc1 ♕b8 18 ♘d2 ♖c8* with a comfortable game for Black, Kuzmin-Tal, Sochi, 1970) 13 ... ♗b7 14 ♖ad1 ♖c8 15 ♗d3. In Korchnoi-Najdorf (Beverwijk, 1970) Black set up a secure defence after 15 ... ♖e8 16 ♕e3 ♖c3 17 e5 ♕c7 18 ♘g5 ♘f8.

Petrosian's plan appears to be a fundamentally new one. Usually all White's hopes have been associated mainly with play in the centre and on the kingside, but Petrosian becomes active on the queenside, exploiting the not insignificant fact that the black knight does not control a5. By the advance of his a-pawn White threatens to saddle his opponent with a pawn weakness on the queenside, while at the same time his centre is invulnerable.

13 ... ♗b7
14 ♖fe1 ♖c8

A natural move, which does not get Black out of his difficulties. 14 ... e5!? 15 d5 (*15 dxe5 ♘xe5!*) 15 ... a6 came into consideration, when it is not easy for White to break up the black fortress.

15 ♗d3 ♘b8?

It goes without saying that it is not easy here to find a good continuation for Black. Perhaps he should have tried 15 ... e5!?. White gains nothing by 16 dxe5 ♕e7 followed by ... ♘xe5, or 16 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 17 dxe5 ♕d4!, when Black regains his pawn. The critical position can arise after 16 d5 a6. Now 17 ♕e2 is parried by 17 ... ♘c5, when if 18 ♘xe5 ♖e8, and Black regains his pawn (for example, 19 f4 f6 20 ♘f3 ♗xd5 etc).

By returning his knight to its initial square, Black admits that his strategy has been incorrect. Now White's initiative assumes real proportions.

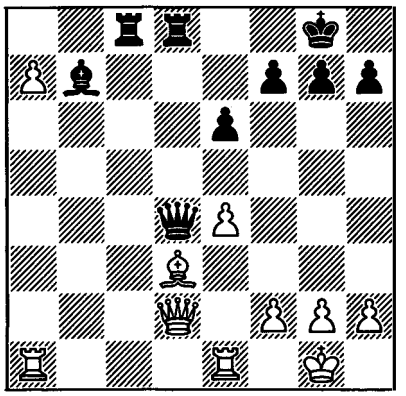
16 a5 ♘c6
17 axb6 ♘xd4!?

Typical of Tal. Passive defence after 17 ... axb6 18 ♗a6 or 18 ♗b5 does not suit him, but nevertheless this was the lesser evil. Now, by accurate play, White succeeds in neutralizing Black's temporary counterplay, and his pawn at a7 becomes a winning

trump.

18 ♘xd4 ♕xd4
19 bxa7 ♖fd8 *(163)*

163



20 ♖a3!

Simple and convincing. On 20 ... ♗xe4? there follows 21 ♖xe4 ♕xe4 22 ♗xe4 ♖xd2 23 g3, and the a-pawn queens.

20 ... ♗a8 21 h3 h6 22 ♖c1!

A further subtlety. The exchange of a pair of rooks will later make it easier for White to realize his advantage.

22 ... ♕b6 23 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 24 ♖a2 ♖c7 25 ♕e3!

Black's misfortune is that the endgame is totally without promise for him, and this allows White to strengthen unhindered the placing of his pieces.

25 ... ♕b3

After 25 ... ♕xe3 26 fxe3 e5 27 ♖a4! Black has no defence against 28 ♗c4 followed by ♗d5. For example, 27 ... ♔h7 28 ♗c4 ♗xe4? is totally bad because of 29 ♗d3!.

26 ♖a1 ♖d7 27 ♗f1 ♕b2 28 ♕a3 ♕b6 29 ♕a5 ♕b2 30 ♕a3 ♕b6 31 ♕a6 ♕c5 32 ♕b5 ♕d4 33 ♕a4 ♕d6 34 ♖b1

White's rook has been relieved of the necessity to defend the a7 pawn, and now it comes into play, which immediately decides the outcome.

34 ... ♖d8
35 ♕a5 ♔h7

36 ♕xd8! was threatened.

36 e5 ♕d4 37 ♖b3 ♖d5 38 ♕a3 Black resigns

(367) Petrosian-Savon
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 g6 5 ♗e2 ♗g7 6 0-0 0-0 7 d4 ♗e6 8 b3 h6 9 a4 ♘e4 10 ♗b2 ♘d7 11 a5 a6 12 ♕c2 f5 13 ♗d3 ♗f7 14 ♘e2 ♖c8 15 ♖fd1 ♘g5 16 ♘e5 ♘xe5 17 dxe5 ♕c7 18 f4 ♘e4 19 ♗a3 ♖fd8 20 ♗xe4 dxe4 21 ♗c5 ♖xd1+ 22 ♕xd1 ♕d8 23 ♘d4 ♔h7 24 ♕e1 e6 25 ♕b4 ♕d7 26 ♖d1 ♖d8 27 ♗b6 ♖g8 28 ♕d6 ♕e8 29 ♘c2 g5 30 ♕d7 ♕f8 31 ♕xb7 gxf4 32 ♖d8 ♗e8 33 exf4 ♔h8 34 b4 h5 35 ♗c5 ♕f7 36 ♕xf7 ♗xf7 1-0

(368) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 ♗d7 ½-½

(369) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 d3 e6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗b4+ 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 0-0 ♗xc3 8 bxc3 c5 9 e4 ♘c6 10 ♕e2 d6 11 ♘h4 a6 12 a4 ♘a5 13 ♗g5 ♗c6 14 ♖fb1 ♖b8 15 ♕f3 h6 16 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 17 ♕xf6 gxf6 18 ♖b2 ♖b7

19 ♗f1 ♖fb8 20 ♘g2 ♗d7 21 ♘e3 ♘c6 22 f4 ♔f8 23 ♖d2 ♘e7 24 ♗g2 ♗c6 25 d4 cxd4 26 cxd4 b5 27 d5 exd5 28 exd5 ♗d7 29 cxb5 axb5 30 a5 ♘f5 31 ♘xf5 ♗xf5 32 ♗f1 ♖a7 33 ♖b2 b4 34 a6 b3 35 ♗c4 ½-½

(370) Gufeld-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 g3 d6 5 ♗g2 ♘c6 6 0-0 ♘f6 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗d7 9 ♘de2 ♗e7 10 h3 b5 11 a3 0-0 12 g4 ♘e8 13 f4 a5 14 ♘g3 ♕b6+ 15 ♔h2 ♘c7 16 g5 b4 17 ♘ce2 ♖fd8 18 ♘h5 ♗f8 19 ♕e1 ♘e8 20 f5 ♘e5 21 ♘ef4 exf5 22 exf5 ♗c6 23 g6 ♗xg2 24 gxf7+ ♔xf7 25 ♘xg2 ♖ac8 26 axb4 axb4 27 ♗e3 ♕b5 28 ♖a7+ ♖c7 29 ♘hf4 ♖xa7 30 ♗xa7 ♖c8 31 c3 bxc3 32 bxc3 ♖xc3 33 ♕xc3 ♕xf1 34 ♕c8 ♕c4 35 ♕b7+ ♔g8 36 ♘e6 ♕c6 37 ♕b3 d5 38 ♘xf8 ♔xf8 39 ♘f4 ♘c4 40 ♕f3 ♘f6 ½-½

International Tournament
Sarajevo, March-April 1972

1 Szabo 11; 2 **Petrosian** (+6 -0 =9) 10½; 3-5 Hort, Jansa, Keres 9½; 6 Vukić 9; 7 Matulović 7½; 8-10 Basagić, Minić, Tatai 7; 11-12 Gasić, Kosanski 6½; 13 Bukal 6; 14 Ivanović 5; 15 Bogdanović 4½; 16 Rajković 4.

(371) Petrosian-Vukić
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 c5 7 ♗e3 b6 8 ♕d2 ♘c6 9 d5 ♘e5 10 ♘g3 e6 11 ♗g5 exd5 12 ♘xd5 ♗e6 13 ♗e2 ♗xd5 14 cxd5 a6 15 h4 b5 16 h5 ♖e8 17 ♔f1 ♕b6 18 ♖c1 ♘fd7 19 b3 ♘f8 20 ♗h6 ♗xh6 21 ♕xh6 ♕d8 22 ♖h3 ♕f6 23 ♘f5 ♘ed7 ½-½

(372) Basagić-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 e4 ♘f6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 ♗g4 7 0-0 ♘fd7 8 ♗e3 a5 9 ♘e1 ♗xe2 10 ♕xe2 e6 11 ♖d1 ♕e7 12 ♘d3 ♘c6 13 ♘b5 ♖fc8 14 f4 f5 15 e5 d5 16 cxd5 exd5 17 a4 ♘d8 18 ♖c1 ♘f8 19 ♖c2 ♘f7 20 ♖fc1 c6 21 g4 fxg4 22 ♕xg4 ♘h6 23 ♕h3 ♘f5 24 ♗f2 ♘e6 25 ♘c3 ♘exd4 26 ♘xd5 ♕d8 27 ♗xd4 ♘xd4 28 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 29 exf6 ♘xc2 30 ♕e6+ ♔f8 31 ♖xc2 ♖c7 32 ♖c3 ♕d4+ 0-1

(373) Petrosian-Minić
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 d6 5 e4 ♘f6 6 ♗d3 0-0 7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗d2 e6 9 h3 exd5 10 exd5 ♖e8+ 11 ♘ge2 a6 12 a4 ♘fd7 13 f4 ♕h4+ 14 ♔f1 b6 15 ♕e1 ♕d8 16 g4 a5 17 ♕g3 ♘f6 18 f5 ♘bd7 19 fxg6 fxg6 20 ♗xg6 ♖f8 21 ♔g2 ♘e5 22 ♗d3 ♖a7 23 ♘f4 ♖af7 24 ♗e2 ♘h7 25 ♖hf1 ♘f6 26 ♖ae1 ♖e7 27 b3 ♖fe8 28 ♗d1 ♘f7 29 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 30 ♗c2 1-0

(374) Bukal-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 ♘h6 6 0-0 ♘f5 7 b3 b6 8 ♗b2 ♗b7 9 e3 0-0 10 ♘a4 ♗xb2 11 ♘xb2 e6 12 d3 ♕f6 13 ♘a4 ♖ad8 14 ♖c1 d5 15 cxd5 exd5 16 ♕d2 ♖fe8 17 ♖fd1 ♖e7 18 ♕b2 ♕xb2 19 ♘xb2 ♔g7 20 g4 ♘d6 21 d4 cxd4 22 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 23 ♖xd4 ♘b5 24 ♖d2 d4 25 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 26 a4 ♘c3 27 ♔g2 ½-½

(375) Petrosian-Jansa
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d4 cxd4 5

♘xd4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 d6 7 f3 ♘xd4 8 ♕xd4 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♕a5 11 ♖c1 ♗e6 12 ♗e2 ♖fc8 13 b3 a6 14 ♘a4 ♕xd2+ 15 ♔xd2 ♘d7 16 ♖hd1 ♖ab8 17 ♘c3 f5 18 exf5 gxf5 19 ♔e1 ♗xc3+ 20 ♖xc3 b5 21 ♗d4 bxc4 22 ♖dc1 ♘c5 23 ♗xc5 ♖xc5 24 ♗xc4 ♖e5+ 25 ♔f2 ♔f7 26 ♗xe6+ ♖xe6 27 ♖c4 ♖b5 ½-½

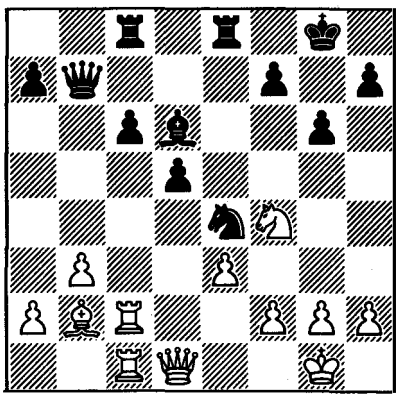
(376) Szabo-Petrosian
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 d6 4 ♘c3 g6 5 e4 ♗g7 6 ♘ge2 0-0 7 ♘g3 e6 8 ♗e2 exd5 9 cxd5 a6 10 a4 ♖e8 11 ♗f4 ♕c7 12 ♕d2 ♘bd7 13 0-0 b6 14 ♗h6 ♗h8 15 h3 ½-½

(377) Petrosian-Hort
Nimzowitsch Opening

1 ♘f3 c5 2 b3 d5 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♗b2 e6 5 c4 ♘c6 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗e2 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 d4 ♗g4 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♘c3 ♖c8 12 ♖c1 ♗e7 13 ♘d4 ♗xe2 14 ♘cxe2 ♕d7 15 ♘f4 ♖fd8 16 ♕d3 ♘e4 17 ♘xc6 bxc6 18 ♖c2 ♗f8 19 ♖fc1 ♕b7 20 ♕e2 ♖e8 21 ♕g4 g6 22 ♕d1 ♗d6 *(164)*

164



23 ♘xd5 ♖cd8 24 ♖xc6 ♕b8 25 f4 ♖e6 26 ♕d4 1-0

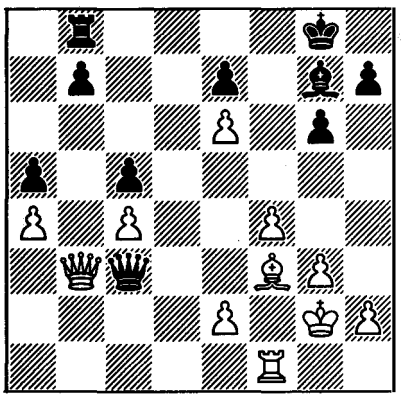
(378) Bogdanović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♕g4 ♗f8 6 a3 ♘e7 7 ♘f3 ♕d7 8 b4 c6 9 ♖b1 ♘f5 10 ♗d3 ♗a6 11 b5 cxb5 12 ♘xb5 ♘c6 13 0-0 h5 14 ♕f4 g6 15 h4 ♗e7 16 g3 ♔f8 17 ♖d1 ♖c8 18 ♔g2 ♘a5 19 a4 ♘c4 20 ♘d2 ♗b7 21 ♘xc4 dxc4+ 22 ♗e4 ♔g7 23 ♘c3 ♖hd8 24 a5 ♗xe4 25 ♕xe4 bxa5 26 d5 exd5 27 ♖xd5 ♕e6 28 ♗g5 ♖xd5 29 ♕xd5 ♗xg5 30 hxg5 ♖e8 31 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 32 f4 ♖b6 33 ♖a1 ♖b2 34 ♘d5 ♖xc2+ 35 ♔f3 ♘d4+ 36 ♔e4 ♘b3 37 ♖a4 ♘c5+ 0-1

(379) Petrosian-Matulović
Dutch Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘f3 ♗g7 3 d4 f5 4 g3 ♘f6 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 0-0 d6 7 d5 c5 8 ♘c3 ♘a6 9 ♖b1 ♗d7 10 b3 ♘c7 11 a4 a6 12 b4 cxb4 13 ♖xb4 ♖b8 14 ♕b3 ♘e4 15 ♘xe4 fxe4 16 ♘g5 a5 17 ♖b6 ♘a6 18 ♗e3 ♘c5 19 ♗xc5 dxc5 20 ♘e6 ♗xe6 21 ♖xe6 ♖f6 22 ♗xe4 ♕c7 23 f4 ♕d8 24 ♗f3 ♖xe6 25 dxe6 ♕d4+ 26 ♔g2 ♕c3 *(165)*

165



27 ♕xc3 ♗xc3 28 ♖d1 ♔f8 29 ♖d7 b6 30 ♗d5 ♔e8 31 e4 h6 32 ♔f3 ♔f8 33 e5 g5 34 ♔e4 gxf4 35 gxf4 ♔e8 36 f5 ♖c8 37 ♖b7 ♖d8 38 f6 exf6 39 ♗c6+ ♔f8 40 e7+ 1-0

(380) Gasić-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 a6 7 g5 ♘fd7 8 ♗e3 b5 9 ♗g2 ♗b7 10 a4 b4 11 ♘a2 ♘c5 12 f3 a5 13 c3 bxc3 14 ♘xc3 ♗e7 15 h4 ♘ba6 16 ♕e2 0-0 17 ♖d1 ♕e8 18 ♘db5 ♖d8 19 ♔f2 f6 20 gxf6 ♗xf6 21 ♔g1 ♕e7 22 h5 ♗e5 23 h6 g6 24 ♕d2 ♘b4 25 ♗g5 ♗f6 26 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 27 ♘xd6 ♗c6 28 ♕e3 ♘xa4 29 ♘xa4 ♗xa4 30 b3 ♕e5 31 bxa4 ♖xd6 32 ♖xd6 ♕xd6 33 ♕a7 ♕e5 34 ♕d7 ♘c2 35 ♔f2 ♕c5+ 36 ♔g3 ♕g5+ 37 ♔f2 ♕e3+ 38 ♔g3 ♕g5+ 39 ♔f2 ♕c5+ 40 ♔g3 ♕e5+ 41 ♔f2 ♕c5+ ½-½

(381) Petrosian-Keres
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 ♘e4 8 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 9 ♖c1 c6 10 ♗d3 ♘xc3 11 bxc3 ♘d7 12 0-0 e5 13 dxe5 dxc4 14 ♗xc4 ♘xe5 15 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 16 ♕d4 ♕e7 ½-½

(382) Petrosian-Ivanović
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 b6 7 ♗d3 a6 8 ♘ge2 c5 9 d5 e6 10 0-0 exd5 11 cxd5 ♘bd7 12 b3 b5 13 h3 ♖e8 14 ♕d2 ♘b6 15 ♖ac1 ♗d7 16 ♗f4 ♕e7 17 ♘d1 ♖ab8 18 ♖e1 ♖b7 19 ♗g5 ♖c8 20 ♕a5 ♗e8 21 ♔h1 ♕c7 22 ♕d2 ♕b8 23 ♗h6 ♖e7 24 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 25 ♘g3 ♗d7 26 ♕b2 ♖ce8 27 ♘c3 ♗c8 28 ♗e2 h5 29 a4 b4 30 ♘d1 h4 31 ♘f1 a5 32 ♗b5 ♗d7 33 ♘de3 ♗xb5 34 axb5 ♖e5 35 ♖a1 ♕d8 36 ♘d2 ♔h7 37 ♘dc4 ♘xc4 38 ♘xc4 ♖g5 39 ♖xa5 ♘xd5 40 ♕f2 ♘f6 41 ♕xh4+ ♖h5 42 ♕g3 d5 43 ♖d1 ♕b8 44 ♕xb8 ♖xb8 45 exd5 ♖xd5 46 ♖xd5 ♘xd5 47 b6 ♘xb6 48 ♘xb6 ♖xb6 49 ♖xc5 f6 50 h4 ♔h6 51 ♔h2 ♖d6 52 ♖c4 ♖b6 53 g4 ♖b5 54 ♔g3 g5 55 hxg5+ ♔xg5 56 f4+ ♔g6 57 ♔h4 ♖b8 58 f5+ ♔h6 59 ♖c6 ♔g7 60 ♖c7+ ♔h6 61 ♖f7 1-0

(383) Tatai-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 c6 5 ♘e2 ♗d6 6 ♗f4 ♘e7 7 c3 ♗f5 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 10 ♘g3 ♗xd3 11 ♕xd3 ♘d7 12 ♘d2 ½-½

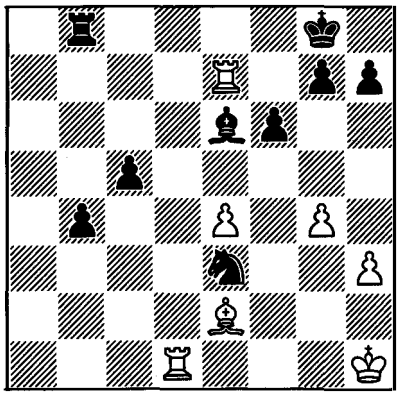
(384) Petrosian-Rajković
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 c5 4 e3 d5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 ♗d3 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 a3 cxd4 10 exd4 ♘xc3 11 bxc3 b6 12 ♕e2 ♗b7 13 ♖d1 ♗f6 14 a4 ♖c8 15 ♗a3 ♖e8 16 ♗b5 ♕d5 17 ♖ab1 ♖ed8 18 ♗d3 ♘a5 19 ♖b5 ♕c6 ½-½

(385) Kosanski-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 d6 6 d4 cxd4 7 ♘xd4 ♗d7 8 0-0 ♘f6 9 ♘ce2 ♖c8 10 b3 ♗e7 11 c4 0-0 12 ♗b2 ♕a5 13 a3 ♕b6 14 ♖c1 ♖fd8 15 h3 ♗e8 16 ♘xc6 bxc6 17 ♕c2 ♘d7 18 ♗d4 ♕c7 19 f4 ♖b8 20 g4 e5 21 ♗e3 ♕a5 22 ♖a1 exf4 23 b4 ♕c7 24 ♗xf4 ♘e5 25 ♔h1 f6 26 ♘d4 ♗f7 27 ♖fc1 ♗f8 28 ♗f1 c5 29 ♘f5 cxb4 30 axb4 ♖xb4 31 ♗d2 a5 32 ♗xb4 axb4 33 ♘e3 ♕c5 34 ♘d5 ♖b8 35 ♖ab1 ♘c6 36 ♕d2 ♗e7 37 ♘xe7+ ♘xe7 38 ♖d1 ♖b6 39 ♕d4 ♗e6 40 ♗e2 ♘g6 41 ♖a1 ♘e5 42 ♕xc5 dxc5 43 ♖a7 ♖b8 44 ♖c7 ♘xc4 45 ♖e7 ♘e3 *(166)*

166



46 ♖d3 b3 47 ♖xe3 b2 48 ♗d3 ♖b3 49 ♖e2 ♖xd3 50 ♖xb2 ♗b3 51 ♔h2 c4 52 e5 fxe5 53 ♖xe5 h6 54 ♖c5 ♔f7 55 ♖c7+ ♔f6 56 ♖f2+ ♔e5 57 ♖xg7 c3 58 ♖f5+ ♔d6 59 ♖g6+ ♗e6 60 ♖xh6 ♖d2+ 61 ♔g3 c2 62 ♖xe6+ ♔xe6 63 ♖c5 ♔d6 64 ♖c8 ♔e5 65 g5 ♔f5 66 ♔h4 ♖g2 67 ♖c5+ ♔f4 68 ♖c6 ♖xg5 69 ♖c4+ ♔f5 70 ♖xc2 ♖g1 71 ♔h5 ♖g5+ ½-½

USSR v. Yugoslavia
Ohrid, June-July 1972

Board 1, +2 –0 =2.

(386) Petrosian-Ivkov
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 g3 g6 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 exd4 6 ♘xd4 ♗g7 7 ♘xc6 bxc6 8 ♗g2 ♘e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♗g5 ♖b8 11 ♕c1 c5 12 b3 ♗b7 13 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 14 ♗h6 ♗xh6 15 ♕xh6 ♘f5 16 ♕f4 ♘d4 17 ♖ad1 ♖b8 18 ♖d2 f5 19 h4 ♕f6 20 ♘d5 ♕g7 21 e3 ♘c6 22 ♕f3 ♘e5 23 ♕e2 ♖be8 24 ♔g2 h6 25 ♖h1 ♖f7 26 ♖dd1 ♘g4 27 ♕d3 ♕e5 28 ♖he1 ♕e4+ 29 f3 ♕xd3 30 ♖xd3 ♘f6 ½-½

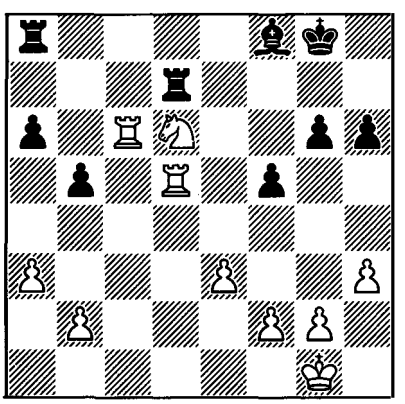
(387) Ivkov-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 ♕e2 ♕e7 6 d3 ♘f6 7 ♗g5 ♕xe2+ 8 ♔xe2 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 h6 10 ♗e3 c6 11 g3 ♘a6 12 ♗g2 0-0 13 ♖he1 ♖e8 14 ♔f1 ♗d7 15 ♖e2 ½-½

(388) Petrosian-Planinc
1 ... b6

1 c4 b6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗b7 4 d5 e6 5 a3 ♗d6 6 ♘f3 exd5 7 cxd5 0-0 8 ♗g5 ♖e8 9 e3 ♗e7 10 ♗c4 h6 11 ♗f4 ♗a6 12 ♕d3 ♕c8 13 0-0 c6 14 ♗xa6 ♕xa6 15 ♕f5 d6 16 dxc6 ♘xc6 17 ♖fd1 ♖ad8 18 ♖ac1 ♕b7 19 h3 ♗f8 20 ♘b5 ♘e7 21 ♕d3 ♘ed5 22 ♗g3 ♖d7 23 ♗h4 a6 24 ♘bd4 ♘e4 25 ♘c6 ♘df6 26 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 27 ♘b4 b5 28 ♘d5 ♘xd5 29 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 30 ♖xd5 ♖b7 31 ♖c6 ♖a8 32 ♘d2 g6 33 ♘e4 f5 34 ♘xd6 ♖d7 *(167)*

167

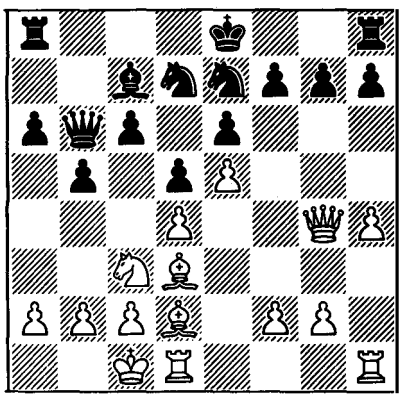


35 ♘e4 ♖xd5 36 ♘f6+ ♔f7 37 ♘xd5 ♖d8 38 ♖c7+ ♔e6 39 ♘f4+ ♔f6 40 g4 g5 41 ♘h5+ ♔e5 42 ♖a7 ♔e4 43 ♔g2 f4 44 ♘f6+ ♔d3 45 exf4 gxf4 46 ♖xa6 ♖d6 47 ♖xd6 ♗xd6 48 ♘d5 1-0

(389) Planinc-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 ♘f3 ♗g4 4 h3 ♗xf3 5 ♕xf3 e6 6 d3 ♘d7 7 ♗d2 ♗d6 8 d4 a6 9 0-0-0 b5 10 ♗d3 ♘e7 11 h4 ♕b6 12 e5 ♗c7 13 ♕g4 *(168)*

168



13 ... h5 14 ♕xg7 ♖g8 15 ♕h7 ♕xd4 16 f4 ♘c5 17 ♖h3 ♘xd3+ 18 ♖xd3 ♕f2 19 ♗e3 ♕xh4 20 ♘e4 ♗xe5 21 ♘g5 ♗g7 22 g3 ♕g4 23 ♗d4 ♕f5 24 ♕xh5 ♗xd4 25 ♖xd4 e5 26 ♖4d2 e4 27 ♖e1 ♖c8 28 ♔b1 ♕g6 29 ♕h1 f6 30 ♘h7 ♔f7 31 ♖h2 ♘f5 32 ♕g1 ♕xg3 33 ♕a7+ ♔e6 34 ♖hh1 e3 35 ♕xa6 ♕xf4 36 ♖hf1 ♕e4 37 ♕b7 d4 38 ♖g1 ♘d6 39 ♕b6 ♖xg1 40 ♖xg1 e2 41 ♖e1 d3 42 cxd3 ♕xd3+ 0-1

20th World Chess Olympiad
Skopje, September-October 1972

Board 1, +6 –1 =9.

(390) Petrosian-Boey
Chigorin Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 dxc4 4 e3 ♘f6 5 ♗xc4 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗b4 7 ♕c2 0-0 8 a3 ♗xc3+ 9 bxc3 ♘a5 10 ♗d3 c5 11 0-0 c4 12 ♗e2 b6 13 a4 ♗b7 14 ♘d2 ♖e8 15 ♗a3 e5 16 dxe5 ♖xe5 17 ♖ad1 ♕e8 18 ♘f3 ♗e4 19 ♕a2 ♗xf3 20 ♗xf3 ♘e4 21 ♖d4 ♖c8 22 ♕c2 f5 23 ♖fd1 ♘b3 24 ♖d7 a6 25 ♗xe4 fxe4 26 ♕e2 ♖e6 27 ♕g4 ♖g6 28 ♕h4 ♖f6 29 ♗e7 1-0

(391) Petrosian-J.Rodriguez
Sicilian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 c4 ♗g7 4 ♘c3 c5 5 e4 0-0 6 ♗e2 cxd4 7 ♘xd4 d6 8 ♗e3 ♘c6 9 0-0 ♘xd4 10 ♗xd4 ♗e6 11 ♕d3 ♖c8 12 b3 ♕a5 13 f4 ♖fe8 14 h3 ♗d7 15 ♕e3 ♗c6 16 a3 ♕c7 17 ♖ac1 ♘d7 18 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 19 b4 b6 20 ♗g4 ♖cd8 21 ♘d5 ♕b8 22 ♗xd7 ♖xd7 23 b5 ♗xd5 24 cxd5 e6 25 ♖c6 ♔g8 26 ♕c3 exd5 27 exd5 ♕d8 28 f5 ♕g5 29 ♔h2 gxf5 30 ♖f3 f4 31 ♕d4 ♖e3 32 ♖c8+ ♖d8 33 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 34 ♖xf4 ♖e5 35 ♖g4+ ♖g5 36 ♖e4 ♖f5 37 ♕c3 h5 38 ♕c6 ♕f6 ½-½

(392) Philippe-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 g3 ♗g7 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 0-0 5 ♘f3 d6 6 d4 ♘c6 7 0-0 a6 8 e4 ♗g4 9 h3 ♗xf3 10 ♗xf3 ♘d7 11 ♗e3 e5 12 d5 ♘d4 13 ♗g2 c5 14 ♖b1 ♕a5 15 ♗d2 ♕c7 16 b4 ♘b6 17 bxc5 dxc5 0-1

(393) Westerinen-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♕c7 6 0-0 ♘f6 7 c4 ♘c6 8 ♘xc6 dxc6 9 ♗e3 e5 10 h3 ♗e6 11 ♘c3 ♘d7 12 ♘d5 ♕d8 13 b4 f6 14 ♘c3 ♗xb4 15 ♕b3 ♕a5 16 ♖fc1 0-0 17 ♖ab1 ♗a3 18 ♖d1 b5 19 ♗f1 ♔h8 20 ♗d2 ♗c5 21 ♕c2 ♕c7 22 cxb5 axb5 23 ♗e1 ♕a7 24 ♖b2 ♗d4 25

♖bb1 ♖fc8 26 ♖dc1 ♘b6 27 ♕e2 ♕f7 28 ♖c2 ♘c4 29 ♖bc1 ♘a3 30 ♖b2 ♖cb8 0-1

(394) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗c4 ♘c6 12 0-0 b6 13 ♖fd1 ♘e7 14 a4 ♗b7 15 ♗d3 ♘g6 16 a5 ♘h4 17 ♘xh4 ♕xh4 18 ♕e3 ♖fd8 19 ♖ab1 ♖d6 20 e5 ♖d7 21 ♗b5 ♖dd8 22 axb6 axb6 23 ♗f1 ♗a6 24 g3 ♕h5 25 ♗g2 ♖ab8 26 ♗f3 ♕h6 27 ♕xh6 gxh6 28 ♖b4 ♔g7 29 h4 ♖dc8 30 d5 exd5 31 ♗xd5 ♖d8 32 ♗b3 ♖xd1+ 33 ♗xd1 ♗d3 34 f4 f6 35 exf6+ ♔xf6 36 ♖d4 ♗g6 37 ♗b3 h5 38 ♔f2 b5 39 ♔e3 ♖b6 40 ♖d8 ♔e7 41 ♖d5 ♔f6 ½-½

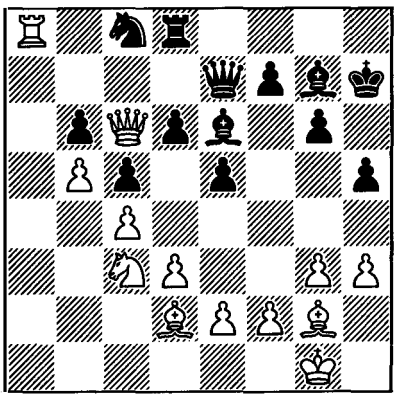
(395) Hübner-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♕c7 6 0-0 ♘f6 7 ♔h1 ♘c6 8 ♘xc6 bxc6 9 f4 d5 10 ♘d2 ♗e7 11 b3 c5 12 ♗b2 ♗b7 13 ♕e2 0-0 14 e5 ♘e8 15 c4 d4 16 ♘e4 ♖b8 17 b4 cxb4 18 ♗xd4 ♖d8 19 ♗g1 ♕c6 20 ♖ae1 f5 21 exf6 ♘xf6 22 ♗b1 ♘xe4 23 ♗xe4 ♕xe4 24 ♕xe4 ♗xe4 25 ♖xe4 a5 26 ♖xe6 ♗f6 27 ♗c5 ♖f7 28 ♗d6 ♖b7 29 c5 ♖c8 30 g4 ♔f7 31 ♖e4 ♗e7 32 ♖fe1 ♗xd6 33 cxd6 ♖d8 34 ♖d4 g6 35 ♔g2 ♖bd7 36 ♖e5 ♖xd6 37 ♖xd6 ♖xd6 1-0 (time)

(396) Petrosian-Ree
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 g3 ♘c6 3 ♗g2 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 d3 d6 6 ♗d2 h5 7 ♘f3 ♗d7 8 a3 ♕c8 9 h3 ♘h6 10 ♘d5 ♘d8 11 ♘g5 ♘e6 12 ♘xe6 ♗xe6 13 ♗a5 b6 14 ♗d2 c6 15 ♘c3 0-0 16 b4 a6 17 a4 ♘f5 18 ♖b1 ♖a7 19 b5 axb5 20 axb5 c5 21 ♖a1 ♕b8 22 0-0 ♖d8 23 ♖xa7 ♕xa7 24 ♕a1 ♕b8 25 ♕a2 ♘e7 26 ♖a1 ♘c8 27 ♕a8 ♕c7 28 ♕c6 ♕e7 29 ♖a8 ♔h7 *(169)*

169



30 ♘d5 1-0

(397) Petrosian-Bobotsov
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 ♘e4 8 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 9 cxd5 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 exd5 11 ♕b3 c6 12 ♗d3 ♘d7 13 0-0 ♘f6 14 ♖fe1 ♗e6 15 a4 c5 16 ♕b5 ♖fc8 17 ♘d2 ♖c7 18 a5 ♖ac8 ½-½

(398) Petrosian-Schmidt
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 cxd5 ♘xd5 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♘b6 6 d3 ♗g7 7 ♗e3 ♘c6 8 ♗xc6+ bxc6 9 ♕c1 h6 10 ♘f3 ♗h3 11 ♖g1 ♗g4 12 ♘d2 ♘d5 13 ♘xd5 cxd5 14 ♘b3 ♕d6 15 f3 ♗d7 16 d4 ♖b8 17 ♔f2 h5 18 ♗f4 e5 19 dxe5 ♗xe5 20 ♕e3 f6 21 ♕xa7 0-0 22 ♖ac1 ♖fe8 23 ♗xe5 ♕xe5 24 ♖ge1 ♖a8 25 ♕xc7 ♕e3+ 26 ♔g2 ♖a7 27 ♕d6 h4 28

gxh4 ♗e6 29 ♖c3 ♕b6 30 a3 ♖d7 31 ♕g3 d4 32 ♖d3 ♗xb3 33 ♖xb3 ♕d2 34 ♔f1 ♔h7 35 ♖b8 ♖e5 36 ♕g4 f5 37 ♕g5 ♖e3 38 ♕f6 1-0

(399) Andersson-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘c6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 g3 d6 7 ♗g2 ♗d7 8 0-0 ♘f6 9 ♖e1 ♗e7 10 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 11 a4 0-0 12 a5 ♘d7 13 ♗e3 ♕b8 14 ♕d2 ♖d8 15 ♘a4 ♗xa4 16 ♖xa4 ♖c8 17 ♖c1 ♖c7 18 ♕e2 ♕e8 19 ♖c4 ♕c8 20 ♖a4 ♕e8 21 ♖c4 ♕c8 22 ♖a4 ½-½

'(400) Hort-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 ♕f3 ♘e7 6 ♘c3 c6 7 ♗f4 0-0 8 ♘ge2 ♗xf4 9 ♕xf4 ♘d7 ½-½

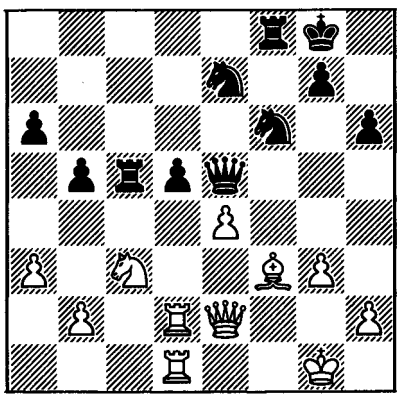
(401) Petrosian-Hug
Dutch Defence

1 ♘f3 e6 2 g3 f5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 0-0 ♗e7 5 b3 0-0 6 ♗b2 a5 7 a3 ♕e8 8 c4 d6 9 d4 ♕h5 10 ♘c3 ♘bd7 11 e3 c6 12 ♘e2 g5 13 b4 axb4 14 axb4 ♖xa1 15 ♗xa1 d5 16 c5 ♘g4 17 h3 ♘h6 18 ♗c3 ♘f7 19 b5 ♗f6 20 ♕a1 cxb5 21 ♖b1 ♘d8 22 ♖xb5 ♘c6 23 ♕b2 ♕f7 24 ♘e1 ♗d8 25 ♖b3 ♗c7 26 ♘d3 ♕g7 27 ♕a2 ♘f6 28 ♗e1 ♘h5 29 ♗f3 ♘f6 30 ♗g2 ♘h5 31 ♗d2 ♔h8 32 ♕b1 ♗b8 33 ♖a3 ♗c7 34 ♖a8 h6 35 ♕d1 ♕g6 36 ♗c1 ♔h7 37 ♘c3 ♘f6 38 ♘b5 ♕g7 39 ♘d6 ♕d7 40 ♘e5 ♘xe5 41 dxe5 ♘e4 42 ♗a3 ♗xd6 43 exd6 ♖g8 1-0

(402) Gligorić-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♖c1 ♗e6 9 ♘e5 ♘fd7 10 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 11 ♘d3 ♘f6 12 ♘f4 ♖d8 13 ♗e2 c5 14 0-0 ♘c6 15 ♗f3 ♕d6 16 g3 a6 17 ♖e1 ♖ac8 18 ♗g2 ♘e7 19 dxc5 ♖xc5 20 ♕d2 h6 21 ♘xe6 fxe6 22 ♖cd1 b5 23 a3 ♕c7 24 ♕e2 e5 25 ♖d2 e4 26 ♖ed1 ♖f8 27 f3 exf3 28 ♗xf3 ♕e5 29 e4 *(170)*

170



29 ... ♖xc3 30 bxc3 dxe4 31 ♖d4 ♘c6 32 ♖xe4 ♘xe4 33 ♕xe4 ♕xe4 34 ♗xe4 ♘e5 35 ♗b7 ♖f6 36 ♖d8+ ♔f7 37 ♖a8 ♘c4 38 ♗d5+ ♔e7 39 ♗xc4 bxc4 40 ♖c8 ♖b6 41 ♖xc4 ♖b2 ½-½

'(403) Petrosian-Kavalek
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 b4 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 0-0 5 e3 d6 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d3 a5 8 a3 e4 9 dxe4 ♘xe4 10 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 11 ♕d4+ ♕f6 12 ♕xf6+ ♔xf6 13 b5 ♘d7 14 ♘d4 ♘b6 15 ♘d2 ♘c5 16 0-0 ♗e6 17 ♖ac1 ♔e7 18 ♗f3 f5 ½-½

(404) Petrosian-R.Garcia
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e3 e6 6 d4 ♘c6 7 ♗c4 cxd4 8 exd4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 a6 11 a4 ♘cb4 12 ♘e5 ♗d7 13 ♗b3 ♖c8 14 ♕f3 ♗c6 15 ♕h3 ♗g5 16 ♗xg5 ♕xg5 17 ♘e4 ♕d8 18 a5 ♘f4 19 ♕f3 ♗xe4 20 ♕xe4 ♘fd5 21 g3 ♖c7 22 ♕e2 ♕f6 23 ♖ac1 ♖fc8 24 ♘d7 ♕d8 25 ♘c5 ♖e7 26 ♕f3 h6 27 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 28 ♕a3 ♖b8 29 ♖ed1 ♖c7 30 ♖d3 ♕d6 31 ♖cd1 ♖e7 32 ♖b3 ♖c7 33 ♕a4 ♔h7 34 ♕c4 ♕d8 35 ♕e2 ♕e8 36 ♕e5 ♕c8 37 h4 ♔g8 38 ♖f3 ♕e8 39 ♖a1 ♖bc8 ½-½

(405) Gheorghiu-Petrosian
English Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 ♘f3 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 g6 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 ♘db5 ♘xc3 8 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9 ♘xc3 ♗g7 10 ♗d2 ♘c6 11 g3 ♗e6 12 ♗g2 ♖c8 13 0-0 ♔e8 14 ♖fc1 b6 15 ♘d1 ♔d7 16 ♗c3 ♗xc3 17 ♘xc3 ♖hd8 18 ♖d1+ ♔e8 19 ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 20 f4 ♖c5 21 ♖d1 f6 22 ♗d5 ♗xd5 23 ♖xd5 ♖c8 24 ♔f2 ♘b7 25 ♔e3 ♘a5 26 ♔d3 ♘c6 27 ♔e3 e6 28 ♖d3 ♔e7 29 ♔d2 ♘a5 30 b3 ♘c6 31 a3 f5 32 ♘b5 ½-½

Moscow Olympiad
October-November 1972

(406) Bronstein-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 d5 5 ♕e2 ♘ge7 6 ♗g2 g6 7 0-0 ♗g7 8 e5 h6 9 c3 g5 10 h3 ♗d7 11 ♘a3 a6 12 d4 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♕b6 14 ♖d1 0-0-0 15 b3 ♘g6 16 ♘c2 ♗f8 17 ♗d2 ♔b8 18 ♖dc1 ♖c8 19 ♕e1 ♗e7 20 ♖ab1 f5 21 exf6 ♗xf6 22 a4 ♖he8 23 ♗e3 ♕d8 24 ♕d2 ♘ge7 25 b4 ♘a7 26 b5 axb5 27 ♘e5 ♘f5 28 axb5 ♗xb5 29 ♖a1 ♖e7 30 ♖cb1 ♘d6 31 ♘b4 ♗c4 32 ♕b2 ♘db5 33 ♘bd3 ♗xd3 34 ♘xd3 ♖ec7 35 ♕a2 ♖c2 36 ♕a4 ♖8c4 37 ♘b4 ♗e7 38 ♗f1 ♕d6 39 ♕xc2 ♖xc2 40 ♘xc2 ♕d7 41 ♖b3 ½-½

(407) Petrosian-Kotov
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♗g5 ♘d5 12 ♗xe7 ♘cxe7 13 ♘e5 b6 14 a5 ♗b7 15 axb6 ♕xb6 16 ♘c3 ♘xc3 17 bxc3 ♘g6 18 ♗d3 ♘xe5 19 ♕xe5 ♖fd8 20 c4 g6 21 ♖ab1 ♕c6 22 f3 ♖d7 23 ♗e4 ♕a4 24 c5 ♗d5 25 h4 h5 26 ♖a1 ♕c6 27 ♖db1 ♗xe4 28 fxe4 f6 29 ♕xf6 ♕xe4 30 ♖e1 ♕xd4+ 31 ♕xd4 ♖xd4 32 ♖xe6 ♔f7 33 ♖b6 ♖xh4 34 ♖c1 a5 35 c6 ♖b4 36 ♖xb4 axb4 37 ♖b1 ½-½

International Tournament
San Antonio, November-December 1972

1-3 Karpov, **Petrosian** (+6 –0 =9), Portisch 10½; 4 Gligorić 10; 5 Keres 9½; 6-7 Hort, Suttles 9; 8-9 Larsen, Mecking 8½; 10 D. Byrne 7; 11-12 Browne, Evans 6½; 13 Kaplan 5; 14-15 Campos-Lopez, Saidy 3½; 16 Smith 2.

'A taste for Fried Chicken' – this was the title, a rather unexpected one for chess, given by Petrosian to an article on the San Antonio Tournament. This article is very characteristic, and is notable for features distinctive of the style of Petrosian the journalist: objectivity, benevolence, and an elegant, spontaneous humour.

"Just before the New Year, Paul Keres, Anatoly Karpov and I returned from the

USA, where in the state of Texas, in the town of San Antonio, a major international chess tournament was held. Much has been written in our press about this tournament, and its results are widely known, and yet I should like to add something to what has already been said, and perhaps partially repeat it, but in the new version of an eye-witness and participant in the event which has just finished.

I will begin with the name of the tournament, which here has become known simply as the tournament in San Antonio, but in America was called both the First Church International Tournament and the 'Fried Chicken' Tournament. The point is that this event, like the majority of other chess events abroad, was financed privately. The initiator and organizer was the Texas entrepeneur George Church, who has become rich from the selling of fried chickens, and is now the owner of an organization with a large chain of restaurants, shops and filling stations. It is hard to say how strong Mr Church's 'love for chess' is, and for how long 'fried chicken' will remain on the world chess table, but the tournament in San Antonio, although it did not become the greatest chess tournament in the history of America, as the organizers would have wished, was nevertheless a quite outstanding event, and would have done honour to any European country with more solid and ancient chess traditions.

The route to the tournament venue was a lengthy and difficult one: London – New York – Dallas and, finally, San Antonio. In New York we constantly had the feeling that we were at the bottom of a deep well, even today Dallas is oppressed by the sharp feeling of that distant tragic shot, but San Antonio is welcoming and quiet. From the aircraft we stepped onto a carpet, and along its red nylon path we headed for the airport building. It turns out that here there is a special 'red carpet' committee, which organizes the meeting of especially pleasant and honoured guests.

I should like straight away to remark that in Dallas airport we already sensed that the USA is now experiencing a definite chess boom. In the kiosks, along with tobacco and drinks, among expensive souvenirs one can see miniature magnetic chess sets, and dozens of chess books, both translations and originals. The strongest European grandmasters and masters tour the country giving lectures and simultaneous displays. There in Dallas we met a worn-out looking Portisch. He looked awful: he had just given a simultaneous display on 65 boards. Perhaps this explained to some extent his more than modest start.

Why did Fischer not take part in the tournament? When I asked this of George Koltanowski, one of the tournament organizers, he gave me the following half-joking, half-serious reply: "Since there was a danger that for his appearance fee Bobby would demand Mr Church's entire business, we decided not to invite him".

San Antonio is a town of 750,000 inhabitants, but we were accommodated in its old part, which retains the tradition of small American towns with a fairly quiet and steady life-style, and had it not been for the television (which was on from six in the morning until late at night), we would hardly have sensed the anxious rhythm of modern America.

If account is taken of the fact that our stay in San Antonio coincided in time with the USSR Championship and with a big international tournament in Spain, and that in England they were already preparing for the traditional Hastings tournament, the composition of our tournament was quite imposing.

By itself the participation of Bent Larsen, who always contends only for first place, created that fighting tone which is needed by any major tournament, and the young players Browne, Mecking and Kaplan – three chess hopes of the West – strengthened and added to the turmoil. But first, in fact, events developed slowly and rather monotonously.

Keres and Karpov, after seizing the lead at the start, for a long time did not allow anyone near them. After 8 rounds they both had 7 points! At that time I had 5 points, and Portisch only 4½.

That was the start. What can be said about the participants after it was all over?

Breaking with tradition, I will begin not with the winners, but with those who finished at the bottom. Last place was taken by the American Kenneth Smith. Before this we did not know him at all, although he has a rating of 2400 in the Elo list. Smith is curious even in appearance. He is comparatively short, but weighs at least 120 kgs. When he sits down, his broad back conceals not only the chess board, but also part of the hall. At the end of the tournament he received, smiling, 50 dollars for last place, got into his black Cadillac and drove off. Only then did we learn that chess is a hobby for Smith, who inherited a considerable fortune. As a diversion he not only plays chess, but at one time he also produced a small chess magazine out of his own funds.

Smith is a rather weak player, but is not easy to play against. Keres had to be satisfied with a draw against him – this was, of course, an unfortunate instance, but both Karpov and I had difficulty in beating him. Somehow strangely, Smith would intersperse a series of poor moves, disarming the opponent and weakening his vigilance, with moves which were sensible, and at times even exceptional. It is evident that he is constantly studying chess. Playing with him reminds me in some way of participating in a lottery, where one almost always wins, but where there is the threat of a 'void ticket'. Such a 'void ticket' was drawn by Keres, who took play into a rook ending, where Smith, for all his endeavours, did not manage to lose. Against me Smith also achieved a drawn position, but just in time he began playing 'up to strength'.

It is doubtful whether Smith will ever improve his game, but this incident is a reminder that every opponent has to be taken seriously.

The Mexican Mario Campos-Lopez got into the tournament simply through being a neighbour. Texas is adjacent to Mexico, and it was evidently this factor which determined his participation. He too is a weak player, and his name is altogether absent from the international rating list. So as not to weaken the importance of the tournament, Campos-Lopez was given the so-called 'starting' rating of 2200 points. But he too had to be reckoned with. He knows modern opening theory, and is not easily outplayed. Therefore, when I met him, I decided to deviate somewhat from well-known variations. Up to roughly move 12 in a French Defence I nevertheless had cause to be anxious. To my 'left-sided' moves he replied with great accuracy, each time scoring a 'bull's-eye', and I found myself in a difficult position. In the end Campos-Lopez went wrong, lost a pawn, and by move 20 it was all over.

Playing in the tournament was a large group of experienced and well-known players, who included grandmasters Gligorić, Hort and Evans. But on this occasion they did not set the tone, and so I will refrain from assessing their creative and

competitive results.

I will talk instead about those who battled for first place, and who justified or failed to justify the expectations of their supporters.

One who made an especially good impression was our own Anatoly Karpov. Both at home and abroad, and not without reason, a great future is predicted for this young and talented grandmaster. He made an excellent impression on me, both as a player and as a person.

More than any of us, Karpov had grounds for becoming the sole winner of the tournament. He should not have lost to Portisch. The loss of this half point was unpleasant but not irreparable. But the fact that, two rounds before the finish, tired by the burden of leading, he was unable to win against Kaplan, proved decisive. Instead of sole first place – a share of 1st-3rd places with Portisch and me.

Excuse me, the reader may ask, what about the short, perfunctory draw in the last round? Karpov shares this sin too with me. By the end of the tournament we were both very tired (I did not feel altogether well) and decided not to tempt fate, with the fast-finishing Portisch hot on our heels.

Portisch's win over Larsen could of course have been anticipated. But the last round differs from all others in that a mistake in it can no longer be repaired. And each of us separately came to the same conclusion, especially since on this occasion the bird in the hand was to some extent equivalent to the two in the bush...

I have already said that Lajos Portisch began the tournament very badly. In the first round he was unable to win when the exchange up against Campos-Lopez. Then came a series of draws, and a loss to Gligoric... It seems that Portisch was not even thinking of battling for first place. Even in the penultimate round, with a better position against Browne, Portisch offered a draw, which was declined. They played until there were almost only the kings left, but the enthusiasm and tenacity were displayed not by Portisch but by Browne. Only a win in the last round over a despondent Larsen enabled Portisch to break into the prize-winning trio.

Portisch is undoubtedly a very strong player. He played especially well against us, the Soviet participants, winning against Karpov and Keres, and drawing with me.

I should especially like to mention my game with Portisch. For me he is always a difficult opponent. Up till now I have not won against him once, whereas I have lost four times. And on this occasion too, by move 14 I realized that my position was already rather difficult. In a sharp struggle there was a point when Portisch overlooked a forced win. Then, in search of counter-chances, I gave up the exchange, and for a long time Portisch could not decide whether I had blundered or sacrificed. I now think that, had my opponent been anyone else, I would have won this game. But facing me was Portisch, and I was instinctively pulled towards a draw.

I was more or less satisfied with my play in the tournament. For a long time, rather unhappy about the pairings, which gave me White, for example, against Smith, I kept in the background: I had a score of '+2' – wins against Smith and Gligorić, but I finished well, and by the last round I already had +6. The game with Larsen was very important. Victory in it opened the way to first place, and finally put Larsen out of the reckoning.

In this tournament Larsen played more flippantly than usual, and finished equal 8th. For a player who each time battles for first place, and only first, this was a

considerable failure. To what extent was it accidental?

The reason for Larsen's major tournament successes was revealed to me once at a tournament in Yugoslavia. This was in 1970. Larsen was playing Black against IM Mario Bertok, the well known chess commentator. The game was adjourned, and on the resumption Larsen was faced with choosing one of two continuations. The first, normal one, in the spirit of the position, would have led to a draw, while the second – a dubious one – would have lost for Larsen after the correct reply by Bertok, but after the incorrect reply would win for him. Larsen chose the second: Bertok went wrong and lost. I asked Larsen on what he had based his decision. He replied: "Take any three games. If I play them the way you do – correctly against strong masters – I will score one and a half points. But if I play them as I do, then in one of the three I may be punished, but even then I will score two out of three, and this suits me better . . . "

The San Antonio tournament punished Larsen severely: the two out of three were not forthcoming.

Paul Keres, of course, was unfortunate. For a long time he was in the lead, but I think that he broke an important rule. A chess player, like any person in general, must be aware of his condition, reckon with it, and not disregard his particular traits. Keres' play was improvidently youthful, and by the sixth round he was a spent force. A decline was bound to set in. In his game with Larsen, Keres got into difficulties, but then extricated himself. The game was adjourned, and in all variations the queen ending seemed drawn. To lose such a game was impossible, but Larsen contrived to do this. The unexpected point gave Keres new strength, but alas, not for long. Shortly he lost to Portisch and to Evans, drew with Smith, and lost the chance of a place worthy of his high class.

And now a few words about the young foreign players, whom I have already mentioned, but about whom it is worth talking in more detail.

Henrique Mecking dreams of crossing swords with Fischer, and thinks that he can challenge for the World Championship. He is indeed not a bad player. He will possibly become better, but I am convinced that he will never become World Champion. And mainly on account of the narrowness of his chess thinking. Mecking does not understand, for example, the importance of weak and strong squares. I have played him three times. In 1968 he lost to me on account of the weakness of the light squares. A year later he freely gave up all the dark squares to me and again lost. And in the San Antonio tournament, grandmaster Mecking again gave me control of the dark squares, and with it – victory. Mecking is notable for his active piece play, but he does not have a genuine understanding of the deep features of a position, and this causes me to have doubts about his chess future.

Mecking's playing manner is also unpleasant – he is impolite, and deliberately annoys his opponent.

The fried chickens nevertheless cast their crispy shadow on the organization of the tournament. The chess boards were laid out on restaurant tables, covered with white tablecloths. And Mecking did not fail to exploit this. During the resumption of my adjourned game with him, where he had sealed a losing move, and where I rather dragged out the realization of my advantage, Mecking began moving his elbows across the tablecloth, rocking the board from side to side, until this was observed by Harry Golombek, the chief

arbiter, who gave him a severe reprimand.

In his game with Browne another episode occurred. Both were in time trouble, with Browne's flag already raised, when Mecking again behaved quite improperly. Browne made a move and pressed his clock, but Mecking started Browne's clock again and began unhurriedly adjusting a piece which was already correctly placed. Browne was taken aback, grew agitated, blundered a pawn, and lost.

I do not know whether the Fischer-Mecking match, which has been so widely publicized in the foreign press, will in fact take place (it is of no chess interest to me, nor, I would think, to anyone else), but if Mecking acts the same way, then for the first time Fischer will have real, and not imaginary, grounds for complaining to the arbiters.

Walter Browne is certainly one of the strong chess professionals in the West. My game with him is of interest for opening theory. With White in a Sicilian Defence, he began an original rook manoeuvre, which had not occurred previously.

Former World Junior Champion Julio Kaplan is not, in my opinion, a master of the highest class. However, there is no denying that he is talented and . . . sociable. He was very pleased to draw with Karpov, and, as it seemed to me, he passionately sympathized with this, his contemporary, throughout the tournament.

By drawing with me in the last round, Donald Suttles achieved the grandmaster norm. This in itself means something. He is a good player. His opening repertoire, though narrow, is solid. To defeat such a master when he is content with a draw is never easy.

At the end of these brief notes I cannot avoid mentioning that Fischer appeared in San Antonio for a few hours. He arrived in a private plane, and behaved like an honoured guest deigning to honour the tournament with his presence. Because of this, the start of the round was put back 15 minutes. Fischer was delayed. All this time, despite the overcast weather, the FIDE President Max Euwe was waiting for him at the street entrance. Now Fischer is late not only for his own games, but also for other players' . . .

This incident, however, cannot cloud the overall impression of the tournament. In both the literal and the figurative sense, the 'Fried Chicken' tasted good. As we departed, it was pleasant to realize that in the trio of first prize-winners, along with the Hungarian Portisch, were two representatives of the Soviet Chess School."

(408) D.Byrne-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♘f3 c6 3 ♗g2 ♗g4 4 b3 ♘d7 5 ♗b2 e6 6 0-0 ♘gf6 7 d3 ♗e7 8 c4 0-0 9 ♘c3 a6 10 ♖c1 ♖e8 11 ♖c2 ♗f8 12 ♕a1 e5 13 cxd5 cxd5 14 ♖fc1 e4 15 dxe4 dxe4 16 ♘d4 ♘b6 17 h3 ♗d7 18 e3 ♕e7 19 ♘de2 ♗c6 20 ♘d4 ♗d7 21 ♘de2 ♗c6 22 ♘d4 ♗d7 ½-½

(409) Hort-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♗b5+ ♗d7 4 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5 c4 ♘c6 6 ♘c3 ♘f6 7 0-0 g6 8 d4 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗g7 10 ♘de2 0-0 11 f3 a6 12 a4 ♕d8 13 ♗e3 ♘d7 ½-½

∫ **(410) Petrosian-Gligorić**
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Yudovich)

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 f3

The King's Indian Defence has occurred in a number of games between these two players over a period of many years, with alternating success. In San Antonio this long-standing creative debate continues.

The plan chosen by the Yugoslav grandmaster can also be carried out slightly differently: 5 ... c6 6 ♗e3 a6 7 ♕d2 b5. Sometimes this leads merely to a transposition of moves, but it should be borne in mind that White acquires additional possibilities. For example, after 6 ... a6 he can play 7 c5 (recommended by Gligorić) 7 ... b5 8 cxd6 exd6 9 a4 ♗b7 10 ♘h3 0-0 11 ♗e2 ♘bd7 12 0-0 ♖e8 (Korchnoi-Gheorghiu, Moscow, 1971), while in the variation 6 ... a6 7 ♗d3 b5 he has the possibility of 8 e5 dxe5 9 dxe5 ♘g8 10 f4 ♘h6 11 ♘f3 (Spassky-Kavalek, San Juan, 1969). 7 a4 is less promising in view of 7 ... a5 8 ♗d3 ♘a6 9 ♘ge2 0-0 10 0-0 e5.

5 ... 0-0 6 ♗e3 c6 7 ♕d2 a6 8 ♗d3

A sharp game with chances for both sides results from 8 0-0-0 b5 9 ♗h6 ♕a5 (*9 ... ♗xh6 10 ♕xh6 ♕a5* is weaker in view of *11 e5 dxe5 12 dxe5 ♘fd7 13 h4*, Portisch-Gheorghiu, Wijk aan Zee, 1968) 10 ♗xg7 ♔xg7, when 11 e5 can be answered by 11 ... dxe5 12 dxe5 ♘g8 (Portisch-Ivkov, Wijk aan Zee, 1968).

8 ... b5
9 ♖c1

A Nimzowitsch-style 'mysterious rook move'. The usual continuation is 9 ♘ge2 ♘bd7 10 0-0 ♖b8 11 cxb5 axb5 12 b4 ♘b6 13 a4 bxa4 14 ♘xa4 ♘xa4 15 ♖xa4 ♗d7 16 ♖a5 ♕b6, as, for example, in Botvinnik-Larsen, Leiden, 1969.

However, in the event of 9 ♘ge2 White has to reckon with 9 ... bxc4 10 ♗xc4 d5 11 ♗b3 dxe4 12 fxe4 ♘g4. But if Black carries out a similar operation now, the white knight will take up an active position at f3. In a slightly different situation (after 5 f3 c6 6 ♗e3 0-0 7 ♗d3 a6) the move 8 ♖c1 occurred in Shamkovich-Balashov, Leningrad, 1971, which continued 8 ... b5 9 e5 ♘fd7 10 f4 bxc4 11 ♗xc4 a5 12 ♘ge2 ♗a6 with sufficient counterplay.

9 ... ♘bd7 10 ♘ge2 e5 11 d5

Necessary, otherwise the central tension may be released to Black's advantage (*11 0-0 bxc4 12 ♗xc4 d5 13 exd5 ♘b6 14 ♗b3 ♘fxd5*).

11 ... b4

If 11 ... bxc4 12 ♗xc4 ♘b6, then 13 ♗xb6 ♕xb6 14 dxc6, and White seizes control of the d5 square. But 11 ... bxc4 12 ♗xc4 c5, opening the b-file, came into consideration.

12 ♘d1 c5

After the exchange 12 ... cxd5 13 cxd5 White's rook would be in exactly the right place.

13 g4 h5

A well known manoeuvre, which has frequently been employed by the Yugoslav grandmaster in analogous situations. Black endeavours to hinder the development of the opponent's attack on the kingside: 14 ♘g3 followed by h2-h4-h5 was threatened.

14 ♘f2

The most unpleasant for Black. After 14 g5 ♘h7 or 14 h3 ♘h7 15 gxh5 ♕h4+ his task would have been much simpler. Now, of course, 14 ... h4 is bad in view of 15 ♗g5.

14 ... hxg4 15 fxg4 ♘h7 16 h4!

The storm clouds are gathering over the black king, and White need not force events but can strengthen his position to the maximum by ♔d1-c2 and ♖cg1, as



With Paul Keres and Rona on a visit to a Mercedes factory



The second World Championship Match with Boris Spassky, Moscow 1969



Facing Bobby Fischer in the USSR v Rest of the World Match 1970



An expressive Tigran Petrosian with American Grandmaster Robert Byrne



One of many Soviet Championships, Moscow 1973



As portrayed by 'Mac' at Hastings 1977/78



A simultaneous display in London



Always a hard man to beat

well as ♘g3.

Now Black should have continued 16 ... ♘df6, e.g. 17 ♖g1 ♗d7, and if 18 h5 ♕c8, or 18 g5(*18 ♗h6* is also strong) 18 ... ♘h5 19 ♔d1 f5 20 gxf6 ♕xf6 21 ♔c2 ♘f4. White can play 19 ♘g4 ♗xg4 20 ♖xg4 f5 21 gxf6 ♕xf6 22 ♔d1 ♖f7 23 ♔c2, bringing his second rook into play, but instead of 20 ... f5 Black has 20 ... a5 21 ♔d1 a4.

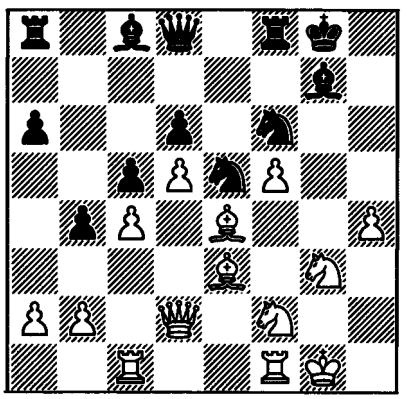
Black's immediate attempt to play actively is tempting, but it meets with an interesting refutation.

16 ... f5
17 gxf5

17 exf5 e4 18 ♗xe4 gxf5 19 gxf5 would have transposed into the game, but not 19 ♗xf5 ♘e5, or 18 fxg6 ♘hf6 19 ♘xe4 ♘e5 20 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 with dangerous threats.

17 ... gxf5 18 exf5 e4 19 ♗xe4 ♘e5 20 ♘g3 ♘f6 21 0-0! *(171)*

171



Parrying the threats and maintaining a material advantage. 21 ... ♘xe4 22 ♘fxe4 ♕xh4 is adequately met by 23 ♗g5 ♕g4 24 f6 ♗h8 25 ♕g2.

21 ... ♖a7 22 ♗g5 ♕b6 23 b3 ♖af7 24 ♕e2 ♕c7

No better is 24 ... ♘xe4 25 ♘fxe4 ♗xf5 26 ♘xf5 ♖xf5 27 ♖xf5 ♖xf5 28 ♖f1, with a decisive advantage.

25 ♗b1 ♘h7 26 ♔g2 ♘d7 27 ♘g4 ♘df6 28 ♖ce1 ♘xg4 29 ♕xg4 ♔h8 30 ♖e6! ♗xe6 31 dxe6 ♘f6 32 ♕f3 ♖e7 33 ♘h5 ♔g8 34 ♘f4 ♖b8 35 ♘d5 Black resigns

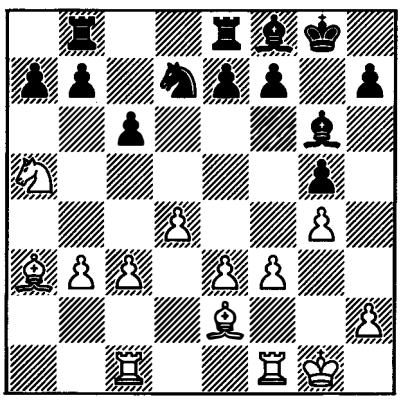
(411) Portisch-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 e3 ♗g7 5 d4 d6 6 ♗e2 cxd4 7 exd4 ♘f6 8 d5 ♘b8 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♗e3 ♘a6 11 ♘b5 b6 12 ♘fd4 ♗b7 13 ♗f3 ♘d7 14 ♕d2 ♘e5 15 ♗e2 ♕c8 16 ♖ac1 ♘c5 17 b4 ♘e4 18 ♕d1 a6 19 ♘a3 a5 20 b5 ♕c7 21 ♘c6 ♖ae8 22 ♘b1 ♘d7 23 ♗f3 ♘ec5 24 ♗g5 e5 25 ♗e7 f5 26 ♗xf8 ♘xf8 27 ♗e2 ♗h6 28 ♖c2 ♗c8 29 ♘c3 ♘fd7 30 ♖e1 ♘f6 31 ♗f1 f4 32 ♖ce2 ♖f8 33 ♘a4 ♘xa4 34 ♕xa4 ♘d7 35 ♘e7+ ♔h8 36 ♘xc8 ♕xc8 37 ♕a3 ♘c5 38 ♕f3 ♕f5 39 h3 ½-½

(412) Petrosian-Smith
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 e3 g6 5 ♗e2 ♗g7 6 0-0 0-0 7 d4 ♗f5 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♕b3 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 ♕b6 11 ♗a3 ♕xb3 12 axb3 ♖e8 13 ♘d2 g5 14 ♘c4 ♘d7 15 ♘a5 ♖ab8 16 ♖ac1 ♗f8 17 g4 ♗e4 18 f3 ♗g6 *(172)*

172



19 ♖fd1 e6 20 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 21 ♔f2 ♘f6 22 e4 ♖e7 23 b4 ♖c7 24 ♘c4 ♘d7 25 ♖a1 a6 26 h4 gxh4 27 ♖h1 ♔g7 28 ♖xh4 f6 29 ♖g1 b5 30 ♘a5 ♘b6 31 ♗d1 e5 32 ♗b3 exd4 33 cxd4 ♘c4 34 ♖c1 ♘xa5 35 bxa5 ♖d8 36 ♔e3 ♖cd7 37 ♖xc6 ♖xd4 38 ♗d5 ♖a4 39 ♖xa6 ♖d7 40 ♖h1 ♗f7 41 ♗xf7 ♖xf7 42 ♖h5 ♖a3+ 43 ♔f4 b4 44 ♖b5 ♖c7 45 g5 fxg5+ 46 ♖xg5+ ♔f7 47 ♖b5 ♔g7 48 ♔g4 ♖e7 49 ♖ab6 ♖f7 50 ♖g5+ ♔f8 51 ♖b8+ ♔e7 52 ♖b7+ ♔e6 53 ♖xf7 ♔xf7 54 ♖b5 ♔e6 55 f4 ♔d6 56 e5+ ♔c6 57 ♖xb4 ♖xa5 58 ♖e4 ♖a1 59 e6 ♖g1+ 60 ♔f5 h5 61 ♔f6 ♖g8 62 e7 1-0

(413) Evans-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 d4 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 c5 7 ♗e3 b6 8 ♕d2 ♘c6 9 d5 ♘e5 10 ♘c1 e6 11 ♗e2 ♗a6 12 b3 exd5 13 exd5 ♘fd7 14 0-0 f5 15 ♗g5 ♕c7 16 ♗h6 ♗xh6 17 ♕xh6 ♖ae8 18 ♘d3 ♘xd3 19 ♗xd3 ♘e5 20 ♗c2 b5 21 cxb5 ♕a5 22 ♕d2 ♗xb5 23 ♖fe1 ♗d7 24 f4 ♘g4 25 h3 ♘f6 26 ♗d3 ♘h5 27 ♖xe8 ♖xe8 28 ♖c1 ♕d8 29 ♗e2 ♘f6 30 ♗f3 ♕b6 31 ♔h2 ♕b4 32 ♘b1 a5 33 ♖c4 ♕xd2 34 ♘xd2 ♗b5 ½-½

(414) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 ♗d3 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 b3 c5 9 ♗b2 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 a6 12 ♗e2 b5 13 ♗f3 ♖a7 14 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 15 ♕f3 ♖d7 16 a4 bxa4 17 ♘xa4 ♕c7 18 ♖fc1 ♕b7 19 ♘c5 ♕xf3 20 gxf3 ♗xc5 21 ♖xc5 h6 22 ♔g2 ♖b7 23 f4 ♔h7 24 ♖ac1 ♖d8 25 ♖1c2 ♘e4 26 ♖c7 ♖d7 27 ♖xb7 ♖xb7 28 ♗a3 g5 29 ♔f3 ♘f6 ½-½

(415) Kaplan-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗g5 e6 7 ♕d2 h6 8 ♗xf6 gxf6 9 0-0-0 a6 10 f4 ♗d7 11 ♔b1 ♗e7 12 f5 ♘xd4 13 ♕xd4 ♕a5 14 ♗e2 h5 15 ♖he1 ♕c5 16 fxe6 fxe6 17 ♕xc5 dxc5 18 ♗f3 0-0-0 19 ♘e2 ♗e8 20 ♖xd8+ ♗xd8 21 e5 f5 22 ♘f4 ♗f7 23 c3 ½-½

(416) Petrosian-Keres
Semi-Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 ♗e7 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 d4 d5 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 0-0 ♘c6 9 ♘xd5 exd5 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♕d3 h6 12 a3 a5 13 ♗d2 b6 ½-½

(417) Mecking-Petrosian
French Defence
(notes up to move 40 by Larsen; notes after move 40 by Petrosian)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4

When Petrosian plays this (instead of 3 ... ♗b4), he is normally in a peaceful mood. Of course, if the opponent gets too optimistic . . .

5 ♘xe4 ♗e7
6 ♘xf6+

Most experts consider 6 ♗xf6 stronger, but Petrosian is a connoisseur of the continuation 6 ... gxf6?!, even getting the advantage with Black against Fischer in their 3rd match game.

6 ... ♗xf6
7 ♗xf6 ♕xf6

Not a very interesting position. White's best move is probably 8 ♘f3, but Mecking

gets another idea.

8	**c3**	**0-0**
9	**♗d3**	**♘c6**

White cannot stop ... e5, so Black has a satisfactory position already.

10	**♕h5!?**	**g6**
11	**♕f3**	**♕g7!**

After 11 ... ♕xf3 White would have a slight edge. Black's kingside has been weakened a little, but the white pieces are not very well placed.

12 ♘e2 e5 13 d5 ♘e7 14 0-0 f5 15 ♗c4 ♔h8 16 ♖ad1 f4!?

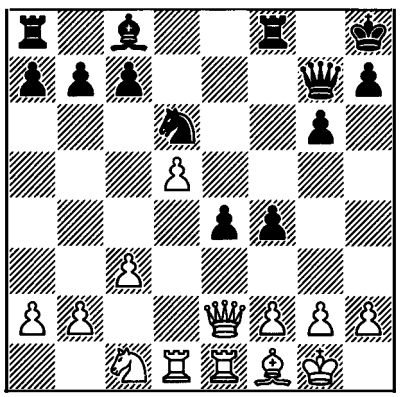
Very sharp! The white knight cannot quickly get to e4, and in some variations Black plays ... ♘f5-h4 followed by ... f3.

17	**♖fe1**	**♘f5**
18	**♘c1**	**♘d6**

Here 18 ... ♘h4 was not good because of 19 ♕e4.

19	**♗f1**	**e4**
20	**♕e2** *(173)*	

173



20	**...**	**f3?!**

Very impatient and un-Petrosian-like! With 20 ... ♗d7 followed by ... ♖ae8 he would get a very strong position, though White may exchange queens with ♕d2-d4. The text move offers some tactical chances, but White gets counterplay.

21 gxf3 ♖xf3 22 ♘b3 ♗g4 23 ♘d4! ♖af8

23 ... ♖f4 24 ♕e3 was very good for White. The exchange sacrifice is Black's only logical continuation, but it was probably not the idea when he played his 20th move. I have been told that each player offered a draw twice; if this is true my guess is that Mecking's first offer came around move 16, and Petrosian's here!

24	**♘xf3**	**♗xf3**
25	**♕d2**	**♕d7**

If Black takes back the exchange, his e-pawn will be a weakness.

26	**h3**	**♔g8!?**

This is Petrosian! He removes his king from some annoying checks – and waits! Probably White could play 27 ♖c1 now, but after 27 ... ♖f5 28 c4 ♖h5 29 ♕f4 ♖xh3 we see another point to Black's king move: White has no mate on f8. However, with 30 ♗g2 White may play for a win, though the position remains unclear.

27	**♖e3?!**	**♗xd1**
28	**♕xd1**	**♕f5**

Black has a very active position now.

29	**♖e2?!**	**♕g5+**
30	**♗g2**	**♖f5**

Black attacks the advanced white centre pawn before White can create threats against the black e-pawn. The result is a very favourable exchange.

31	**c4**	**♘xc4**
32	**♖xe4**	**♘d6**

White has three isolated pawns, and the knight is better than the bishop. Black has good winning chances. I am still wondering – can it be true that Petrosian offered a draw twice?

33 ♖e3 ♖e5 34 ♖xe5 ♕xe5 35 ♕c1 ♕e7 36 ♕c3 b6 37 b3

I would have preferred 37 b4.

37 ... a5 38 ♔f1 ♕g7! 39 ♕c1 ♕e5?! 40 ♗f3

Just before the time control. I see no clear win for Black after 40 ♕xc7 ♕a1+ etc, and I think that White ought to have taken this chance, though Black keeps some advantage with 41 ♔e2 ♕xa2+ 42 ♔f1 ♕a1+ 43 ♔e2 ♕b2+ 44 ♔e1 ♕e5+ 45 ♔f1 ♕d4!.

40 ... ♘f5

Black has a wonderful position, with centralized pieces and weak white pawns.

41 ♕g5 ♔g7 42 ♔g2 ♕f6 43 ♕f4 ♕d6

White would be perfectly happy with the pawn ending after 43 ... ♘h4+ 44 ♔g3 ♕xf4+ 45 ♔xf4 ♘xf3 46 ♔xf3 ♔f6 47 ♔e4.

44 ♕e4

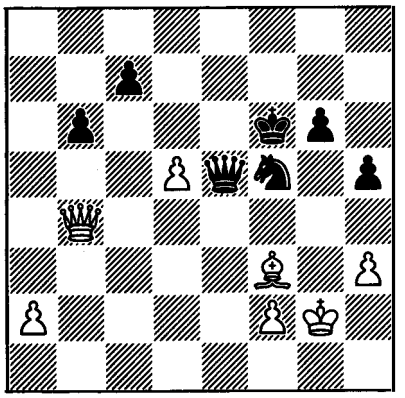
44 ♕a4 was slightly better, keeping the queen on the 4th rank, where to some extent it restricts the activity of the black pieces and controls the important a4-e8 diagonal.

44 ... ♔f6
45 ♕c4 ♕e5

This allows the exchange of a pair of pawns, leading to a position with a small number of pawns, which is to the advantage of the defending side. On the other hand, White loses the opportunity of exchanging his bishop for the knight, the activity of which allows Black to hope for a win.

46 b4 axb4
47 ♕xb4 h5 *(174)*

174



48 ♗e4 ♘d6 49 ♗f3 ♔f7 50 ♕b3 ♔g7 51 ♕d3 ♔f6 52 ♗d1 ♘f5 53 ♗c2

White loses patience. He was either tired by the course of events, or else the position did not appeal to him, but the switching of the bishop to another diagonal is highly dubious.

53 ... ♔g5 54 ♕d2+ ♕f4 55 ♕c3

Of course, White could not exchange queens. In this case the black king would have been excellently placed at f4.

55 ... ♘h4+
56 ♔f1 ♘f3

The knight exploits the fact that the bishop has abandoned its post. Now 57 ♔g2 fails to 57 ... ♕h2+, with an immediate win.

57 ♕d3 ♕c1+
58 ♗d1 ♘e5

At this point the game was adjourned. Mecking quickly sealed his move, and I had no doubt that it would be 59 ♕g3+. Then 59 ... ♔f5 would be met by 60 ♕b3, while on 59 ... ♔f6 the simplest is 60

♕h4+ ♔f5 61 ♕d4, and Black does not appear to have any real winning chances.

59 ♕d4

When the envelope was opened, it transpired that Mecking had sealed a losing move.

59 ... ♕c4+ 60 ♕xc4 ♘xc4 61 ♗c2 ♘e5

The g6 pawn is defended, and the black king reaches f4.

62 ♔e2 ♔f4
63 h4

White cannot manage without this move, otherwise Black would play ... h4 and then, exploiting the poor position of the white king, he would in the end win the d5 pawn.

63 ... g5 64 hxg5 ♔xg5 65 ♔e3 ♘g4+

This is the whole point! The white king is forced to stay close to the f2 pawn.

66 ♔f3 h4
67 ♗d1

Mecking is hoping for 67 ... h3 68 ♔g3 h2 69 ♗f3, when White is out of danger.

67 ... ♘f6 68 ♗b3 ♔f5 69 ♔g2 ♔g4 70 ♗d1+ ♔f4 71 ♗b3 ♘e4 72 ♗c2 ♘c3

Black could have played 72 ... h3+ 73 ♔xh3 ♘xf2+ 74 ♔g2 ♘g4 and wins, but this was the last move before the time control, and I did not want to force matters.

73 ♗b3 ♘e4 74 ♗c2 ♘c3 75 ♗b3

White's best chance was 75 ♔h3, and if 75 ... ♘xa2 76 ♔xh4 ♘b4 77 ♗b1, but I was intending to play 75 ... ♔g5 76 ♗b3 ♘e4 77 ♔g2 ♔f4 etc.

75 ... ♔g4 76 ♔h2 ♘e4 77 ♔g2 h3+ 78 ♔g1 ♔f3 79 ♗d1+ ♔f4 80 ♗c2 ♘f6 81 ♗b3 ♘g4 82 ♗a4

White is tired of defending, and wishes to give his bishop some life.

82 ... h2+ 83 ♔g2 ♘xf2 84 ♔xh2 ♘d3 85 ♔g2 ♔e3 86 ♔g3 ♘c1

In this position White overstepped the limit, but things are hopeless for him, e.g. 87 a3 ♘e2+ 88 ♔g4 ♔e4 89 ♗c6 ♔e5 90 ♗b7 ♘d4 followed by ... ♘c2-e3, winning both white pawns.

(418) Petrosian-Saidy
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 b3 b6 3 ♗b2 ♗b7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 e3 e6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 d4 d5 9 dxc5 ♗xc5 10 ♘bd2 ♘c6 11 cxd5 ♕xd5 12 a3 ♖fd8 13 ♕b1 ♗e7 14 ♖d1 ♖ac8 15 b4 ♕f5 16 ♕a2 ♘e4 17 ♘xe4 ♕xe4 18 ♕b3 h6 19 h3 ♖xd1+ 20 ♖xd1 ♖d8 21 ♗d3 ♕d5 22 ♗h7+ ♔xh7 23 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 24 ♗c3 a6 25 ♘d2 ♔g8 26 ♕b2 ♗f8 27 f3 ♖d7 28 ♔f2 b5 29 ♘b3 ♘d8 30 e4 ♘c6 31 ♔e2 ♗c8 32 ♕a1 ♗b7 33 ♗d2 ♗e7 34 ♗e3 ♖d8 35 ♗b6 ♖d7 36 ♕c3 ♗f6 37 ♕c1 ♗g5 38 f4 ♗e7 39 ♗c5 ♗d8 40 ♗e3 ♗e7 41 g3 ♔h7 42 e5 ♔g8 43 ♗c5 ♗d8 44 ♗d6 ♗b6 45 ♘c5 ♗xc5 46 ♕xc5 ♘a7 47 ♔f2 ♘c8 48 g4 ♔h7 49 h4 ♔g8 50 f5 ♔h8 51 ♗f8 ♔g8 52 f6 ♖d2+ 53 ♔e1 ♖d5 54 ♕c7 ♔xf8 55 ♕xb7 ♖xe5+ 56 ♔f2 1-0

(419) Browne-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 ♘c6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 d6 6 g3 ♘f6 7 ♗g2 ♗d7 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♖e1 0-0 10 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 11 a4 ♕d7 12 ♖e3 ♖fd8 13 ♖d3 ♘e8 14 b3 b6 15 ♗a3 a6 16 ♕d2 ♕c7 17 ♖e1 ♖dc8 18 ♘e2 ♗f8 19 ♗b4 ♘f6 20 ♘d4 ♗b7 21 c4 ♘d7 22 f4

♘c5 23 ♖de3 ♖e8 24 ♔h1 ♖ac8 25 a5 ♗a8 26 axb6 ♕xb6 27 ♗a5 ½-½

(420) Petrosian-Larsen
Dutch Defence

This game was played at a time when both players were striving to improve their tournament standing. Before the game I was tormented by uncertainty: it was exceptionally important to try and guess Larsen's mood. Would he be aiming for an uncompromising struggle?

This was no idle question, and on it depended the choice of first move. After 1 c4, which I often play, both 1 ... c5 and 1 ... g6 allow Black for the time being to avoid revealing his intentions, whereas with 1 d4 one can much sooner "look into the opponent's heart". I should also mention that for many years my games with Larsen had always ended in a win for one side or the other, and that only our last two meetings had ended in draws, showing that, if he desired, even Larsen could be cautious.

1 d4 e6

What's this? An invitation to a French? Even with 3 ♘d2? No, I thought. On 2 e4 Larsen would play 2 ... c5, inviting transposition into a Sicilian or some variety of Benoni. But what if 2 ♘f3? Will he really play the Dutch? Now that would be fine!

2 ♘f3 f5

So, it is indeed the Dutch Defence. One of the openings which I, like most masters, are very happy to play with White.

3 g3 ♘f6
4 ♗g2 b5!?

When the Danish grandmaster made this move, Gligorić was walking past our table. Always self-possessed, Svetozar could hardly keep from bursting out laughing. Indeed, the move chosen by Larsen looks ridiculous. Jumping ahead slightly, I should remark that at the board I did not succeed in fully coping with the problems set by Black's unusual continuation. So that, if I too was cheerful, it was not for long.

5 ♘e5 c6
6 ♘d2

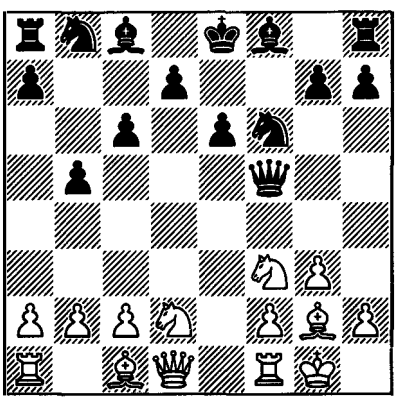
It appears that Black will soon be punished. White only needs to play e2-e4 and, however Black deals with his f5 pawn – exchanges on e4 himself or allows White to exchange his e-pawn for the f-pawn – his position will not bear looking at.

6 ... ♕b6

Larsen is definitely insisting on concrete play. It turns out to be not so easy for White to play e2-e4! On 7 c3 there follows 7 ... ♗b7 8 e4 c5. True, in this case the positions with a temporary or permanent pawn sacrifice after 9 dxc5 ♗xc5 10 0-0 (*10 ♕e2*) or 9 d5 look good, but after fairly prolonged thought I decided on a different continuation.

7 e4 ♕xd4 8 ♘ef3 ♕c5 9 exf5 ♕xf5 10 0-0 *(175)*

175



For the sacrificed pawn White has a significant lead in development. If there was an enemy target to attack, he could count on extracting real gains from Black's lack of development.

Unfortunately, there are no obvious weaknesses. All that is certain is that the black queen will be forced to chase about, and also the opposition of rook at a8 and bishop at g2 cannot inspire Black with confidence.

10 ... ♘d5!

An excellent move! Here the knight plays a highly important defensive role, and at the same time a way home is opened for the queen.

11 ♘d4 ♕f7
12 ♘2f3 ♕h5!

Again well played! The queen engages in self-defence, and the unpleasant knight sorties to e5 and g5 are forestalled.

13 ♖e1 ♗e7 14 ♖e5 ♕f7 15 ♖e2 0-0 16 ♘e5 ♕h5

After 16 ... ♕e8 Black has to reckon with 17 ♘xb5. But now, after the preparatory 17 ♗f3 ♕e8 18 ♘xb5, there follows simply 18 ... ♖xf3. The black queen continues to wander about fearlessly. It was this fearlessness and lack of punishment that led me to sense that White's initiative would evaporate at some point, when he would still be a pawn down . . . Fortunately, here I recalled an ancient truth: many who sacrifice a pawn lose because they play as if they have lost the pawn, rather than deliberately parted with it.

Until Black completes the development of his queenside, White has the initiative.

17 f4 ♗c5
18 ♔h1 ♗b7

18 ... ♗xd4 19 ♗f3 ♕e8 20 ♕xd4 ♗b7 came seriously into consideration, with the intention of an early ... c5, ensuring the exchange of light-square bishops.

19 ♘df3 ♗b6

Black has come to believe in the absolute impregnability of his position, and he hopes to play ... c5 without hurrying and without incurring any positional damage. And to part with his dark-square bishop a move earlier would certainly have been a definite concession.

20 a4 a6?

Black's previous move was only dubious, and I did not feel bold enough to attach a question mark to it, but this one is simply bad. The simple 20 ... b4 was possible, for the moment not fearing 21 a5 ♗c7 22 a6 in view of 22 ... ♗xa6.

21 c4!

It turns out that 20 ... a6 has created a serious breach in Black's position. After 21 ... bxc4 22 ♘xc4 White has the extremely unpleasant threat of 23 ♕b3.

21 ... ♘f6 22 ♘g5 bxa4 23 ♗f3 ♕e8 24 ♗e3

Here White had a number of good continuations, but he was already pressed for time. As often happens in such a situation, preference was given to a 'solid' plan.

24 ... ♗xe3
25 ♖xe3 h6

At any cost Black wants to push back the impending white pieces.

26 ♘e4 ♘xe4 27 ♗xe4 d5 28 ♗g2?

Missing an excellent chance. Of course, I considered the possibility of exploiting the b1-h7 diagonal, since the appearance of the white queen at h7 would be very

much a reality and would clearly be fatal for Black. But how could this be achieved? 28 ♗b1 or 28 ♗c2 (with the possible inclusion of ♗g6) looks very tempting. I have to confess that I thought Black could defend comparatively comfortably with 28 ... ♘d7, and the fact that it was not essential to place the queen in front of the bishop – the 'reverse' battery, with the bishop in front of the queen is also strong: 28 ♗g6 ♕e7 (or *28 ... ♕d8*) 29 ♕c2 – simply did not occur to me.

Some 8-10 moves earlier, when I had been closely examining less obvious tactical chances, I think that such an oversight would have been unlikely. But when my position had become in general good, this genuinely strong continuation was missed. I should also remark that I was not convinced that the bishop should retreat to g2: I did not like the fact that in some cases my back rank would be badly covered.

28 ... ♘d7
29 ♖xa4

The position is gradually simplifying, and after 29 ... ♘xe5 30 ♖xe5 it would have been reasonable to assume that White had sufficient compensation for the pawn, but that is all. The most probable result in this case would have been a draw. But Larsen was not satisfied with the prospect of peace on the board, and he created new tension, new centres of conflict.

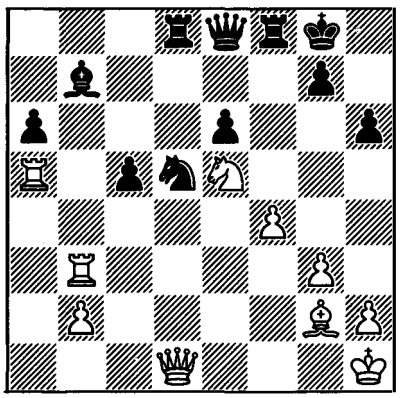
29 ... c5 30 cxd5 ♘b6 31 ♖a5 ♘xd5

The black knight has become active, not least thanks to the fact that its advance into the centre has been made with gain of tempo – by attacking the white rooks. In such a situation it is good to regain the tempi, by moving the attacked piece with a counter-threat. The move 31 ♖a5 suggested itself, but where should the other rook be moved to?

32 ♖b3 ♖d8 *(176)*

Here my opponent was unlucky. Earlier I said that, when I was considering the bishop retreat to g2, I couldn't help feeling that I might have difficulties with my back rank. For this reason, the tactical skirmish which occurs in the game had already been considered in detail when I was making my 30th move.

176



33 ♖xb7 ♘e3 34 ♕e2 ♖d1+ 35 ♕xd1 ♘xd1 36 ♖xa6

One more move, and the second white rook will end up on the 7th rank, with fatal consequences for Black.

36 ... ♘e3

Black also fails to save the game by 36 ... ♕d8 37 ♖aa7 ♘f2+ 38 ♔g1 ♕d1+ 39 ♗f1 ♘h3+ 40 ♔g2, when White wins.

37 ♖aa7 ♘f5 38 g4 ♕d8 39 h3?

39 ♗f3 would have won immediately. But I thought that I was winning or almost winning in this other way, and so I did not waste my last few seconds searching for a different continuation.

39 ... ♕d1+

With the flags about to fall, 39 ... ♕d2 was much more dangerous, with the threat of ... ♕c1+, ... ♕xf4+ and ... ♕xe5. On this I had prepared 40 ♘f3, reckoning that after 40 ... ♕c1+, when the time control would be reached, 41 ♘g1 ♘g3+ 42 ♔h2 would give White at least a certain draw.

40 ♔h2 ♕d4
41 ♘g6

The adjourned position does not hold many possibilities for Black. The most obvious move, 41 ... ♘e3 – which Larsen in fact sealed – leads to a hopeless ending. 41 ... ♖d8 was better. Then after 42 gxf5 exf5 43 b3! (the g7 pawn will not run away, whereas the b-pawn must be safeguarded against attack by the black rook) 43 ... h5! 44 ♖xg7+ ♕xg7 45 ♖xg7+ ♔xg7 46 ♘e5 h4! it would not be easy for White to realize his advantage.

41 ... ♘e3 42 ♖xg7+ ♕xg7 43 ♖xg7+ ♔xg7 44 ♘xf8 ♔xf8 45 ♗f3

Sooner or later White will create two passed pawns on the kingside and win. If Black tries to ease his lot by exchanging the queenside pawns with, say, 45 ... ♘c4 46 b3 ♘d2 47 ♗d1 ♔e7 (*47 ... c4 48 bxc4 ♘xc4 49 ♗b3*) 48 ♔g2 c4, then White avoids simplification – 49 b4, being prepared if necessary to give up his bishop for the passed pawn, and wins with passed pawns on both wings, against which, as is known, the knight is a poor defender.

45 ... h5!

This move deserves an exclamation mark, although not because it is able to change the outcome of the game. No, it is simply a practical chance of confusing the opponent (and the position). By the time that this game was adjourned, I already had two unfinished games – with Mecking and Saidy – and both in complicated positions. And it so happened that my attention was largely devoted to these almost middlegame positions. Besides, I thought that I would be able to cope at the board with any possible ending against Larsen, and so for me 45 ... h5 was almost completely unexpected. Of course, the natural reaction would have been 46 ♔g3, happily agreeing to the exchange of the h-pawns and removing the perpetual threat of being left with bishop and h-pawn, but not a point in the tournament table (the corner square being of the 'wrong' colour). At the board, however, I thought that after 46 ♔g3 hxg4 47 hxg4 ♘c4 48 b3 ♘d6 49 ♗e2 I would face technical difficulties. But, as was shown by Larsen, White wins without difficulty by breaking through with his king along the h-file.

46 g5? h4! 47 ♔g1 e5 48 fxe5 ♘c4 49 ♔f2 ♘xe5

This is of course stronger than 49 ... ♘xb2 50 ♔e3.

50 ♗e4 ♔g7 51 b3 ♘f7 52 g6 ♘g5??

Instead of 52 ... ♘e5 53 ♔e3 ♘xg6 54 ♗xg6 ♔xg6, obtaining a pawn ending in which White is saddened to discover that, whichever pawn he makes for – 'c' or 'h' – Black is saved by a counterattack on the opposite wing, Larsen commits an amazing oversight!

53 ♗f5 ♔f6
54 ♔e3

The bishop cannot be taken, and here Black could have already resigned. Larsen does this seven moves later.

54 ... ♘e6 55 ♗xe6 ♔xe6 56 ♔e4 ♔f6 57 ♔d5 ♔xg6 58 ♔xc5 ♔f5 59 b4 ♔f4 60 b5 ♔g3 61 b6 Black resigns

(421) Campos-Lopez v. Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♘f3 ♗f8 6 ♗e2 ♘e7 7 0-0 ♘g6 8 ♖e1 ♗e7 9 g3 c5 10 h4 h6 11 ♗d3 ♘f8 12 a4 a6 13 a5 c4 14 ♗f1 b5 15 ♗d2 ♘c6 16 ♗h3 b4 17 ♘e2 ♘xa5 18 h5 ♘c6 19 ♘h2 ♕b6 20 ♗e3 a5 21 b3 ♗a6 22 ♘c1 ♗b5 23 f4 a4 24 bxa4 ♖xa4 25 ♖xa4 ♗xa4 26 ♘f3 ♘a7 27 f5 ♘b5 28 ♖f1 ♘c3 29 ♕e1 ♗xc2 30 f6 gxf6 31 exf6 ♗d6 32 ♕d2 ♗e4 33 ♘e5 0-1

(422) Petrosian-Suttles
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 d6 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 c3 ♘f6 5 ♘bd2 0-0 6 ♗e2 ♘bd7 7 0-0 e5 8 dxe5 ♘xe5 9 ♘xe5 dxe5 10 ♕c2 ♗h6 ½-½

1973

International Tournament
Las Palmas, April 1973

1-2 **Petrosian** (+4 –0 =11), Stein 9½; 3-6 Andersson, Hort, Panno, Ribli 9; 7-8 Calvo, Kavalek 8½; 9 Gheorghiu 8; 10 Diez del Corral 7½; 11-12 Darga, Ljubojević 7; 13 Saidy 6½; 14 Hug 6; 15 Ree 5; 16 Huguet 1.

(423) Hort-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 d4 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗e4 10 b3 f5 11 ♗b2 ♗f6 12 ♘e1 ♗xg2 13 ♘xg2 c5 ½-½

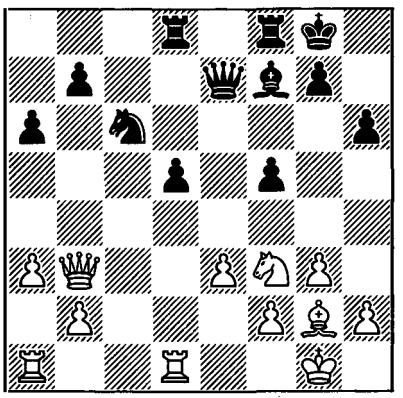
(424) Petrosian-Ree
English Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 d4 ♗e7 8 dxc5 0-0 9 ♕c2 ♘db4 10 ♕e4 f5 11 ♕c4 ♕d5 12 ♘a3 ♕xc5 13 ♗g5 h6 14 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 15 ♖fd1 a6 16 ♕b3 ♗d7 17 ♘c4 ♗e8 18 ♘b6 ♖d8 19 a3 ♘d5 20 ♘xd5 exd5 21 e3 ♗f7

(diagram 177)

22 ♘d4 ♘xd4 23 ♖xd4 ♔h7 24 ♖ad1 ♖d7 25 ♕d3 ♕e5 26 b4 ♖fd8 27 h4 h5 28 ♖c1 ♔h6 29 ♖c5 g6 30 ♕c2 ♔h7 31 ♗f3 ♗e6 32 ♔g2 ♖f7 33 ♕c3 ♖e7 34 a4 ♗g8 35 ♕d3 ♖ed7 36 b5 axb5 37 ♖xb5 ♗f7 38 ♕b1 ♕e7 39 ♖db4 d4 40 exd4 f4 41 ♖xh5+ 1-0

177



(425) Saidy-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 ♘f3 ♘c6 7 0-0 a6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 ♖b8 11 b3 b5 12 ♗b2 ♖e8 13 ♖ae1 ♗d7 14 h3 bxc4 15 bxc4 e6 16 ♖b1 ♕e7 17 e4 ♖ec8 18 ♖fe1 e5 19 ♘d1 ♗h6 20 ♘e3 ♘h5 21 ♘df1 ♕d8 22 ♗c3 ♕c7 23 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 24 ♖b1 ♖xb1 25 ♕xb1 ♘b7 26 ♔h2 ½-½

(426) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♗g5 ♘e4 6 cxd5 ♘xg5 7 ♘xg5 e6 8 ♘f3 exd5 9 e3 ♕d6 10 ♗e2 0-0 11 0-0 c6 12 a3 a5 13 ♘a4 ♘d7 14 ♖c1 b6 15 ♕d2 ♗b7 16 ♖fd1 ♖fc8 17 ♖c2 ♗f6 18 ♘c3 ♗g7 19 e4

dxe4 20 ♘xe4 ♕e7 21 ♕f4 ♘f6 22 ♘c3 ♘d5 23 ♘xd5 cxd5 24 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 25 ♗d3 ♕c7 26 ♕d2 ♕d6 27 h3 ♗c6 ½-½

(427) Ljubojević-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 d4 c5 6 dxc5 ♗xc5 7 ♗d3 ♘c6 8 ♗f4 f6 9 exf6 ♘xf6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♘e5 ♗d7 12 ♕e2 ♕e7 13 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 14 a3 a6 15 ♔h1 ♗d4 16 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 17 ♗d2 e5 18 f3 ♔h8 19 ♘d1 ½-½

(428) Ribli-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 e6 4 0-0 ♗e7 5 d4 0-0 6 c4 ♘bd7 7 ♕c2 c6 8 b3 b6 9 ♗b2 ♗b7 10 ♘c3 ♖c8 11 ♖ad1 a5 12 e4 ♗a6 13 ♕e2 ½-½

(429) Petrosian-Darga
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 d3 c5 4 ♘c3 ♘c6 5 g3 ♗b7 6 ♗g2 e6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 e4 d6 9 ♘e1 0-0 10 f4 ♘e8 11 g4 ♘c7 12 ♘f3 d5 13 f5 dxc4 14 dxc4 ♗d6 ½-½

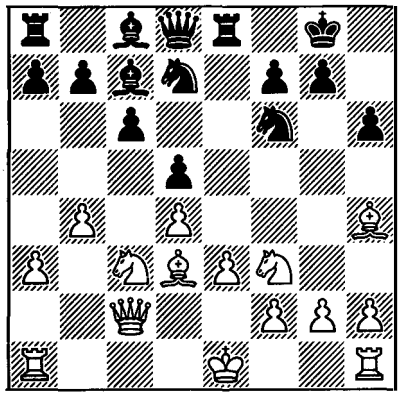
(430) Andersson-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 dxe5 dxe5 8 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 9 ♗g5 ♖e8 ½-½

(431) Petrosian-Huguet
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 ♘bd7 5 cxd5 exd5 6 ♗f4 c6 7 e3 ♗b4 8 ♗d3 0-0 9 ♕c2 ♖e8 10 a3 ♗a5 11 b4 ♗c7 12 ♗g5 h6 13 ♗h4 *(178)*

178



13 ... ♘f8 14 ♗xf6 gxf6 15 0-0 ♗g4 16 ♘h4 ♕d6 17 g3 ♔h8 18 ♖fc1 ♘e6 19 ♗f5 ♗xf5 20 ♘xf5 ♕f8 21 ♕d1 ♖ac8 22 ♕h5 ♔h7 23 h4 ♗b8 24 e4 ♘c7 25 exd5 ♘xd5 26 ♘xd5 cxd5 27 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 28 ♖e1 1-0

(432) Panno-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 0-0 d6 6 ♘c3 c5 7 d4 ♘c6 8 e3 ♗f5 9 b3 ♘e4 10 ♗b2 ♘xc3 11 ♗xc3 ♗e4 12 ♖c1 cxd4 13 ♘xd4 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 ♕d7 15 ♘e2 ♘e5 16 e4 ♖fd8 17 f4 ♘g4 18 ♕d3 ♘f6 19 ♗d4 ♕c6 20 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 21 ♖fd1 b6 22 ♘d4 ♕b7 23 ♘f3 ½-½

(433) Petrosian-Hug
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 3 c3 b6 4 ♗g5 ♗b7 5 ♘bd2 ♘e4 6 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 7 e3 cxd4 8 exd4 ♕c7 9 ♗d3 ♕b7 10 ♗xe4 ♕xe4+ 11 ♗e3 e6 12 0-0 ♗e7 13 ♖e1 ♕f5 14 d5 0-0 15 ♕d2 ♗f6 16 ♖ad1 e5 17 d6 e4 18 ♕c2 ♖e8

19 ♗d4 ♘c6 20 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 21 ♖xe4 ♖e6 22 ♖xe6 fxe6 23 ♕e4 ♖f8 24 h3 ♕f5 25 ♕e2 ♕c5 26 ♖d2 h6 27 a3 ♖f5 28 ♕e4 ♖f6 29 ♖d3 ♕b5 30 ♖d2 ♕c5 31 ♕d3 ♘e5 32 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 33 g3 ♖f8 34 ♔g2 ♖f6 35 h4 ♖f5 36 c4 ♖f8 37 b4 ♖c8 38 f4 ♕f6 39 ♖c2 ♕a1 40 ♖e2 ♕c1 41 ♖c2 ♕b1 42 ♕c3 ♕d1 43 c5 bxc5 44 bxc5 ♕d5+ 45 ♔h2 ♔h8 46 ♕c4 ♕c6 47 a4 ♕f3 48 ♕b5 ♕e4 49 ♖g2 ♔h7 50 ♕xd7 ♖xc5 51 ♕xa7 ♖d5 52 ♕a6 ♕d4 53 ♖a2 ♖xd6 54 ♕e2 ♕d5 55 ♕c2+ ♔g8 56 ♖b2 ♖d8 57 ♕e2 ♔h8 58 ♖c2 ♖a8 59 ♖c4 ♖b8 60 ♕c2 ♖d8 61 ♖c5 ♕f3 62 ♖c8 ♖xc8 63 ♕xc8+ ♔h7 64 ♕c2+ ♔h8 65 ♕a2 ♕a8 66 a5 ♕a6 67 h5 ♔h7 68 ♔g1 ♔h8 69 ♔f2 ♕a7+ 70 ♔f3 ♕b7+ 71 ♔e3 ♕a7+ 72 ♔e4 ♕b7+ 73 ♔d4 ♕b4+ 74 ♔e5 ♕b8+ 75 ♔e4 ♕b7+ 76 ♔e3 ♕a7+ 77 ♔f3 ♕b7+ 78 ♔f2 ♕a7+ 79 ♔f1 ♕b7 80 ♔g1 ♕a7+ 81 ♔h2 ♕a6 82 ♕d2 ♕b5 83 g4 ♕c4 84 ♔g3 ♕f1 85 ♔h2 ♕c4 86 ♔g2 ♔g8 87 ♔f2 ♔h8 88 ♔e3 ♕c6 89 ♕d8+ ♔h7 90 ♕d3+ ♔h8 91 a6 ♕h1 92 ♕e2 ♕c1+ 93 ♔e4 ♕h1+ 94 ♔d4 ♕d5+ 95 ♔e3 e5 96 f5 ♕d4+ 97 ♔f3 ♕g1 98 ♕xe5 ♕f1+ 99 ♔e3 ♕e1+ 100 ♔d4 ♕a1+ 101 ♔e4 ♕b1+ 102 ♔d5 ♕b5+ 103 ♔e6 ♕e8+ 104 ♔d6 ♕b8+ ½-½

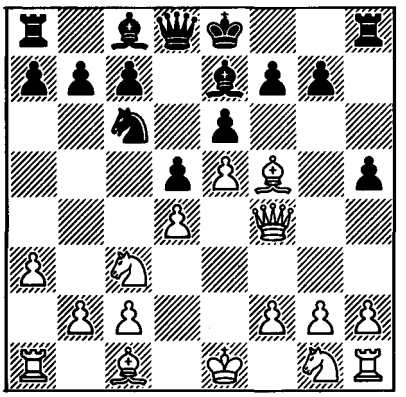
(434) Calvo-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 ♘e7 5 ♕g4 ♘f5 6 ♗d3 h5 7 ♕f4 ♘c6 8 a3 ♗e7 9 ♗xf5

(diagram 179)

9 ... g5 10 ♕d2 exf5 11 h4 gxh4 12 ♘ce2 ♗e6 13 b3 ♖g8 14 ♘f4 ♕d7 15 ♘gh3 0-0-0 16 ♗b2 ♖g7 17 0-0-0 ♖h8 18 ♔b1 ♗d8 19 ♕e2 ♖g4 20 f3 ♖g7 21 ♘d3 ♘e7 22 ♘c5 ♕c6 23 ♘f4 ♘g6 24 ♘fd3 a5 25 c4 dxc4 26 bxc4 ♗xc4 27 ♖c1 ♘f4 28 ♕d2 ♘xd3 29 ♖xc4 ♘xc5 30 ♖xc5 ♕b6 31 ♖xa5 ♔b8 32 ♖c5 ♗e7 33 ♖c3 ♖hg8 34 ♖h2 f6 35 ♔a2 fxe5 36 ♖b3 ♕d6 37 d5 ♖d8 38 f4 ♕xd5 39 ♕xd5 ♖xd5 40 fxe5 ♖d2 41 ♖f3 ♖g3 42 ♖xg3 hxg3 43 ♖xh5 ♖xg2 44 ♔b3 ♖h2 45 ♖xf5 ♖xb2+ 0-1

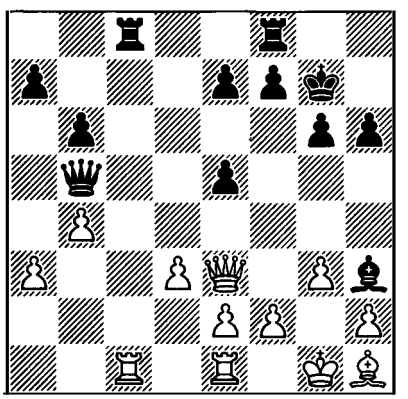
179



(435) Petrosian-Diez del Corral
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 d3 ♗d7 8 a3 ♕c8 9 ♖e1 ♗h3 10 ♗h1 h6 11 ♘d5 ♘xd5 12 cxd5 ♘d8 13 ♗d2 c6 14 dxc6 ♘xc6 15 ♗c3 ♕d7 16 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 17 ♕d2 ♖ac8 18 ♖ac1 ♘e5 19 ♘xe5 dxe5 20 ♕e3 ♕b5 21 b4 b6 *(180)*

180



22 ♗b7 ♖xc1 23 ♖xc1 f6 24 ♗c6 ♕a6 25 a4 ♗f5 26 f4 ♕c8 27 fxe5 ♕e6 28 exf6+ ♕xf6 29 ♗f3 ♗h3 30 d4 ♕d6 31 ♖c4 g5 32 d5 g4 33 ♗g2 ♖f6 34 ♕d4 ♗xg2 35 ♔xg2 a5 36 bxa5 bxa5 37 ♕xg4+ ♔f7 38 ♕h5+ ♔g7 39 ♕g4+ ♔f7 40 ♕e4 1-0

(436) Stein-Petrosian
Sicilain Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 d6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♗e3 ♘f6 7 ♗e2 ♗e7 8 0-0 ♗d7 9 ♘b3 a6 10 f4 b5 11 a3 0-0 12 ♗f3 ♖b8 13 ♕d2 ♕c7 14 g4 ♗e8 15 g5 ♘d7 16 ♕g2 ♘b6 17 ♖ae1 ♘c4 18 ♗c1 a5 19 ♔h1 b4 20 axb4 ♖xb4 21 f5 a4 22 ♘d2 ♘4e5 23 ♗d1 ♘d4 24 f6 ♗d8 25 ♖e3 ♗c6 26 ♖h3 ♘g6 27 ♕g4 ♖e8 28 ♕h5 ♘f8 29 fxg7 ♔xg7 30 ♘f3 ♘b5 31 ♘xb5 ♗xb5 32 ♖e1 ♗c6 33 ♘d2 ♖b5 34 ♘b1 ♔g8 35 ♘c3 ♖c5 36 ♔g1 ♕b7 37 ♖f1 ♗b6 38 ♗e3 ♖xc3 39 bxc3 ♗xe4 40 ♕h4 a3 41 ♗h5 ♗f5 42 ♖hf3 ♗xe3+ 43 ♖xe3 a2 44 ♕d4 ½-½

(437) Petrosian-Kavalek
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 e6 6 d3 ♘ge7 7 0-0 d5 8 ♗g5 ½-½

Match Tournament of USSR Teams Moscow, April 1973

Board 2, +1 –0 =3.

(438) Vasyukov-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 d6 5 c4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 ♘xd4 7 ♕xd4 g6 8 ♗e3 ♗g7 9 f3 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♗e6 11 ♖c1 ♕a5 12 ♗e2 ♖fc8 13 b3 a6 14 ♘a4 ♕xd2+ 15 ♔xd2 ♘d7 16 ♖hd1 ♔f8 17 g4 ♖c6 18 ♔e1 ♖b8 19 c5 ♘xc5 20 ♘xc5 dxc5 21 f4 ♔e8 22 ♖xc5 ♖xc5 23 ♗xc5 ♖c8 24 ♗d4 ♗xd4 25 ♖xd4 ♖c1+ 26 ♖d1 ♖c3 27 f5 ♗d7 28 ♖d3 ♖c1+ 29 ♔d2 ♖a1 30 a4 ♗c6 31 fxg6 hxg6 32 e5 g5 33 ♖h3 ♗d5 34 ♗d1 ♔d7 35 ♗c2 ♖f1 36 ♖h5 ½-½

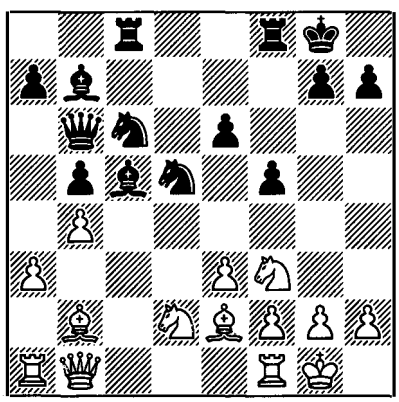
(439) Petrosian-Tukmakov
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 cxd5 ♘xd5 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♘b6 6 d3 ♗g7 7 ♗e3 0-0 8 ♕d2 e5 9 ♗h6 ♘8d7 10 h4 ♘f6 11 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 12 h5 ♘xh5 13 ♗f3 ♕e7 14 ♗xh5 gxh5 15 ♖xh5 f6 16 ♘f3 ♗g4 17 ♘h4 ♕d7 18 ♖h6 ♘c4 19 ♕c1 ♘d6 20 ♘g2 ♖ad8 21 ♖h2 ♔g8 22 f3 ♗e6 23 g4 c5 24 ♕e3 ♖c8 25 ♔f2 ♖f7 26 a4 b6 27 ♖ah1 ♖g7 28 ♖h6 ♖f8 29 ♘e4 ♘xe4 30 ♕xe4 ♗d5 31 ♕f5 ♗e6 32 ♕e4 ♗d5 33 ♕f5 ♗e6 ½-½

(440) Petrosian-Vasyukov
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 b3 ♘c6 3 ♗b2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 e6 5 e3 ♗e7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 d5 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘a3 b6 10 ♘c4 ♗b7 11 d4 ♖c8 12 dxc5 ♗xc5 13 a3 b5 14 ♘cd2 ♕b6 15 ♕b1 f5 16 b4 *(181)*

181

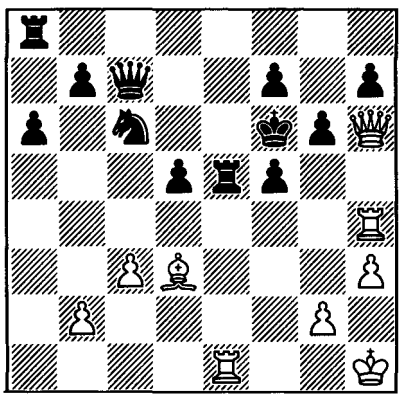


16 ... ♗xe3 17 fxe3 ♘xe3 18 ♔h1 e5 19 ♘b3 e4 20 ♘c5 exf3 21 ♖xf3 ♖ce8 22 ♘d7 ♕d8 23 ♘xf8 ♘d4 24 ♖xe3 ♖xe3 25 ♗f1 ♖h3 26 ♗xd4 ♖xh2+ 27 ♔xh2 ♕h4+ 28 ♔g1 ♕xd4+ ½-½

(441) Tukmakov-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 d6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♗e2 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♗e3 ♗d7 9 f4 a6 10 a4 ♘xd4 11 ♕xd4 ♗c6 12 ♖fd1 0-0 13 a5 ♖c8 14 ♗f3 d5 15 e5 ♘d7 16 ♘e2 ♗b5 17 ♕d2 ♗xe2 18 ♕xe2 ♗b4 19 c3 ♗xa5 20 ♔h1 ♗b6 21 ♖a4 ♗xe3 22 ♕xe3 ♘b6 23 ♖ad4 ♘c4 24 ♕e2 ♕b6 25 ♖b1 ♖fe8 26 h3 g6 27 ♗e4 ♘a5 28 ♗d3 ♕c7 29 ♖a4 ♘c6 30 ♕e3 ♔g7 31 ♖e1 ♖a8 32 f5 exf5 33 ♖h4 ♖xe5 34 ♕h6+ ♔f6 *(182)*

182



35 ♖f1 ♕b6 36 ♖hf4 ♔e7 37 g4 ♕e3 38 ♕h4+ ♔d6 39 ♖4f3 ♕d2 40 gxf5 ♔c5 41 fxg6 hxg6 42 c4 ♖h5 43 ♕g4 ♖g5 0-1

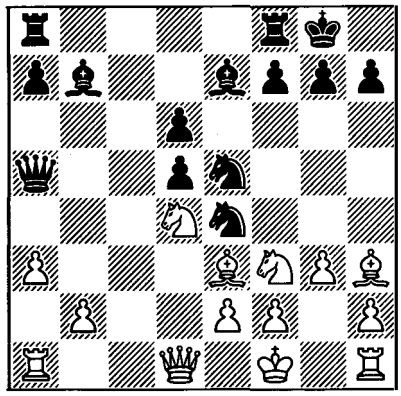
5th European Team Championship
Bath, July 1973

Board 2, +2 -0 =5.

(442) Petrosian-Keene
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 ♘c3 ♗b7 4 d5 e6 5 a3 ♗e7 6 g3 b5 7 ♘xb5 exd5 8 ♗f4 d6 9 c5 0-0 10 cxd6 cxd6 11 ♘d4 ♘c6 12 ♘gf3 ♘e4 13 ♗e3 ♘e5 14 ♗h3 ♕a5+ 15 ♔f1 *(183)*

183



15 ... ♗c8 16 ♗xc8 ♖fxc8 17 ♘f5 ♗f8 18 ♗d4 g6 19 ♘e3 ♘c4 20 ♔g2 ♘xe3+ 21 ♗xe3 ♗g7 22 ♗d4 ♗xd4 23 ♘xd4 ♕b6 24 ♖b1 ♖c4 25 e3 ♖ac8 26 ♖e1 a5 27 ♕e2 ♕b7 28 ♖ed1 a4 29 ♔g1 ♘c5 30 ♕f3 ♘e4 31 ♕f4 ♕e7 32 h4 h5 33 ♖e1 ♔g7 34 ♖bd1 ♖b8 35 ♖e2 ♕f6 36 ♘f3 ♕xf4 37 exf4 ♖b6 38 ♔g2 ♘f6 39 f5 ♖b7 40 fxg6 ♔xg6 41 ♘g5 ♖c5 42 ♘h3 ♖b3 43 ♘f4+ ♔g7 44 ♖d3 ♖xd3 45 ♘xd3 ♖c4 46 ♘f4 ♖d4 47 ♔f3 ♖d1 48 ♖c2 ♖b1 49 ♖d2 ♔f8 50 ♔e3 ♖e1+ 51 ♔d3 ♖e8 52 ♖e2 ♖c8 53 ♖c2 ♖c5 54 f3 ♔e7 55 ♖c3 ♖b5 56 ♖c7+ ♔e8 57 ♖c2 ♖b3+ 58 ♔e2 ♔d7 59 ♔f2 ♔d8 60 ♘e2 ♘d7 61 ♘d4 ♖b7 62 ♘c6+ ♔e8 63 ♘b4 ♘b6 64 ♔e3 ♖e7+ 65 ♔d3 ♔d7 66 g4 ♖e1 67 gxh5 ♖h1 68 ♖c6 ♘c4 69 ♖a6 ♘xb2+ 70 ♔c3 ♖h2 71 ♘xd5 ♘d1+ 72 ♔d3 ♘b2+ 73 ♔e4 ♖xh4+ 74 f4 f5+ 75 ♔xf5 ♖xh5+ 76 ♔e4 ♖h2 77 ♖a7+ ♔c6 78 ♖c7+ ♔b5 79 ♘e3 ♖e2 80 ♔f3 ♖d2 81 ♘f1 ♖d3+ 82 ♔e2 ♔b6 83 ♖c8 ♔b7 84 ♖c2 ♖b3 85 ♘d2 ♖b6 86 ♔e3 ♘d1+ 87 ♔d4 d5 90 ♖c1 ♘f2 91 ♖f1 ♘g4 92 ♖b1

♘f6 93 ♔e5 ♘h5 94 f5 ♖xb1 95 ♘xb1 ♔c6 96 ♘c3 1-0

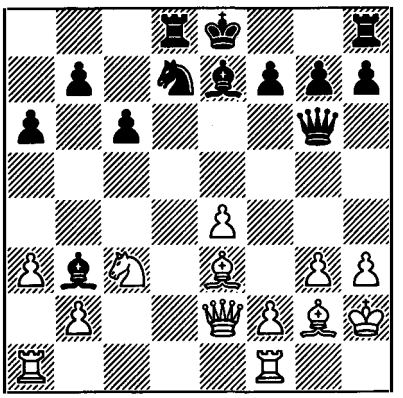
(443) Ciocaltea-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕c7 7 ♘f3 ♘e7 8 ♗d3?! (8 a4!) **8 ... b6 9 0-0 ♗a6 10 dxc5?!** (10 ♘g5!? ♗xd3 11 cxd3 cxd4 12 ♕h5 g6 13 ♕f3 ♘ec6 14 ♖e1 ♕e7 15 c4 ±) **10 ... bxc5 11 ♖b1 c4** (11 ... ♗xd3 12 cxd3 ±) **12 ♗e2 ♘d7 13 ♗e3 0-0** (13 ... ♘xe5 14 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 15 ♗d4 ♕g5 16 f4 ∞) **14 ♗d4 ♖ab8 15 ♕d2 ♗b5** (intending ... ♗a4) **16 a4 ♗c6** (16 ... ♗xa4? 17 ♖a1 ±) **17 a5 a6 18 ♕g5 ♘g6 19 ♕e3** (19 h4 ♖xb1 20 ♖xb1 ♕xa5 21 h5 h6! ∓) **19 ... ♖xb1 20 ♖xb1 ♕xa5 21 ♘e1! ♕d8** (21 ... ♕a2 22 ♕c1 intending ♖a1) **22 f4 ♕e7 23 ♖a1 ♗b5** (23 ... ♖a8! ∓) **24 g3 ♖a8 25 ♗g4 a5 26 ♘f3 a4 27 h4 ♘gf8 28 ♗h3** (intending g3-g4, f4-f5) **28 ... a3?!** (28 ... ♗c6!? intending ... ♖b8) **29 ♕c1** (29 g4 a2 30 f5 ♕a3 31 f6 h6!) **29 ... ♘b8 30 ♗f2 ♗e8 31 ♘d4 ♘c6 32 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 33 ♗d4 ♘d7 34 ♖a2 h5 35 ♗g2 g6 36 ♗f3 ♔g7 37 ♕e3** (37 f5? exf5! 38 e6+ ♘f6 ∓∓) **37 ... ♗a4** (intending ... ♗b3) **38 ♗d1 ♗c6 39 ♗f3 ♔f8 40 ♔f2 ♔e8 41 ♕e1 = ½-½** (Ciocaltea)

(444) Petrosian-Pytel
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 e5 3 ♗g2 c6! 4 ♘f3 e4 5 ♘d4 d5 6 cxd5 ♕xd5 7 ♘b3! (7 ♘c2 ♕h5 8 ♘e3 ♗h3; 7 ♘c2 ♕h5 8 h3 ♕g6; 7 ♘c2 ♗c5?! 8 d4 ♗b6 9 ♘c3 ♕e6 10 0-0 0-0 11 f3 exf3 12 ♗xf3 ♕h3! ∞) **7 ... ♕f5 8 h3 ♕g6 9 ♘c3 ♗b4 10 a3 ♗e7! 11 d3! exd3 12 e4 ♘a6 13 ♕xd3 ♗e6 14 ♘a5 ♖d8 15 ♕e2 ♘c5 16 0-0 ♘b3! 17 ♘xb3 ♗xb3 ∓ 18 ♗e3 a6 19 ♔h2 ♘d7!** *(184)*

184



20 f4 ♕e6 21 ♕f2 f6! = 22 ♘e2! c5 23 ♘c3! 0-0 24 ♘d5 ♗d6 25 ♗d2 b5 26 ♖fe1 ♕f7 27 ♗c3 ♖fe8 = 28 ♘e3!? ♘b6 29 ♘f5 ♗f8 30 ♗a5 ♖b8 31 ♕f3 ♘c4 (31 ... c4? 32 ♘d4) **32 ♕xb3** (32 ♗c3 ♘d6 ∓) **32 ... ♘xa5 33 ♕c3 ♘c4 34 ♖e2 ♖bd8 35 ♘e3 ♘xe3 36 ♕xe3 c4 ∓ ½-½** (Pytel)

(445) Ivkov-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♘e2 d5 6 a3 ♗e7 7 ♘g3 c5 8 dxc5 dxc4 9 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 10 ♘ge4 ♘xe4 11 ♘xe4 ♘d7 12 ♗xc4 ♘xc5 13 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 ½-½

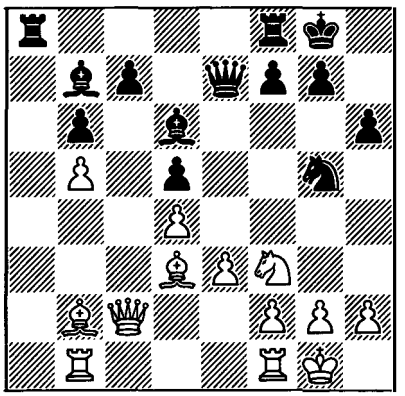
(446) Petrosian-Lombard
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♘d7 8 ♘xd5 exd5 9 ♗d3 ♗d6 10 ♕c2 h6 11 b4 a6 12 0-0 0-0 13 ♖b1 ♕e7 14 a4 ♘f6 15 b5 axb5 16 axb5 ♘e4 17 ♗b2 ♘g5

(diagram 185)

18 ♘e5 ♗xe5 19 dxe5 d4 20 f4 ♘e6 21 f5 ♕g5 22 fxe6 ♕xe3+ 23 ♕f2 1-0

185



(447) Schmid-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 b3 d5 8 e3 dxc4 9 bxc4 c5 10 ♕e2 ♘c6 11 d3 ♕c7 12 ♗b2 a6 13 ♖fd1 ♘a5 14 ♖ab1 ♖ab8 15 ♗a1 ♘d7 16 ♘d2 ♗xg2 17 ♔xg2 b5 ½-½

(448) Petrosian-Szabo
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 ♖c1 0-0 8 e3 ♘bd7 9 ♗d3 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 c5 11 0-0 ½-½

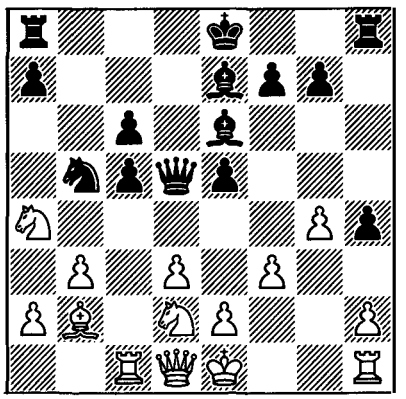
International IBM Tournament
Amsterdam, July-August 1973

1-2 **Petrosian** (+6 –1 =8), Planinc 10; 3 Kavalek 9½; 4 Spassky 9; 5 Szabo 8½; 6 Marović 8; 7-11 Andersson, Donner, Ribli, Smejkal, Timman 7½; 12-13 Radulov, Ree 6; 14-15 Enklaar, Quinteros 5½; 16 Langeweg 4½.

(449) Petrosian-Szabo
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♗g2 ♘c7 (5 ... ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ±) **6 d3 e5** (6 ... ♘c6 7 ♗xc6+ bxc6 8 ♗e3 ∞) **7 ♘f3 ♘c6 8 ♘d2 ♗e6 9 ♗xc6+!? bxc6 10 b3 ♘b5 11 ♘a4** (11 ♗b2 ♘xc3 12 ♗xc3 ♕d5 =) **11 ... ♕d5 12 f3 ♗e7** (12 ... h5!? 13 ♘e4 intending ♗e3, ♖c1 ±; 12 ... h5!? 13 ♘e4 f5!? 14 ♘g5 h4 ∞) **13 ♗b2 h5 14 ♖c1 h4? 15 g4** *(186)*

186



15 ... ♗xg4? 16 e4! ♕xd3 17 fxg4 ♗g5 (17 ... 0-0-0!? 18 ♘f3 ♕xe4+ 19 ♕e2 ♕xg4 ±; 17 ... 0-0-0!? 18 ♕e2 ♗g5 19 ♘f3 ±) **18 ♘xc5! ±± ♕h3 19 ♕e2 ♖d8 20 ♖c2 ♗f4 21 ♘f1! ♖h6** (21 ... ♗g3+ 22 ♘xg3 hxg3 22 ♕f3 ±±) **22 ♕g2 ♕xg2 23 ♖xg2 ♖hd6 24 ♖c2 ♖d1+ 25 ♔e2 ♖b1 26 a4 ♘c7 27 ♘g3 ♖xb2 28 ♖xb2 hxg3 29 hxg3 ♗xg3 30 ♖h8+ ♔e7 31 ♖xd8 ♔xd8 32 ♖d2+ ♔e8 33 ♖d6 1-0**

(450) Quinteros-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 c3 ♘f6 5 ♕c2 0-0 6 ♗g5 ♘c6 7 ♘bd2 h6 8 ♗h4 a6 9 a4 ♘h5 10 ♗c4 g5 11 ♗g3 e6 12 0-0 ♔h8 13 d5 exd5 14 ♗xd5 ♘e7 15 ♗c4 ♘g6 16 ♘d4 ½-½

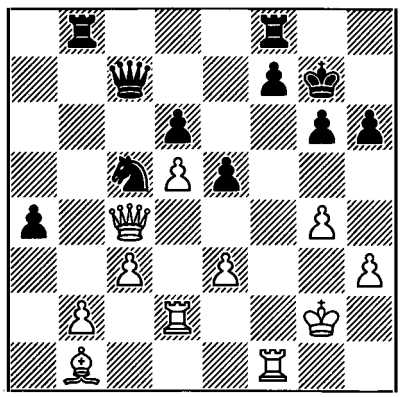
(451) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 c6 6 ♕c2 ♘a6 7 e3 ♘b4 8 ♕d2 ♗f5 9 ♖c1 a5 10 a3 ♘a6 11 ♘ge2 ♗e7 12 ♘f4 0-0 13 ♗d3 ♗xd3 14 ♘xd3 ♘d7 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 0-0 ♘b6 17 ♖fe1 ♘c4 18 ♕d1 f5 19 ♘b1 ♘c7 20 a4 ♘a6 21 ♘d2 ½-½

(452) Enklaar-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 h6!? 7 h3!? a6 8 ♗g2 ♗d7 9 0-0 (9 ♗e3!? ♘c6 10 ♕e2 intending 11 0-0-0 ± with initiative) **9 ... ♘c6 10 ♗e3 ♕c7 11 ♕e2 ♗e7 12 ♖ad1 b5 13 a3 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 e5 15 ♗e3 ♗e6 16 ♘d5 ♗xd5 17 exd5 ♘d7 18 c3** (18 f4! ±) **18 ... 0-0 19 ♗e4?!** (19 ♖c1 intending c2-c4) **19 ... ♗g5! ∓** (weak points at f4, h4) **20 ♗b1 ♖ae8?!** (20 ... ♖fe8! ∓) **21 a4 bxa4 22 ♕c2 g6 23 ♕xa4 a5** (intending ... ♗xe3, ... ♘c5, ... a4) **24 ♕e4 ♔g7 25 ♔g2 ♖b8 26 ♖d2 ♘c5 27 ♕c4 ♗xe3 28 fxe3 a4 ∓∓** *(187)*

187

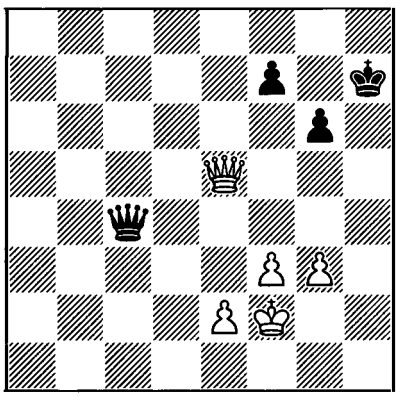


29 ♕e2 ♕e7 30 ♕f3 ♖b3 31 ♗a2 ♖b7 32 ♗c4 ♖fb8 33 ♖ff2 ♖h8 34 ♔h2 h5 35 ♖g2 hxg4 36 ♖xg4 ♖h4 37 ♖f2 ♖xg4 38 ♕xg4 ♖b8 39 h4 ♖h8 40 ♔g3 ♖h5 (intending ... f5) **41 e4 ♘d7** (intending ... ♘f6, ... ♖h8, ... ♘h5, ... ♘f4) **42 ♗e2 ♘f6 43 ♕f3 ♖h8 44 ♖h2 ♕a7 45 ♖h1 ♘h5+ 46 ♔g2 ♕b6 47 ♖b1 a3 48 b4 ♘f4+ 49 ♔g3 a2 50 ♖h1 ♕a7 51 ♖a1 ♕e7 0-1**

(453) Petrosian-Smejkal
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 g6 6 ♘c2 d6 7 g3 ♗g7 8 ♗g2 0-0 9 0-0 ♗e6 10 b3 ♕d7 11 ♘d5 ♗f5 12 ♗b2 ♘xd5 13 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 14 ♗xd5 ♗h3 15 ♖e1 h5 16 ♘e3 h4 17 ♖c1 hxg3 18 hxg3 ♖h8 19 c5 ♗e6 20 ♗g2 ♖h5 21 cxd6 exd6 22 ♕d2 ♖ah8 23 ♖ed1 d5 24 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 25 ♗xd5 ♕h3 26 ♗xc6 bxc6 27 ♕c3+ ♔h7 28 ♕xc6 ♕h2+ 29 ♔f1 ♖c8 30 ♕g2 ♖xc1 31 ♖xc1 ♕h1+ 32 ♕g1 ♕d5 33 f3 ♕d2 34 ♖e1 ♕xa2 35 ♕e3 ♖h1+ 36 ♔f2 ♖xe1 37 ♔xe1 a5 38 ♔f2 a4 39 bxa4 ♕xa4 40 ♕e5 ♕c4 *(188)*

188



41 g4 ♔g8 42 f4 ♕b4 43 ♔g2 ♕b1 44 ♕e8+ ♔g7 45 ♕e3 ♔f8 46 ♔g3 ♕e1+ 47 ♔g2 ♕b4 48 ♔h3 ♕e1 49 ♔g2 ♕b4 50 ♕e5 g5 51 ♕xg5 ♕e4+ 52 ♔f2 ♕d4+ 53 ♔f3 ♕c3+ 54 e3 ♕c6+ 55 ♔g3 ♕h1 56 ♕d8+ ♔g7 57 ♕d4+ ♔h7 58 ♕d3+ ♔g7 59 ♕d4+ f6 60 g5 ♕g1+ 61 ♔f3 ♕f1+ 62

♔e4 ♕b1+ 63 ♔d5 ♕b5+ 64 ♔d6 ♕a6+ 65 ♔c5 ♕a3+ 66 ♔c4 ♔g8 67 ♕d8+ ♔h7 68 ♕d3+ 1-0

(454) Donner-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 d4 c6 6 c4 d6 7 ♘c3 ♕a5 8 h3 e5 9 e4 exd4 10 ♘xd4 ♕c5 11 ♘b3 ♕xc4 12 ♕xd6 a5 13 ♗g5 ♘bd7 14 ♖fd1 ♕b4 15 e5 ♘e8 16 ♕xb4 axb4 17 ♘e4 ♗xe5 18 ♗e7 f5 19 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 20 ♘ec5 ♘xc5 21 ♘xc5 ♗d6 22 ♖dc1 ♖a5 23 ♘b3 ♖a7 24 ♘d2 ♗e6 25 ♘c4 ♗e7 26 a3 ♗f6 27 ♖ab1 b5 28 ♘e3 ♗a2 29 axb4 ♗xb1 30 ♖xb1 ♖a6 31 ♖c1 ♗xb2 32 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 33 ♗xc6 ♘c7 34 ♘d5 ♘xd5 35 ♗xd5 ♗c3 36 ♗c6 ♗xb4 37 ♗xb5 ½-½

(455) Petrosian-Ree
King's Indian Defence

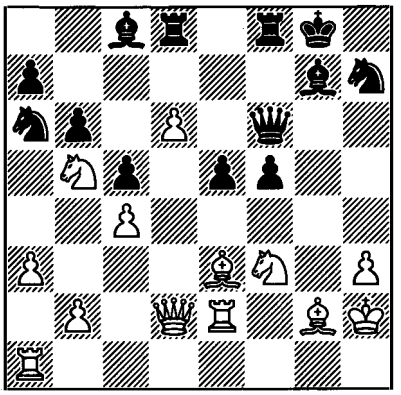
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 d5 ♗g7 4 g3 c6 5 ♗g2 ♕a5+ 6 ♘c3 ♕b4 7 ♕d3 d6 8 ♔f1 cxd5 9 cxd5 ♘a6 10 a3 ½-½

(456) Marović-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘f3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 c6 7 0-0 ♕a5 8 h3 ♗f5 9 ♘d2 e5 10 d5 c5 11 a3 ♘a6 12 e4 ♗d7 13 ♘b3 ♕d8 14 ♗g5 ♕e8 15 ♔h2 h5 16 ♖e1 ♘h7 17 ♗e3 ♕d8 18 ♘d2 b6 19 f4 h4 20 gxh4 ♕xh4 21 ♘f3 ♕e7 22 ♕d2 ♖ad8 23 fxe5 dxe5 24 ♖e2 ♗c8 25 ♘b5 f5 26 exf5 gxf5 27 d6 ♕f6 *(189)*

At the time, I recall, I was almost happy with the state of affairs. In particular, my opponent had very little time left. I will not say how much, although I would think that White had about two minutes left on his clock, or perhaps three . . .

189



28 ♗f2 e4
29 ♗h4 ♕g6

29 ... ♕h6 was perhaps better.

30 ♘g5 ♘f6
31 ♖g1!

White brings up his last reserves to the part of the board where the crisis is imminent.

31 ... ♔h8
32 ♕e1 ♘h5?

Relying on the 'terrible' check at e5.

33 ♘xe4!

An excellent blow! My forces are badly deployed, and White sacrifices a piece in order to disclose the tactical weaknesses in Black's position. At the time I took this to be an act of desperation in time trouble, but after

33 ... fxe4 34 ♗xe4 ♕e6 35 ♖e3

I was surprised to find that things were so bad for me.

The game concluded:

35 ... ♖de8 36 ♗e7 ♖f5 37 ♗xf5 ♕xf5

38 ♖g5! ♕f7 39 ♕h4!

and here I could have resigned, but, as happens in such cases, I looked closely at my opponent's flag, felt angry that it had let me down, made the further moves

39 ... ♔g8 40 ♖xh5 ♗xh3 41 ♔xh3

and only then recorded my zero in the tournament table.

(457) Petrosian-Andersson
Queen's Pawn Opening

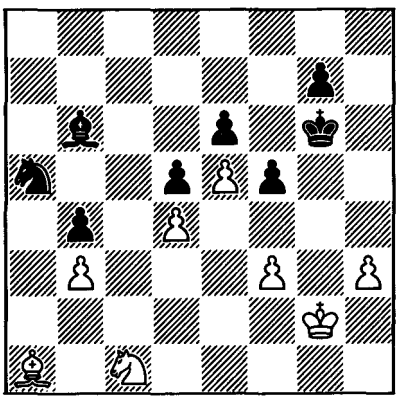
1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗g5 ♗e7 4 ♘bd2 d5 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 c3 0-0 7 ♗d3 b6 8 b4 ♗b7 9 ♕b1 h6 10 ♗h4 ♘h5 11 ♗g3 ♕c8 12 ♗e5 ♘hf6 13 0-0 c5 14 ♖c1 ♘xe5 15 ♘xe5 ♕c7 16 a4 a5 17 b5 ♖ac8 ½-½

(458) Langeweg-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 d6 2 d4 ♗g4 3 e4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 ♗e2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♗f4 c6 8 h3 ♗xf3 9 ♗xf3 d5 10 ♕d3 a6 11 e5 ♘fd7 12 ♘e2 b5 13 a4 ♘b6 14 axb5 cxb5 15 ♖a2 ♖a7 16 c3 b4 17 b3 bxc3 18 ♕xc3 ♕d7 19 ♖c1 ♖c8 20 ♕a1 ♖ac7 21 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 22 ♗d2 ♕c8 23 g3 ♖c2 24 ♖xc2 ♕xc2 25 ♕c3 ♕xc3 26 ♗xc3 ♘c6 27 ♘c1 ♘a8 28 ♗e2 ♘c7 29 ♔f1 f5 30 ♗d3 ♘b5 31 ♗xb5 axb5 32 ♗b2 h5 33 f3 h4 34 gxh4 ♗xh4 35 ♘d3 ♗d8 36 ♘c1 ♗b6 37 ♘e2 b4 38 ♔g2 ♔f7 39 ♗a1 ♘a5 40 ♘c1 ♔g6 *(190)*

The two hours separating the end of the round from the resumption of the unfinished games flew by rather quickly, but even so there was sufficient time for me to grieve over my last move, 40 ... ♔g6. The point was that, while the game was in progress, I had seen more or less clearly the set-up leading to a win (pawns at g5 and f4, knight at f5 and king at h4, after which White inevitably ends up in zugzwang). But in the time scramble it didn't seem to matter whether I took my king further up the h-file and only then advanced my pawns, or began the planned set-up with the pawn advance.

190



Analysis convinced me that if White had sealed 41 h4!, then it would be difficult to win the game, e.g. 41 ... ♔h5 42 ♔h3 ♗d8 43 ♘d3 ♘xb3 44 ♘f4+ ♔h6 45 ♗b2 ♗xh4 46 ♘xe6 ♗e1 47 ♘c7 ♗c3 48 e6!, and it is White who wins. And in fact, I was unable to find a realistic plan for strengthening my position after 41 h4.

I consoled myself with the thought that such a move could be sealed either by a very strong player or by a very weak one – overlooking that within a few moves the pawn was bound to be lost. Whereas my opponent, the experienced master Langeweg, was likely to have settled for some normal move, most probably 41 ♔g3. Then there could have followed 41 ... ♔h5 42 h4 (forestalling the plan of ... g5 and ... f4) 42 ... ♗d8 43 ♘d3 ♗xh4+ 44 ♔h3 ♘xb3 45 ♘f4+ ♔h6 46 ♗b2 ♗e1 47 ♘xe6 ♗c3 48 ♘c7. Now, obviously not 48 ... ♗xb2 in view of 49 e6!, and therefore 48 ... ♘xd4 49 e6 ♘xe6! 50 ♗c1+ ♘g5+ 51 ♔h4, when somewhat unexpectedly 51

... ♗e1 gives mate!

When the game was resumed, it transpired that Langeweg had sealed another 'normal' move –

41 ♗b2

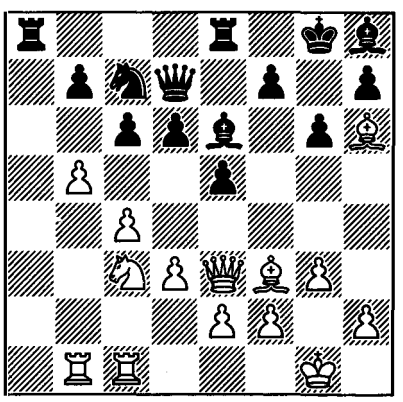
after which the game concluded

41 ... ♔g5 42 ♔g3 f4+ 43 ♔g2 ♔h4 44 ♔h2 g5 45 ♔g2 ♔h5 46 ♔h2 ♘c6 47 ♘e2 ♘e7 48 ♔g2 ♘f5 49 ♔h2 ♔h4 50 ♔g2 ♘e3+ 51 ♔h2 ♘c2 White resigns

(459) Petrosian-Planinc
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 g3 0-0 5 ♗g2 d6 6 0-0 e5 7 d3 ♖e8 8 ♗d2 c6 9 ♖c1 a5! (9 ... d5 10 cxd5 exd5 11 d4 exd4 12 ♘xd4 ± – weak point at d5; 11 ... e4 12 ♘e5 ±) **10 a3 ♘a6 11 ♗e3 ♖b8 12 ♕b3** (12 ♗a7 ♖a8 13 ♗e3 =) **12 ... ♘d7** (12 ... b5 13 cxb5 cxb5 14 ♘g5 ∞; 12 ... b5 13 cxb5 ♗e6 14 ♕d1 cxb5 15 ♘g5 ∞) **13 ♕c2** (13 d4 exd4 14 ♗xd4 ♘dc5 15 ♕d1 ∞) **13 ... ♘dc5 14 ♖fd1 ♗f5 15 ♖b1 ♘e6!?** (15 ... e4 16 ♘d4 ±) **16 b4** (16 ♘h4 ♘d4 17 ♗xd4 exd4 18 ♘xf5 gxf5 19 ♘a2 f4! 20 b4 fxg3 21 hxg3 h5! ∓ with initiative) **16 ... ♘d4 17 ♕a2 axb4 18 axb4 ♖a8 19 ♕d2 ♘c7?! 20 ♗h6 ♘xf3+ 21 ♗xf3 ♗h8?** ± (21 ... d5 ∓) **22 b5 ♕d7 23 ♖dc1 ♗e6 24 ♕e3** (intending ♕b6) *(191)*

191



24 ... ♖a3 25 ♗g2! (25 ♕b6 ♖xc3 26 ♖xc3 e4 27 ♗xe4 ♗xc3 28 bxc6 bxc6 29 ♗xc6 ♕e7 30 ♗xe8 ±) **25 ... ♖c8 26 bxc6 bxc6 27 ♖b7 ♗g7?? ±± 28 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 29 c5! ♖a5** (29 ... ♘d5!? 30 ♖xd7 ♘xe3 31 ♖xd6 ♘xg2 32 ♔xg2 ±; 29 ... ♘d5!? 30 ♗xd5 ♕xb7 31 ♗xe6 fxe6 32 cxd6 intending ♘e4 ±±) **30 cxd6 ♕xd6 31 ♘e4 ♕d4 32 ♕xa4 exd4 33 ♘d6 ♖d8 34 ♘xf7 ♗xf7 35 ♖xc7 ♖e5 36 ♗e4 ♖de8 37 ♖1xc6 ♔g8 38 ♖d6 ♗e6 39 ♖xd4 1-0**

(460) Timman-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗xc6 dxc6 5 0-0 ♕d6 6 d3 f6 7 ♘bd2 ♗e6 8 ♘c4 ½-½

(461) Petrosian-Ribli
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 0-0 5 c3 d6 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 a4 h6 8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 a5 a6 10 ♕c2 e5?! (10 ... ♗g7) **11 ♗c4 ♔h8 12 h4 h5?** (12 ... c6 13 h5 g5 14 ♘e4 ♗e7 15 dxe5 ♘xe5! =) **13 ♘e4 ♗g7? 14 ♘eg5!** ± (with initiative) **14 ... ♕e7 15 ♕b3?!** (15 ♗xf7 ♖xf7 16 ♕xg6 ♔g8 17 ♕h7+ ♔f8 18 ♕xh5 ±; 15 ♗xf7 e4 16 ♗xg6 exf3 17 ♗xh5 ♘f6 18 ♗xf3 ♗h6 ±) **15 ... e4! 16 ♘d2 ♗h6!! 17 ♘xf7+** (17 ♘dxe4 f5 18 ♘d2 ♗xg5 19 hxg5 ♕xg5 =; 17 ♘gxe4 f5 18 ♘g3 f4 ∓) **17 ... ♔g7 18 ♘xh6 ♔xh6 = 19 ♘f1** (19 ♗e2!? intending c3-c4) **19 ... ♘f6 20 f3??** (20 ♗e2 ∞) **20 ... exf3 21 gxf3 ♘g4! ∓ 22 fxg4 ♗xg4** (22 ... ♖xf1+ 23 ♖xf1 ♕xe3+ 24 ♗e2 ♗xg4 25 ♕c2) **23 ♗e2** (23 ♔d2 ♖f2+ 24 ♔c1 ♕e4 intending ... ♗f5 ∓∓) **23 ... ♖xf1+ 24 ♖xf1 ♕xe3 25 ♕c2** (25 ♖f2 ♗xe2 26 ♖xe2 ♕g1+ 27 ♔d2 ♕xa1 28 ♕xb7 ♖f8 ∓∓) **25 ... ♖e8 26 ♖f2 ♕g3 27 ♕d2+ ♔g7**

(27 ... ♖e3 28 0-0-0! ♕xf2 29 ♗xg4 ♕xd2+ 30 ♔xd2 ±±) **28 ♕f4 ♖xe2+ 29 ♔f1** (29 ... ♕xf4 30 ♖xf4 ♖xb2 31 ♖e1 ♖h2) **½-½**

(462) Kavalek-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗e7 6 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 7 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 8 c3 0-0 9 ♘f3 ♘d7 10 ♗e2 e5 11 dxe5 ♘xe5 12 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 13 0-0 ½-½

(463) Petrosian-Radulov
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 e5 4 g3 (4 e3 d6 5 d4 cxd4 6 exd4 ♗g4 7 ♗e2 ±; 4 e3 ♘f6 5 d4 cxd4 6 exd4 exd4 7 ♘xd4 ♗b4 =) **4 ... g6 5 a3 ♗g7 6 ♖b1** (6 b4 cxb4 7 axb4 ♘xb4 8 ♗a3 ± with initiative; 6 b4 e4! 7 ♘h4 ♘xb4! ∓) **6 ... ♘ge7 7 ♗g2 a5 8 d3 0-0 9 ♗g5!? f6** (9 ... h6 10 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 11 b4 ± with initiative; 10 ... ♕xe7 11 ♘d2 ±) **10 ♗d2 d6 11 0-0 ♗e6 12 ♘e1 f5!** (12 ... d5 13 cxd5 ♘xd5 14 ♕b3 ±) **13 ♘c2 d5 14 b3** (14 cxd5 ♘xd5 15 ♘e3 =) **14 ... d4?!** (14 ... ♕d7) **15 ♘b5 f4?! 16 b4 b6?** (16 ... axb4 17 axb4 b6 ±) **17 bxc5 bxc5 18 a4!** (intending ♘a1-b3; intending ♘ba3, ♖b5) **18 ... ♕d7 19 ♘a1!** ± (weak points at a5, c5) **19 ... ♗h3 20 ♘b3 ♗xg2 21 ♔xg2 e4 22 ♘xc5 f3+ 23 exf3 exf3+ 24 ♕xf3 ♖xf3 25 ♘xd7 ♖xd3 26 ♗g5 ♘f5 27 g4 h6 28 ♘c5 ♖c3 29 ♘xc3 dxc3 30 gxf5 hxg5 31 f6 ♗f8** (31 ... ♗xf6 32 ♘e4 ♗e5 33 ♖bc1 ♘b4 34 ♘xc3 ♘d3 35 ♘b5 ±±) **32 ♘e4 c2 33 ♖b2 ♘d4 34 ♖c1 ♖e8 35 ♘xg5 1-0**

41st USSR Championship
Moscow, October 1973

1 Spassky 11½; 2-6 Karpov, Korchnoi, Kuzmin, **Petrosian** (+4 -0 =13), Polugayevsky 10½; 7-8 Geller, Grigorian 8½; 9-12 Keres, Savon, Taimanov, Tal 8; 13-14 Rashkovsky, Tukmakov 7½; 15-16 Averkin, Smyslov 7; 17 Sveshnikov 6½; 18 Belyavsky 4½.

(464) Petrosian-Grigorian
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 e6 4 ♘f3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 d4 0-0 9 ♘xd5 exd5 10 ♗e3 ♕b6 11 dxc5 ♗xc5 12 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 13 a3 ♗g4 14 ♕d3 ♕c4 15 ♖fd1 ♖ac8 16 h3 ♕xd3 17 ♖xd3 ♗e6 18 ♘g5 ♖fd8 19 f4 ♘e7 20 g4 g6 21 ♖ad1 ♖c2 22 ♖1d2 ♖xd2 23 ♖xd2 ♖c8 24 ♔f2 ♖c4 25 e4 dxe4 26 ♘xe4 b6 27 ♔g3 ♔g7 28 ♘g5 ♗c8 29 ♗f3 ♖c7 30 ♘e4 h6 31 ♘d6 ♗d7 32 ♗d1 ♘c8 33 ♘e4 ♗e6 34 ♘c3 ♘e7 35 ♔f3 a6 36 ♖d6 ♘c8 37 ♖d8 b5 38 ♗e2 h5 39 ♔e3 hxg4 40 hxg4 ♔f6 41 ♗d3 ♔e7 42 ♖h8 ♘b6 43 f5 gxf5 44 gxf5 ♗c4 45 ♖b8 ♘d5+ 46 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 47 ♔f4 f6 48 ♔e3 ♖d7 49 ♗e4 ♔d6 ½-½

(465) Petrosian-Kuzmin
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 a6?! 9 a3 ♗a5 10 dxc5! ♗xc3 11 bxc3 ♕a5 12 a4! ± **♘bd7!?** (12 ... ♘c6 13 ♗a3 ♕xc3 14 ♕c1 ±; 12 ... ♘e4? 13 ♕d4 ♕xc3 14 ♕xe4 ♕xa1 15 ♘g5 g6 16 ♕h4 h5 17 ♘e4! ±±) **13 c6?!** (13 ♗a3!? ♘xc5 14 ♕d6 ♘fe4 15 ♕e5 ♗d7 16 ♗b4 ♕b6 17 a5 ♕a7 18 ♖ad1 ±) **13 ... bxc6 14 ♕c2 c5 15 e4 ♕c7** (15 ... ♗b7? 16 e5 ♗e4 17 ♗d3 ♗xd3 18 ♕xd3 ♘d5 19 ♘g5 g6 20 ♕h3 h5 21 ♘xe6! ±±) **16 ♖e1 ♘g4 17 ♔h1 ♖e8 18 h3 ♘gf6 19 e5 ♘d5 20 ♘g5 ♘f8 21 f4 ♗b7 22 ♘e4 ♘g6! 23 ♕f2** (23 ♘d6?

♘dxf4 ∓) **23 ... ♘b6 24 ♗f1?** (24 ♗d3! ±) **24 ... ♗xe4! 25 ♖xe4 ♕c6 = 26 ♕c2 ♘d5 27 a5 ♖ed8 28 ♔h2?! ♖ab8 29 ♖ea4 ♘ge7 30 ♗d3 ♘f5! 31 ♗xf5 exf5 32 ♕xf5 ♘xc3 33 ♖c4 ½-½** (Kuzmin)

(466) Averkin-Petrosian
English Opening

1 ♘f3 d5 2 e3 ♘f6 3 c4 dxc4 4 ♘a3 g6 5 ♘xc4 ♗g7 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 c5 8 ♗e2 ♘c6 9 0-0 ♗f5 10 a3 ♗d3 11 ♖c1 ♖c8 12 ♗xd3 ♕xd3 13 ♘ce5 ♘xe5 14 ♘xe5 ♕d5 15 ♕c2 ♘e4 16 ♘c4 ♗xb2 17 ♘xb2 ♖c6 18 d3 ♘f6 19 ♖fd1 ♖fc8 20 h3 ♕e6 21 ♕c4 ♕e5 22 ♖d2 ♘e8 23 ♕h4 ♕e6 24 ♕c4 ♕e5 25 ♕h4 ♕e6 ½-½

(467) Petrosian-Geller
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 ♘ge2 c6 8 ♕d2 ♘bd7 9 d5 cxd5 10 cxd5 a6 11 ♘g3 b5 12 ♗e2 (12 a4!?) **12 ... h5! 13 ♗g5 ♕b6 14 ♘f1 ♘h7 15 ♗e7 ♖e8** (15 ... ♗f6!?) **16 ♗h4 f5 17 ♗f2 ♕d8 18 exf5 gxf5 19 ♘e3 ♕f6** (19 ... ♕g5!?) **20 0-0 ♕g6 21 ♔h1 ♘df6 22 a4 f4 23 ♘c2 ♗f5 24 ♘b4 bxa4** (24 ... a5 25 ♘c6 b4 26 ♘b5 ♗h6 [*intending ... e4*] 27 ♘xd6 e4 28 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 29 ♕d4 ±±) **25 ♖xa4 ♘g5!? 26 ♖xa6** (better 26 h4 ♘f7 27 ♖xa6 ♖xa6 28 ♘xa6 e4 29 ♕xf4 exf3 30 gxf3 ♗d3! ∞) **26 ... ♖xa6 27 ♘xa6 e4! 28 ♕xf4 exf3 29 gxf3 ♖xe2! 30 ♘xe2 ♗d3** (31 ♖g1 ♗xe2 32 ♖xg5 ♗xf3+! 33 ♕xf3 ♕xg5 ∞) **½-½** (Geller)

(468) Tukmakov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 a6 4 ♘gf3 c5 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗e2 ♘c6 7 0-0 c4 8 ♖e1 ♗e7 9 c3 ♘f6 10 ♘e5 0-0 11 ♘xc6 bxc6 12 b3 cxb3 13 axb3 c5 14 dxc5 ♗xc5 15 ♗a3 ♗xa3 16 ♖xa3 d4 17 cxd4 ♕xd4 18 ♘c4 ♕a7 19 ♗f3 ♖b8 20 ♕d6 ♖e8 21 ♖xe8+ ♘xe8 22 ♕e5 ♗e6 23 h3 ♕c7 ½-½

(469) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Reti Opening

1 g3 d5 2 ♗g2 e5 3 d3 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♘c6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 c3 a5 7 ♘bd2 0-0 8 ♕c2 b6 9 b3 ♗b7 10 a3 ♖e8 11 ♖d1 ♗c5 12 ♘f1 e4 13 ♘e1 ♕e7 14 d4 ♗d6 15 a4 ♕e6 16 ♘e3 ♘e7 17 ♕d2 c5 18 ♘1c2 ♖ad8 19 b4 cxb4 20 cxb4 ♘c6 21 ♗a3 axb4 22 ♘xb4 ♘a5 23 ♖db1 ♖c8 24 ♘bc2 ♗c7 25 ♗b4 ♗c6 26 ♕e1 ♖a8 27 ♕f1 ♗d7 ½-½

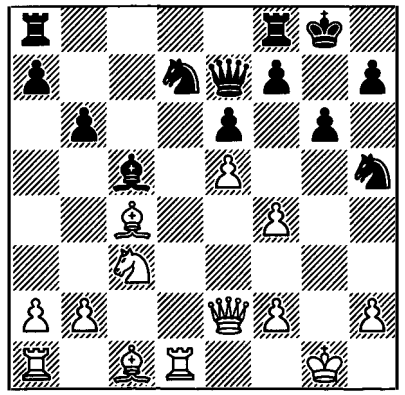
(470) Keres-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♖c1 ♗b7 11 ♗d3 c5 12 dxc5 bxc5 13 0-0 ♘d7 14 ♕e2 ♖ab8 15 b3 ♘b4 16 ♗c4 ♘b6 17 ♘d2 ♖fd8 18 ♖fd1 ♘xc4 19 ♘xc4 ♗a6 20 h3 ♖xd1+ 21 ♖xd1 ♖d8 22 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 23 ♕d2 ½-½

(471) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 ♗e7 6 ♗d3 d5 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♕e2 c5 9 dxc5 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♗xc5 11 e4 ♘bd7 12 e5 ♗xf3 13 gxf3 ♘h5 14 ♖d1 ♕e7 15 f4 g6 *(192)*

192



16 f5 exf5 17 e6 ♘df6 18 exf7+ ♔g7 19 ♕xe7 ♗xe7 20 ♘b5 ♖ac8 21 ♗b3 a6 22 ♘d4 ♖xf7 23 ♗e3 ♘g4 24 ♗xf7 ♔xf7 25 ♖ac1 ♖c5 26 ♔g2 ♘hf6 27 ♗d2 ♖d5 28 ♗e1 a5 29 ♘f3 ♖xd1 30 ♖xd1 ♘e4 31 ♘d2 ♘d6 32 b3 ♘e5 33 ♘b1 ♔e6 34 ♘c3 ♘ef7 35 f3 ♗d8 36 ♗f2 ♘c8 37 ♘b5 ♘cd6 38 ♘d4+ ♔d7 39 ♗g3 ♗e7 40 ♔f1 ♗f6 41 ♘b5 ♗e7 42 h4 ♔e6 43 ♘d4+ ♔d7 44 ♔g2 ♗f6 45 ♘b5 ♗e7 46 a4 h6 47 h5 gxh5 48 ♗f2 ♗d8 49 ♘d4 f4 50 ♘e2 ♔c6 51 ♘xf4 h4 52 ♘g6 ♘b7 53 f4 ♗f6 54 ♖c1+ ♘c5 55 ♔h3 ♘d6 56 ♗xc5 bxc5 57 ♘xh4 h5 58 ♘f3 ♔d5 59 ♖d1+ ♗d4 60 ♘d2 ♔e6 61 ♔g3 ♘f5+ 62 ♔f3 h4 63 ♘c4 ♗c3 64 ♔g4 ♗b4 65 ♖d3 1-0

(472) Rashkovsky-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 e4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 c6 7 0-0 a6 8 ♖e1 b5 9 e5 ♘e8 10 ♗g5 ♖a7 11 h3 ♖b7 12 cxb5 axb5 13 ♖c1 ♕a5 14 d5 c5 15 ♗xb5 ♖xb5 16 ♘xb5 ♕xb5 17 ♗xe7 ♘d7 18 e6 ♘df6 19 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 20 ♘g5 fxe6 21 ♘xe6+ ♔g8 22 ♕f3 ♗h6 23 ♘c7 ♘xc7 24 ♕xf6 ♗f8 25 ♖cd1 ♕d7 26 ♖e3 ♗b7 ½-½

(473) Petrosian-Smyslov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 b6 6 ♘e2 ♘c6 7 0-0 cxd4 8 exd4 ♗b7 9 d5 ♘e5 10 ♗f4 ♘xd3 11 ♕xd3 exd5 12 cxd5 0-0 13 a3 ♗xc3 14 ♘xc3 ♖e8 15 ♗d6 ♘g4 16 ♕g3 ♘h6 17 ♖fe1 ♘f5 18 ♕f4 ♕f6 19 ♗e5 ♕g6 20 ♕a4 a6 21 ♗f4 b5 22 ♕b4 ♖ec8 23 ♕e4 h5 24 ♕d3 ♖c4 25 ♖e4 ♘h4 26 ♗g3 ♖xe4 27 ♘xe4 ♘xg2 28 ♔xg2 h4 29 ♖d1 hxg3 30 hxg3 ♖c8 31 f3 f5 ½-½

(474) Savon-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘f6 5 exd5 ♘xd5 6 ♘b3 cxd4 7 ♘bxd4 ♗e7 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 a6 10 c4 ♘b4 11 ♗e3 ♕c7 12 a3 ♘4c6 13 ♕c2 ♘xd4 14 ♘xd4 ♗d7 15 b4 ♘c6 16 ♘b3 ♖fd8 17 ♖ad1 ♗e8 18 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 19 ♖d1 ♖xd1+ 20 ♕xd1 h6 21 g3 ♘b8 22 ♕d4 ♘c6 23 ♕d1 ♘b8 24 ♕d4 ♘c6 25 ♕d1 ½-½

(475) Petrosian-Taimanov
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 c6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 b3?! ♗d6 (6 ... ♗b4!? 7 ♗d2 0-0 8 ♗e2 ♕e7 9 0-0 ♗d6 ∞) **7 ♗b2 0-0 8 ♗e2** (8 ♕c2!? ♕e7 9 ♗d3 dxc4 10 bxc4 e5 11 0-0 =) **8 ... dxc4 9 bxc4 e5 10 0-0 exd4 11 exd4 ♖e8! 12 a4? ♘f8 13 ♖e1 ♗f5 ∓ 14 g3?!** (14 ♕b3 ♕b6!; 14 d5!? ∞) **14 ... ♗b4! 15 ♕b3 a5 16 ♗a3 ♗xa3** (16 ... ♗g4!? 17 d5! [*17 ♗xb4 axb4 18 ♕xb4 ♖xe2! 19 ♖xe2 ♗xf3 20 ♖e3 c5!* ∓] 17 ... ♗xa3 18 ♕xa3 ∓) **17 ♕xa3 ♗g4! 18 d5!** (18 ♖ad1? ♗xf3 19 ♗xf3 ♖xe1+ 20 ♖xe1 ♕xd4 ∓∓) **18 ... cxd5 19 cxd5 ♘xd5 20 ♖ad1 ♕e7! ∓ 21 ♕xe7 ♘xe7 22 ♘b5**

(better 22 ♘d4) **22 ... ♘e6?** (22 ... ♘c6! intending ... ♖xe2 ∓) **23 ♘d6 = ♖ed8 24 ♘xb7 ♖xd1 25 ♗xd1 ½-½** (Taimanov)

(476) Tal-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence
(notes by Kan)

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♗c4 ♘gf6 6 ♘g5

Had he desired, White could have reverted to normal variations by 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♘f3.

6 ... e6
7 ♕e2

The obvious threat of 8 ♘xf7 forces Black's reply.

7 ... ♘b6
8 ♗b3

White preserves his bishop from exchange, since 8 ... ♕xd4 does not work due to 9 ♘1f3 ♗b4+ (if *9 ... ♕g4 10 ♘xf7!*, while other queen moves are met by *10 ♘e5*, when the f7 pawn cannot be defended) 10 c3 ♗xc3+ 11 ♔f1! ♕b4 12 bxc3 ♕xc3 13 ♗b2.

8 ... a5

Undoubtedly more active than, for example, 8 ... h6 9 ♘5f3 ♗d6 10 ♘e5 ♕e7 11 ♘gf3 ♗d7 12 ♗f4 with the freer game for White (Filip-Zita, 1953).

9 a4

A committal decision, since the position of the pawn at a4 may assist the development of Black's counterplay. The modest 9 a3 was preferable. It should be said that the d4 pawn is still immune.

9 ... h6
10 ♘5f3 c5

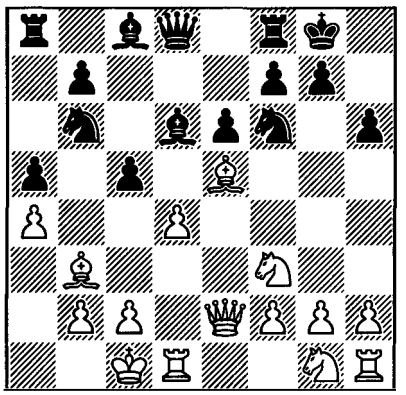
In the game Spassky-Pfleger (Tallinn, 1973) the same position was reached, only without the moves a2-a4 and ... a5. By choosing the quiet development of his bishop at e3, White gained the more active position.

11 ♗f4

More energetic than 11 ♗e3. But even now Black refrains from capturing on d4, since White would easily regain his pawn (for example, after the double-edged *12 0-0-0*), and would retain a position quite in accordance with Tal's chess character, and his tournament position.

11 ... ♗d6 12 ♗e5 0-0 13 0-0-0 *(193)*

193



A critical moment. After queenside castling the drawbacks to the move a2-a4 are obvious. Castling short looks to be an objectively better plan.

13 ... c4!

Very strong! The exchange of his c-pawn for the a-pawn gives Black a clear plan of counterplay on the queenside.

14 ♗xc4 ♘xa4 15 ♘h3 ♘b6 16 g4 a4

The battle on opposite flanks develops tempo for tempo. In such positions the slightest delay by either player will tip the scales in favour of the opponent.

17 g5 hxg5
18 ♘hxg5

The capture with the other knight, 18 ♘fxg5, was worth considering. This would have opened the way for the queen to h5.

18 ... a3 19 b3 ♗b4! 20 ♖dg1

20 ♕d3 a2 21 ♔b2 ♘xc4+ 22 bxc4 looks a plausible continuation, but then Black has the strong counter 22 ... ♕b6!, threatening mate in two moves (*23 ... ♗a3+*). If 23 ♔a1 then 23 ... ♖a3! (*23 ... ♗a3* is weaker in view of *24 ♕b3*), while White does not achieve anything by 23 d5 exd5 24 ♗xf6 ♕xf6+.

20 ... a2!

Simple – and strong! Significantly, it is the advance of the a-pawn which proves decisive – in the end, the direct consequence of White's a2-a4.

21 ♔b2 ♘xc4+ 22 ♕xc4 ♘d5 23 ♘e4

The a-pawn would also have decided the outcome in the event of 23 ♘xe6? a1=♕+.

23 ... f6
24 ♗f4?

An oversight, such as rarely occurs with a player of world class. True, the strategic outcome was already decided in favour of Black.

24 ... ♗a3+ 25 ♔a1 ♘xf4 26 h4 ♖f7 27 ♖g4 ♕a5 White resigns

28 ... ♗b2+ is threatened – it is nevertheless the a-pawn which concludes the game!

(477) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♗g5 ♘e4 6 cxd5 ♘xg5 7 ♘xg5 c6 8 ♘f3 cxd5 9 e3 0-0 10 ♗e2 ♘c6 11 0-0 e6 12 ♖c1 ♕e7 13 ♘a4 ♖d8 14 a3 e5 15 ♗b5 e4 16 ♘d2 ♗d7 17 ♖c5 a6 18 ♗e2 ♘xd4 19 exd4 ♗xd4 20 ♖c7 ♕g5 21 ♘xe4 ♕e5 22 ♘g5 ♕xc7 23 ♕xd4 ♗xa4 24 ♕xa4 ♕e7 25 ♕h4 f6 26 ♘xh7 ♕xh7 27 ♕xf6 ♕g7 28 ♕e6+ ♕f7 29 ♕g4 ♖d6 30 ♗d3 ♖f8 31 g3 ♕f3 32 ♕b4 ♖e6 33 ♕d2 ♖fe8 34 h4 ♔g7 35 ♖c1 ½-½

(478) Spassky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 f4 ♘c6 9 ♗e3 ♗d7 10 ♘b3 a6 11 a4 b6 12 ♗f3 ♕c7 13 ♕e2 ♗e8 14 g4 ♘d7 15 g5 ♘c5 16 ♗g2 f6 17 h4 ♗f7 18 f5 ♔h8 19 ♖ad1 ♖ae8 20 fxe6 ♗xe6 21 ♘d5 ♕b8 22 ♘xe7 ♖xe7 23 ♘d4 ♘xd4 24 ♗xd4 fxg5 25 hxg5 ½-½

(479) Sveshnikov-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♗d3 a6 6 0-0 d6 7 c4 ♗e7 8 b3 0-0 9 ♗b2 ♘c6 10 ♘xc6 bxc6 11 ♕c2 ♘d7 12 e5 dxe5 13 ♗xh7+ ♔h8 14 f4 f5 15 ♗g6 ♖f6 16 ♗h5 ♖h6 17 g4 g6 18 ♘d2 gxh5 19 g5 ♖h7 20 ♘f3 ♔g8 21 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 22 ♗xe5 ♕b6+ 23 ♔g2 c5 24 ♔h3 ♕c6 25 ♖ad1 ♗b7 26 ♖d3 ♖d8 27 ♖fd1 ♖xd3 28 ♖xd3 ♕h1 29 ♕e2 ♗e4 30 ♖d1 ♗f3 31 ♖xh1 ♗xe2 32 ♖e1 ♗f3 33 ♖f1 ♗c6 34 ♖g1 ♗d8 35 ♗d6 ♖d7 36 ♗xc5 ♔g7 37 b4 ♗c7 38 ♖e1 ♗e4 39 ♗e3 e5 40 fxe5 ♗xe5 41 b5 0-1

(480) Petrosian-Belyavsky
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 b3 ♘c6 3 ♗b2 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♘f3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗e2 a6 8 d4 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗b4+ 10 ♗c3 ♗d6 11 ♘d2 0-0 12 0-0 ♗c7 13 ♘xc6 bxc6 14 ♕c2 ♖e8 15 ♗d4 ♕d6 16 g3 ♗g4 17 ♗xg4 ♘xg4 18 ♘f3 ♕h6 19 ♕f5 ♕e6 20 ♕xe6 ♖xe6 21 ♖ac1 f6 22 ♖c2 ♘e5 23 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 24 ♖fc1 ♖c8 25 ♖c5 ♖d6 26 ♖1c2 ♔f7 27 ♔f1 ♔e6 28 ♘e1 d4 29 f4 d3 30 ♖d2 ♗b2 31 ♖xd3 ♖a8 32 ♖xd6+ ♔xd6 33 ♘d3 a5 34 ♖c4 ♗a3 35 ♖a4 ♗c5 36 ♘xc5 ♔xc5 37 b4+ ♔c4 38 ♖xa5 ♖b8 39 a3 ♔d3 40 ♔f2 ♖b7 41 ♖c5 ♖a7 42 ♖xc6 ♖xa3 43 ♔f3 1-0

USSR v. Yugoslavia
Tbilisi, November-December 1973

(481) Gligorić-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ♗g7 7 ♗c4 0-0 8 ♘e2 c5 9 0-0 ♘c6 10 ♗e3 ♕c7 11 ♖c1 ♖d8 12 ♕d2 ♕a5 13 ♖fd1 ♗d7 14 ♗h6 cxd4 15 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 16 ♕f4 dxc3 17 ♕xf7+ ♔h8 18 ♖d5 ♕c7 19 ♕f3 h6 20 ♘f4 ♔h7 21 ♘xg6 ♖g8 22 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 23 ♗xg8+ ♔xg8 24 ♕xc3 ♔h7 25 ♘e5 ♕d6 26 ♘xc6 ♖c8 27 ♕b3 ♖xc6 28 ♖xc6 bxc6 29 ♕f7+ ♔h8 30 g3 c5 31 ♔g2 ♕c7 32 ♕f4 ♕c6 33 ♕f8+ ♔h7 34 ♕xe7+ ♔g8 35 ♕d8+ ♔g7 36 ♕d5 ♕c7 37 e5 c4 38 e6 ♔f6 39 ♕d7 1-0

(482) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Aronin)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7

The leading Yugoslav player has an amazing devotion to the King's Indian Defence.

4 e4 d6
5 f3

Petrosian usually choses the quieter system with 5 ♗e2, but on this occasion he sets his opponent new problems. After 5 f3 one might have expected castling on opposite sides and a sharp struggle, but events were destined to develop differently.

5 ... 0-0
6 ♗e3 c6

6 ... e5 was possible, with the probable continuation 7 d5 ♘e8 8 ♕d2 followed by 0-0-0. Gligorić plays 6 ... c6, to prepare the opening of the c-file.

7 ♗d3 e5
8 d5

Necessary, otherwise 8 ... exd4 and 9 ... d5 would have been possible. About moves such as 8 d5 it is usually said that they seize space, and in fact, after this Black's position does become rather cramped.

8 ... ♘bd7 9 ♘ge2 ♘c5 10 ♗c2

White should not be in a hurry to exchange on c5. If this is done immediately, there is then a threat of the g7 bishop being activated by ... ♗h6.

10 ... cxd5
11 cxd5

Recapturing on d5 with pieces does not work: after 11 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 12 ♕xd5? ♗e6 White loses a pawn.

After 11 cxd5 the position is favourable to White for two reasons: firstly, his central pawn wedge splits the opponent's forces, and secondly, the bishop at g7 is restricted by its own pawns. It is true that, at the moment the c2 bishop is not very active,

but it can become so after the exchange on c5, as occurs in the game.

11 ... a5 12 0-0 ♗d7 13 ♔h1 ♘e8

13 ... ♖c8 was more logical, in order to defend the c5 square with a piece. True, White would have retained the possibility of developing his initiative by a2-a3 and then b2-b4.

14	**a3**	**♘c7**
15	**♖b1**	**♘b5**

Exchanges normally favour the side which is cramped, but this position has its own special features. Petrosian appears to fall in with his opponent's wishes. He exchanges both black knights, after which the bishops prove to be restricted, whereas White's protected passed pawn in the centre becomes very strong.

16	**♘xb5**	**♗xb5**
17	**a4**	

Before exchanging on c5 White fixes the opponent's pawn weaknesses.

17 ... ♗a6 18 ♗xc5 dxc5 19 b3

Threatening by 20 ♗d3 to force the exchange of bishops, after which the white knight will be dominant on the light squares.

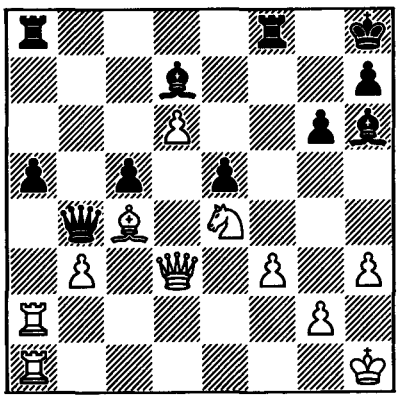
19 ... b5 20 axb5 ♗xb5 21 ♗d3 ♗d7 22 ♘c3 ♖b8 23 ♗c4 ♕b6 24 ♖a1 f5 25 ♖f2 ♔h8 26 ♖fa2 ♖a8 27 ♕d3

Here it is not easy to give Black good advice. Perhaps he should have tried to transfer his bishop to d6. After the following exchange White's advantage increases.

27 ... fxe4 28 ♘xe4 ♕b4 29 h3 ♗h6 30 d6 *(194)*

At last the white pawn advances, and Black's position immediately becomes difficult.

194



30 ... ♗f5 31 ♕d5 ♗xe4 32 ♕xe4 ♗f4 33 d7 ♕b6 34 ♖d1 ♖ad8 35 ♕d5 ♖f6 36 ♖e2 ♕c7 37 ♖e4 ♔g7 38 ♗b5 ♖b6 39 ♗a4 ♔f6 40 ♖de1

Here Black **lost on time**. 41 ♖c4 is threatened, and there is no longer any satisfactory defence. 40 ... ♖d6, for example, loses to 41 ♖xf4+.

(483) Gligorić-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 e6 2 c4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♖c1 a6 8 ♕c2 h6 9 ♗h4 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 b5 11 ♗d3 c5 12 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 13 ♗h7+ ♔h8 14 ♗e4 ♖a7 15 0-0 cxd4 16 exd4 ♖c7 17 ♕b3 ♗e7 18 ♘e2 ♘f6 19 ♖xc7 ♕xc7 20 ♖c1 ♕b6 21 ♗c6 ♗d6 22 a4 ½-½

(484) Petrosian-Gligorić
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 c6 4 ♗g2 d5 5 cxd5 cxd5 6 ♘f3 ♗g7 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♘c3 ♘c6 9 ♘e5 e6 10 ♗f4 ♘xe5 11 ♗xe5 ♗d7 12 ♕b3 ♗c6 13 ♖fc1 ♕e7 ½-½

1974

Candidates Quarter Final Match
Mallorca, January-February 1974

Petrosian	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	0	½	0	1	7
Portisch	½	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	0	1	½	1	0	6

Game 1
(485) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 d4 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♗d2 c5 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♖c1 ♗f6 10 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 11 ♗c3 ♘c6 12 e3 cxd4 13 ♘xd4 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 ♗xd4 15 ♗xd4 d5 16 b3 e5 17 ♗b2 d4 18 ♕f3 ♕d6 ½-½

Game 2
(486) Portisch-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 ♘f3 g6 4 e4 ♘c6 5 d4 cxd4 6 ♘xd4 ♗g7 7 ♗e3 ♘g4 8 ♕xg4 ♘xd4 9 ♕d1 ♘e6 10 ♖c1 d6 11 ♗d3 0-0 12 0-0 ♘c5 13 ♗b1 a5 14 ♕d2 ♗d7 15 ♗d4 ♗xd4 16 ♕xd4 ♗c6 17 ♕d2 f6 18 ♖fd1 ♖f7 19 ♗c2 ♕b6 20 ♖b1 ♖d8 21 ♘d5 ♕a7 22 b3 e5 23 ♕e3 ♕b8 24 ♖d2 ♗xd5 25 ♖xd5 b6 26 ♖bd1 ♘e6 27 g3 ♔g7 28 ♖1d2 ♕c7 29 ♗d1 ♕c6 30 h4 ♘c7 31 ♖5d3 ♘a6 32 ♗g4 ♘b4 33 ♖c3 ♕c5 34 ♕e1 ♖e7 35 ♕c1 ♕c6 36 ♗f3 ♕c7 37 ♗g2 ♘c6 38 ♖d5 ♘b4 39 ♖d2 ♘c6 40 ♖d5 ♘b4 ½-½

Game 3
(487) Petrosian-Portisch
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4 4 ♗d2 0-0 5 ♘f3 c5 6 dxc5 ♗xc5 7 e3 d5 8 ♖c1 ♕e7 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♗e2 ♘c6 11 0-0 ♗g4 12 ♘a4 ♗d6 13 ♗c3 ♖ad8 14 ♗d4 ♘e4 15 a3 ♗b8 16 g3 ♖fe8 17 ♖e1 ♕e6 18 ♘c5 ♕f5 19 ♖f1 ♘xc5 20 ♗xc5 ♕f6 21 ♘d4 ♗xe2 22 ♘xe2 ½-½

Game 4
(488) Portisch-Petrosian
Slav Defence

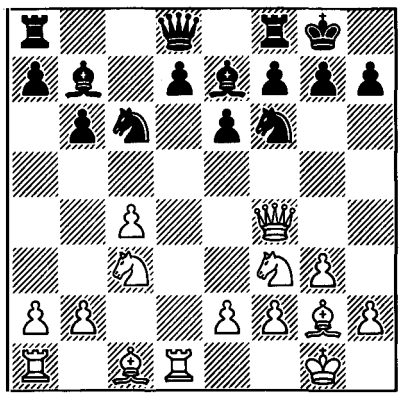
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗e7 8 h3 ♗d6 9 ♗d3 ♗xf4 10 exf4 0-0 11 0-0 ♗d7 12 ♖c1 g6 13 ♕d2 ♖c8 14 ♖fd1 ♕e7 15 g3 ♖fd8 16 a3 ♗e8 17 ♖e1 ♕f8 18 ♖c2 ♕g7 19 ♖ec1 ♖b8 20 ♘e2 ♘e4 21 ♕e1 ♘d6 22 ♘e5 f6 23 ♘f3 ♖dc8 24 ♘c3 ♘d8 25 ♕e2 ♗d7 26 ♘b5 ♖xc2 27 ♖xc2 ♗xb5 28 ♗xb5 ♖c8 29 ♖xc8 ♘xc8 30 ♕c2 ♘d6 31 ♗a4 b6 32 ♕c3 ♕b7 ½-½

Game 5
ʃ (489) Petrosian-Portisch
English Opening
(main notes by Kholmov)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 g3 c5 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 e6 6 ♘c3 ♗e7 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 0-0 9

♖d1 ♘c6 10 ♕f4! *(195)*

195



Other queen moves are ineffective and lead to a comfortable game for Black. This move was first seen in Gligorić-Smyslov (Zürich, 1953), and later games have shown that Black encounters certain difficulties.

10 ... ♕b8

A common way of defending. In the game Polugayevsky-Smyslov (Leningrad, 1971) Black played 10 ... ♗b4, and after 11 ♘e5 ♕c8 12 ♘xc6 dxc6 13 ♘e4 ♗e7 14 ♕h4 c5 15 ♗g5 ♗xe4 16 ♗xe4 h6! 17 ♗c1 a draw was agreed. But in the USSR Championship Semi-Final in Uzhgorod (1972), a serious blow against the bishop move was struck in the game Furman-Gurgenidze: 11 ♗d2! ♘e7 12 ♘e4! ♗xe4 13 ♗xb4 d5 14 cxd5 ♘exd5 15 ♗xf8 ♘xf4 16 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 17 ♗e7 ♘xe2+ 18 ♔f1 ♖c8 19 ♔xe2, and Black's fierce counterattack could not compensate for the lost material.

11 e4 ♕xf4

Black thought for a very long time over this move, and nevertheless decided to go in for the exchange of queens, hoping to neutralize White's pressure in the resulting complex endgame. Portisch can hardly have had happy memories about the continuation 11 ... d6. The point is that, in the tournament in Mallorca (1971), after a slight transposition of moves the game Portisch-Tatai reached exactly the same position (after 11 ... d6), and Black was simply unable to escape from the vice.

12 ♗xf4 ♖fd8
13 e5

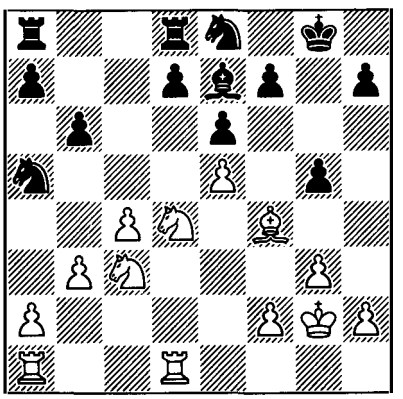
It is very important to drive the knight onto the back rank, from where it is difficult for it to come into play. It is essentially the poor placing of this piece that is the cause of Black's defeat (I.Zaitsev).

13 ... ♘e8
14 ♘d4 ♘a5

14 ... ♔f8 came into consideration.

15 b3 ♗xg2
16 ♔xg2 g5? *(196)*

196



One cannot help being struck by how unnatural this move is. A player normally resorts to such a sortie in the hope of achieving some concrete gain, but in the given instance it is completely unfounded, since it merely weakens the position and assists the development of White's subsequent attack.

Perhaps this was the result of despair, which set in after vain attempts to find an

acceptable variation? Indeed, Black's task is far from easy, e.g. 16 ... f6 17 ♖d3 fxe5 18 ♗xe5 d6 19 ♗f4 e5 20 ♘f5 ♗f6 21 ♗d2! e4 22 ♖e3 with advantage to White. 18 ... ♘c6 is better, but even here after 19 ♘xc6 dxc6 20 ♖ad1 ♖xd3 21 ♖xd3 ♖d8 22 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 23 ♔f3 White has the advantage.

16 ... d6! was evidently best for Black, but even in this case after 17 exd6 ♗xd6 18 ♗xd6 ♘xd6 (*18 ... ♖xd6 19 ♘db5!*) 19 ♖d2 ♘f5 20 ♖ad1 ♖xd4 21 ♖xd4 ♘xd4 22 ♖xd4 ♘b7! 23 b4! (23 *♘b5 a5 24 ♖d7 ♘c5 25 ♖c7 ♔f8! 26 ♘d6 ♖d8 27 ♘xf7 ♖d2 28 a3! ♖b2!*, and the position is very unclear) 23 ... ♖d8 (*23 ... a5? 24 b5!*) 24 ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 25 f4 ♔f8 26 ♔f3 the ending favours White.

I recall that a similar type of ending was won by Geller against Klaman in the 1949 USSR Championship Semi-Final in Tbilisi.

17 ♗e3 ♔g7?

17 ... ♘c6! was better. After 18 f4 ♘xd4 19 ♗xd4 gxf4 20 gxf4 f5! Black could have maintained a defensible position.

18 f4

The most energetic. During the game Petrosian also considered 18 ♘d5 exd5 19 ♘f5+ ♔f8 20 ♘xe7 ♔xe7 21 ♗xg5+ f6 22 exf6+ ♔f7 (*22 ... ♘xf6 23 ♖d2*), but here the position remains unclear. (I.Zaitsev)

18 ... gxf4
19 gxf4!

A purely positional move, although 19 ♗xf4 was also tempting, with the threat of 20 ♘d5 exd5 21 ♘f5+ ♔h8 22 ♘xe7 dxc4 23 ♖d4 cxb3 24 ♗h6 followed by 25 ♖g4, mating. However, this variation is not forced, of course. (I.Zaitsev)

Now after the opening of the g-file, Black will also have to worry about his king.

19 ... ♘c6 20 ♘ce2 ♘xd4 21 ♘xd4 ♗c5

21 ... ♘c7 is well met by 22 f5 f6 23 ♗f4!, while if 21 ... f5 White has the unpleasant 22 ♘b5!, with the threat of ♘xa7.

22 ♔f3 d6 23 ♖d2 dxe5 24 fxe5 ♗xd4

Black appears to hurry with this exchange, but after 24 ... h6 25 ♖ad1 ♔h7 26 ♘b5! White's knight would have become very dangerous.

25 ♗xd4 f6

Black does not see any other possibility of defence, for example:

(a) 25 ... ♖d7 26 ♖g1+ ♔h8 27 ♖dg2 ♘c7 (*27 ... h6* is decisively met by *28 ♖g4 ♔h7 29 ♗e3* with the threat of *30 ♖h4*) 28 ♗e3, and the threat of 29 ♗h6 makes things difficult for Black.

(b) The attempt to transfer the king to the centre also fails to bring the desired result: 25 ... ♔f8 26 ♖ad1 ♔e7 (*26 ... ♘g7 27 ♗xb6! ♖xd2 28 ♗c5+* etc) 27 ♗e3! (*27 c5 ♖d5! 28 cxb6 axb6 29 ♗xb6 ♖xa2!*) 27 ... ♖xd2 28 ♖xd2 f6 29 exf6+ ♘xf6 30 ♗g5 ♔f7 (*30 ... ♖g8* does not help, in view of *31 ♗xf6+ ♔xf6 32 ♖d7*, when *32 ... ♖g7* is not possible since the pawn ending is lost for Black) 31 ♗xf6 ♔xf6 32 ♖d7 h6 33 ♔e4, with a won ending for White.

(c) Black's defence is also not eased by 25 ... ♔h8 26 ♖ad1 ♘g7 27 ♗e3 ♖xd2 28 ♖xd2 ♘f5 29 ♖d7 ♔g7 30 ♗g5 ♔g6 31 ♗f6 a6 (or *31 ... ♘h6 32 ♔f4 ♘g8 33 ♗h4*, and wins) 32 ♔e4 b5 33 c5, when White must win.

26 exf6+ ♘xf6
27 ♖f1!

The rook takes up an ambush position.

27 ... ♔h6

On 27 ... e5 White wins by 28 ♖g2+!, while if 27 ... ♖f8 28 ♔g3 ♔g6 29 ♔h4!, and Black loses material. After the text move White wins a pawn with a continuing attack.

28 ♖e1! ♘g8

The pawn cannot be defended. If 28 ... ♖d6, then 29 ♗e3+!.

29 ♖xe6+ ♔h5 30 ♖e5+ ♔g6 31 ♖g2+ ♔f7 32 ♖e4 ♘f6 33 ♖f4 ♖d6 34 ♖g5 ♖ad8 35 ♖d5! Black resigns

Game 6
(490) Portisch-Petrosian
French Defence

1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♗g5 ♗e7 8 ♗d3 c5 9 0-0 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 0-0 11 c3 ♘d5 12 ♕h5 g6 13 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 14 ♕f3 ♘f6 15 ♖fe1 ♖b8 16 ♖e5 ♗d7 17 ♖ae1 b6 18 ♕f4 ♖bc8 19 ♕g5 ♔h8 20 h4 ♘g8 21 ♕g3 ♘f6 22 ♕f3 ♖c5 23 ♖xc5 bxc5 24 ♘b3 ♔g7 25 ♗f1 ♗a4 26 ♘a5 ♕c7 27 ♘c4 ♖b8 28 g3 ♗b5 29 b3 ♗xc4 30 ♗xc4 ♖d8 31 ♕e2 h5 32 ♕e5 ♕xe5 33 ♖xe5 ♖d1+ 34 ♔g2 ♘d7 35 ♖e2 ♘b6 ½-½

Game 7
(491) Petrosian-Poritisch
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 d5 2 d4 ♘f6 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♕d2 ♗e6 12 b4 c6 13 ♖b1 ♘d7 ½-½

Game 8
(492) Portisch-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 g6 6 e4 ♗g7 7 ♗e3 ♘g4 8 ♕xg4 ♘xd4 9 ♕d1 ♘e6 10 ♖c1 d6 11 ♗d3 0-0 12 0-0 a5 13 ♗b1 ♗d7 14 f4 ♗c6 15 ♕e2 b6 16 f5 ♘c5 17 ♕f2 ♘d7 18 ♕h4 ♗f6 19 ♕f2 ♘e5 20 ♕e2 ♖b8 21 ♘d5 ♗xd5 22 cxd5 ♕d7 23 b3 b5 24 ♗d3 ♘xd3 25 ♕xd3 ♖fc8 26 h3 ♗e5 27 ♔h1 a4 28 ♗h6 axb3 29 axb3 ½-½

Game 9
(493) Petrosian-Portisch
English Opening
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 b3 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 c5 5 g3 d6 6 ♗g2 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♘c3 0-0 9 d3 ♘h5

This move indicates that Black is aggressively inclined. Portisch prepares to throw his f-pawn into the battle.

10 ♘d2 ♗g4

Before attacking, Black attempts to provoke a weakening of the white king-side.

11 a3

White's plan is to prepare the advance of his b-pawn, with active play on the queenside. With the diversion of two black minor pieces to the opposite wing, this plan gains in strength.

11 ... ♗h6?!

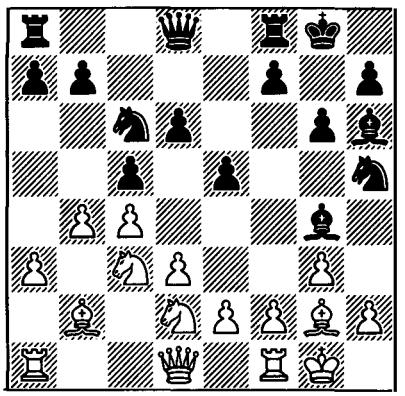
Carried away by the development of his initiative, Portisch underestimates White's main positional threat.

12 b4! *(197)*

In the event of 12 ... cxb4 13 axb4 ♘xb4 14 ♗a3! the play favours White, e.g. 14 ... ♘xd3 15 h3.

After the game Petrosian and Portisch analyzed the position after 14 ♗a3, and came to the conclusion that 14 ... a5 was the most tenacious for Black, although even then 15 h3 (*15 ♖b1 ♘xd3 16 h3 ♘xf2* leads to sharp play) 15 ... ♗e6 16 ♗xb7 gives White the advantage.

197



12 ... ♘d4
13 h3

13 ♗xb7 ♖b8 14 ♗g2 ♗xd2 15 ♕xd2 ♘b3 16 ♕d1 ♘xa1 17 b5! also looked tempting, but Black has a clever tactical rejoinder: 13 ... cxb4 14 axb4 ♘f4!?.

13 ... ♗e6
14 e3 cxb4

Analyzing the game afterwards with his opponent, Petrosian said that in the event of 14 ... ♘c6 15 bxc5 dxc5 he was intending 16 ♘b3! ♕e7 17 ♘a4! (the knights must not block the bishop's diagonal), with advantage.

15 axb4 ♘c6

White has the advantage after 15 ... ♘xg3 16 fxg3 ♗xe3+ 17 ♔h2 ♗xd2 18 ♕xd2 ♘b3 19 ♕h6.

16 b5 ♘e7
17 ♗xb7

The most precise.

17 ... ♗xh3
18 ♗xa8 ♗xf1

After 18 ... ♕xa8 19 ♕f3 the ending is hopeless for Black.

19 ♔xf1 ♕xa8 20 ♕f3 ♕b8 21 g4 ♘g7 22 ♕f6!

Unexpectedly trapping one of the black minor pieces – the game is decided.

22 ... ♘gf5 23 gxf5 ♘xf5 24 e4 ♘g7 25 ♔e1 ♘h5 26 ♕h4 f5 27 ♘d5 Black resigns

In Petrosian's opinion, Portisch's defeat in this encounter can be explained by his very approach to the game – his direct striving as Black for an attack at a very early stage.

Game 10
(494) Portisch-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♖c1 a6 8 c5 c6 9 ♗d3 b6 10 cxb6 c5 11 0-0 c4 12 ♗c2 ♘xb6 13 ♘e5 ♗b7 14 f4 ♖b8 15 f5 ♘bd7 16 ♗f4 ♖c8 17 ♕f3 exf5 18 ♗xf5 ♘xe5 19 dxe5 ♘e4 20 ♘xe4 dxe4 21 ♕b3 g6 22 ♖cd1 ♕b6 23 ♖d7 ♖ce8 24 e6 gxf5 25 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 26 ♕g3+ ♔h8 27 ♗h6 fxe6 28 ♗xf8 ♖d7 29 ♗h6 ♕a5 30 ♕b8+ ♕d8 31 ♕e5+ ♔g8 32 ♕xe6+ ♖f7 33 ♖xf5 1-0

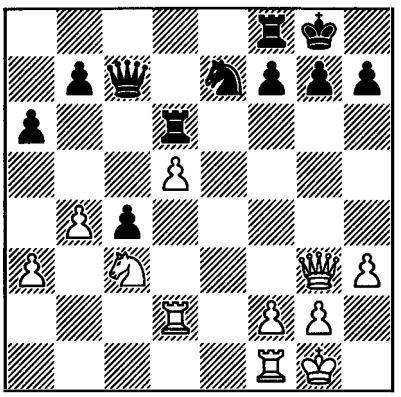
Game 11
(495) Petrosian-Portisch
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♖e1 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 d3 ♗b7 10 d4 ♗e4 11 d5 exd5 12 cxd5 ♗f6 13 ♘d2 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 ♖e8 15 ♖b1 ♘a6 16 f3 c6 17 dxc6 dxc6 18 ♘e4 ♗e7 19 ♕a4 ♘b4 ½-½

Game 12
(496) Portisch-Petrosian
Slav Defence

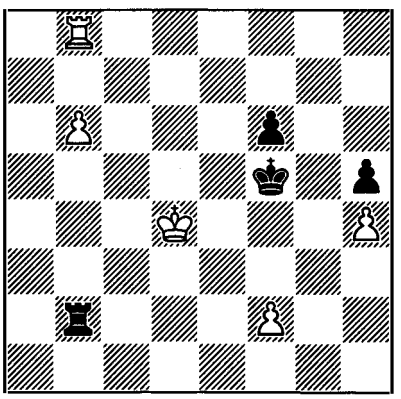
1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♗f4 e6 6 e3 ♗e7 7 ♗d3 ♘c6 8 h3 0-0 9 ♘f3 ♗d7 10 0-0 ♕b6 11 a3 ♘a5 12 b4 ♘c4 13 ♘e5 ♖ac8 14 ♗xc4 dxc4 15 ♗g5 ♕d8 16 ♕f3 ♗c6 17 ♘xc6 ♖xc6 18 ♖ad1 ♘d5 19 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 20 e4 a6 21 d5 exd5 22 exd5 ♖d6 23 ♖d2 ♕c7 24 ♕g3 *(198)*

198



24 ... ♕d7 25 ♔h1 ♘c8 26 ♘e4 ♖g6 27 ♕f4 ♘d6 28 ♘xd6 c3 29 ♖d3 ♖xd6 30 ♖xc3 ♖xd5 31 ♖c7 ♕b5 32 ♖e1 g6 33 ♔g1 a5 34 ♖ee7 ♖f5 35 ♕d4 b6 36 ♖b7 axb4 37 ♖xb6 ♕d5 38 ♕xd5 ♖xd5 39 axb4 h5 40 h4 ♔g7 41 g3 ♖fd8 42 ♖bb7 ♖f5 43 ♖e2 ♖d1+ 44 ♔g2 ♖b1 45 ♖e3 ♖b2 46 ♖f3 ♖xf3 47 ♔xf3 ♔h6 48 ♔e3 f6 49 ♖b6 ♔g7 50 ♖b7+ ♔h6 51 ♖b8 g5 52 b5 gxh4 53 gxh4 ♔g6 54 b6 ♔f5 55 ♔d4 *(199)*

199



55 ... ♖xf2 56 ♖a8 ♖b2 57 ♔c5 ♖c2+ 58 ♔d4 ♖b2 59 ♖a5+ ♔e6 60 ♔c5 ♖c2+ 61 ♔b5 ♔d6 62 ♔a6 ♔c6 63 ♖a1 ♖c4 64 b7 ♖b4 65 ♖c1+ ♔d7 66 ♖c8 1-0

Game 13
(497) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Gambit
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 ♘f3 d5 2 d4 e6 3 c4 ♘f6 4 ♗g5

This move order has the aim of restricting Black's choice. In particular, it does not allow the 4 ♘c3 c5 variation.

4 ... ♗e7 5 ♘c3 0-0 6 ♖c1

From this point, Portisch began spending a long time in thought. Petrosian explained this, in particular, by the fact that the Hungarian grandmaster himself likes to play this way against the Tartakower Variation.

6 ... h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘xd5 exd5 10 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 11 g3

It was with this continuation in mind that 6 ♖c1 was played.

11 ... ♗a6

In the game Uhlmann-Veresov (East Germany v Belorussia, 1971) after 11 ... ♖e8 12 ♗g2 ♗a6 13 ♘e5 ♘d7 14 ♖xc7 ♖ac8 Black cast doubts on White's opening plan. But, of course, since then theory has advanced.

12 e3 c5
13 ♗xa6

After 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♕xd5 ♗b7 15 ♕d1 ♕f6 16 ♗g2 ♖d8 Black stands better, while 15 ♕h5 (instead of *15 ♕d1*) also gives Black the initiative after 15 ... ♕e4 and 16 ... ♕b4+!. Better is 15 ♕f5, but even then 15 ... ♕e6! 16 ♕f4 ♕xa2 17

♗g2 ♕a5+ can hardly satisfy White.

Winning a pawn in a different way by 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 15 ♕xd5 is also dangerous because of 15 ... ♕f6 or 15 ... ♘b4. Similarly, little is promised by 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 15 0-0 ♖fd8, when the black pieces are very active, while if 13 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 14 ♕a4 then 14 ... ♘b4 15 0-0 ♘d3.

13	**...**	**♘xa6**
14	**0-0**	**♘c7**

14 ... c4 looks more natural, but Portisch was concerned about the reply 15 b3.

15 b3 ♖ac8 16 ♖e1 ♖fd8 17 h4

Preventing the possible future manoeuvre ... ♘e6-g5.

17	**...**	**♘e6**

Portisch admitted that he began to feel uncertain after 16 ♖e1. "I thought that Petrosian was intending to follow up with ♖e2-c2 . . .", he said in conversation after the game.

During the game Petrosian considered that after 17 ... ♘e8 and then 18 ... ♘f6 Black would have even stood very slightly better. And, in fact, he was completely right. But the Hungarian grandmaster begins playing too directly (evidently what told was his dislike of this type of pawn formation).

18	**♕d3**	**♕f6**
19	**♔g2**	**cxd4**

After the game Petrosian related: "I noticed how my opponent raised his hand to make this, in general, poor move, but then reconsidered. I have to admit that I became agitated and got up from the board. Sensing my agitation, Portisch became suspicious and sank into thought, but in the end he nevertheless decided on this exchange."

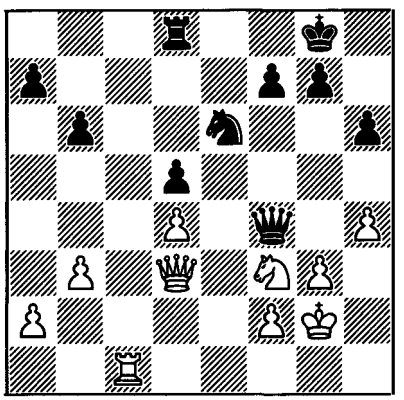
20	**exd4**	

Here White could also have gained a slight advantage by 20 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 21 exd4 followed by the invasion ♖e5 or ♕a6, but now Petrosian is aiming for more.

20	**...**	**♖xc1**
21	**♖xc1**	**♕f4!?** *(200)*

Black intends to seize the c-file, and assumes that this tactical stroke (which was by no means unexpected for White) will stand him in good stead . . .

200



22	**gxf4!**	

Black was threatening 22 ... ♕e4, and if 22 ♖e1 ♕g4. After 22 ♕e3 the chances would have been level.

22 ... ♘xf4+ 23 ♔g3 ♘xd3 24 ♖c3 ♘b4

It is hard to criticize Black for this move, especially since he could subsequently have held the position. But 24 ... ♘b2! 25 ♖c2 ♘d3 (*25 ... ♘d1? 26 ♖d2*) 26 ♖c3 ♘b2 would evidently have led to an immediate draw, as pointed out by Petrosian.

25	**a3**	**♘a6**
26	**b4**	**♘b8**

Petrosian thought that Black had two

better alternatives:

(a) 26 ... ♖d7 27 ♖c8+ (*27 b5 ♖c7? 28 ♖e3!* costs Black a piece, but *27... ♘c7 28 ♘e5 ♖e7 29 ♘c6 ♖e1* does not promise White anything) 27 ... ♔h7 28 b5 ♘c7 29 ♘e5 ♖e7 30 ♘c6 ♖d7 31 ♘xa7 ♘e8!.

(b) 26 ... ♔h7 27 b5 ♘b8 28 ♖c7 ♖d7! 29 ♖c8 ♖b7.

In each case Black would have had good equalizing chances.

27 ♖c7 a5

Portisch tries to exchange as many pawns as possible. 27 ... a6 was weak in view of 28 ♘e5 f6 29 ♘g6, when both 29 ... ♘d7 30 ♘e7+ and 31 ♘c6, and 29 ... ♔h7 30 h5 ♘d7 31 ♖xd7 could have proved immediately catastrophic.

28 b5!

The only way! 28 bxa5 bxa5 29 ♘e5 f6 30 ♘g6 also appears good, but by 30 ... ♘a6! 31 ♖a7 ♘b8 Black succeeds in gaining counterplay.

28 ... ♘d7
29 ♔f4!

All the white pieces take part in the offensive.

29 ... h5

29 ... ♘f8 30 ♖b7 ♖d6 31 ♘e5 ♘g6 32 ♘xg6 ♖xg6 33 ♔e5 was perhaps more accurate, although even here Black has a difficult game. White also has another possible plan: 29 ... ♘f8 30 ♖c6 ♖b8 31 ♔e5 ♖d8 32 h5.

30 ♘e5 ♘f8 31 ♖b7 f6 32 ♘c6

All the same Black's position is hopeless. Realizing that things have taken an irreparable turn, Portisch loses his bearings.

32 ... ♘g6+
33 ♔g3 ♖d6

The immediate 33 ... ♖e8 would evidently have been better.

34 ♖xb6 ♖e6 35 ♖b8+ ♘f8

If 35 ... ♔h7 then 36 ♖d8.

36 ♖a8 ♖e1 37 ♘d8

White could also have won by 37 b6 ♖b1 38 ♘b4 axb4 39 a4 b3 40 b7 b2 41 ♖xf8+ ♔h7 42 ♖h8+ ♔g6 43 b8=♕ ♖g1+ 44 ♔f3 b1=♕ 45 ♕e8+ ♔f5 46 ♕xh5+ g5 47 ♕h7+ ♔e6 48 ♖e8+ etc, but Petrosian prefers a more certain way.

37 ... ♔h7 38 b6 ♖b1 39 b7 ♘d7 40 ♖xa5 Black resigns

Moscow Spartakiad
April 1974

∫ (498) Petrosian-Balashov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘c6 9 ♗d3 cxd4 10 exd4 ♗e7 11 ♖e1 b6 12 a3 ♗b7 13 ♗c2 ♖c8 14 ♕d3 ♖e8 15 d5 exd5 16 ♗g5 ♘e4 17 ♘xe4 dxe4 18 ♕xe4 g6 19 ♕h4 ♕c7 20 ♗b3 h5 21 ♕e4 ♔g7 22 ♗xf7 ♔xf7 23 ♗h6 ♕d6 24 ♕c4+ ♔f6 25 ♖ad1 ♘d4 26 ♕xd4+ ♕xd4 27 ♖xd4 ♖c5 28 h4 1-0

Candidates Semi-Final Match
Odessa, April 1974

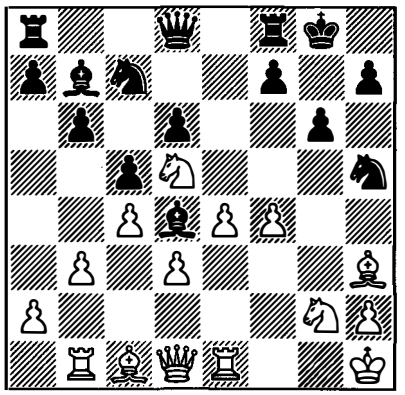
Petrosian	0	½	0	1	0	1½
Korchnoi	1	½	1	0	1	3½

Game 1

∫ (499) Korchnoi-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e4 ♗b7 5 d3 d6 6 g3 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 c5 9 b3 ♘a6 10 ♖e1 e5 11 ♗h3 ♘c7 12 ♘h4 g6 13 ♘g2 ♘e6 14 f4 exf4 15 gxf4 ♘h5 16 ♘d5 ♗f6 17 ♖b1 ♗d4+ 18 ♔h1 ♘c7 *(201)*

201



19 ♘de3 ♘g7 20 f5 ♘ce8 21 ♖f1 ♘f6 22 ♘c2 ♗e5 23 ♗g5 ♕e8 24 ♘ce3 ♔h8 25 ♕e1 ♘fh5 26 ♗g4 ♖g8 27 f6 ♘e6 28 ♕h4 ♘xg5 29 ♕xg5 ♗d4 30 ♗xh5 gxh5 31 ♕xh5 ♖g6 32 ♘f5 ♕e5 33 ♖f3 ♖xf6 34 ♖h3 h6 35 ♕g5 ♖e8 36 ♕g7 mate

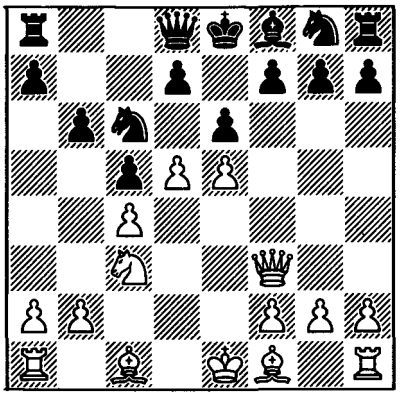
Game 2
(500) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 d5 5 e3 0-0 6 c3 ♘bd7 7 ♗e2 ♖e8 8 b4 c6 9 0-0 e5 10 ♘b3 ♕b6 11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 a3 ♕c7 13 ♖c1 e4 14 ♘fd2 b5 15 a4 a6 16 ♖a1 ♗b7 17 ♗g4 ♘b6 18 ♘c5 ♗g7 19 axb5 axb5 20 ♕e2 f5 21 ♗h3 ♘a4 22 ♘db3 ♘xc3 23 ♕c2 ♘a4 24 ♘xa4 bxa4 25 ♘c5 a3 26 ♕b3 ♗a6 27 ♘xa6 ♖xa6 28 ♖xa3 ♖xa3 29 ♕xa3 ♗f8 30 g3 ♖b8 31 ♖b1 ½-½

Game 3
(501) Korchnoi-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e4 ♗b7 5 ♕e2 c5 6 e5 ♘g8 7 d4 ♗xf3 8 ♕xf3 ♘c6 9 d5 *(202)*

202



9 ... ♘xe5 10 ♕g3 d6 11 ♗f4 ♘g6 12 dxe6 fxe6 13 0-0-0 ♘xf4 14 ♕xf4 g6 15 ♕e4 ♘f6 16 ♕xe6+ ♕e7 17 ♖xd6 ♕xe6 18 ♖xe6+ ♔f7 19 ♖c6 ♖c8 20 ♖xc8 ♗h6+ 21 ♔c2 ♖xc8 22 ♗e2 ♖d8 23 ♔b3 ♖d2 24 ♖d1 ♘e8 25 ♖xd2 ♗xd2 26 ♘b5 a6 27 ♘c3 ♗xc3 28 ♔xc3 a5 29 ♗d3 ♘f6 30 f4 ♘h5 31 g3 ♘f6 32 ♔d2 ♘e8 33 g4 ♘d6 34 ♔e3 ♔e6 35 h4 ♔f7 36 b3 ♔g7 37 g5 ♔f7 38 f5 gxf5 39 ♔f4 ♔g6 40 a4 ♘e4 41 ♗xe4 fxe4 42 ♔xe4 ♔h5 43 ♔f5 ♔xh4 44 g6 hxg6+ 45 ♔xg6 ♔g4 46 ♔f6 ♔f4 47 ♔e6 ♔e4 48 ♔d6 ♔d4 49 ♔c6 ♔c3 50 ♔xb6 ♔xb3 51 ♔b5 1-0

Game 4
(502) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Grünfeld Defence
(notes by Kholmov)

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 c4 c6

This last move shows that Korchnoi has extended his opening knowledge in comparison with his previous match with

Petrosian, in which such set-ups did not occur.

6 d4 d5
7 cxd5

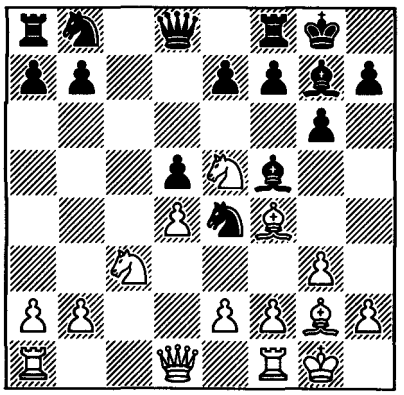
In playing this way, the Ex-World Champion shows that he has something new in mind, and is not concerned about the drawing label which theory attaches to this variation.

7 ... cxd5
8 ♘e5

8 ♘c3 is also possible, when 8 ... ♘e4 is considered best for Black. In the game Marović-Stein (Yerevan, 1971) White continued 9 e3, but after 9 ... ♘xc3 10 bxc3 ♘c6 11 ♘d2 ♗e6 12 ♘b3 b6 13 ♗a3 ♕d7 14 ♖c1 ♖fd8 15 ♖e1 ♖ac8 16 f3 ♗h3 17 e4 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 dxe4 19 fxe4 ♘e5! he began to experience difficulties.

8 ... ♗f5 9 ♘c3 ♘e4 10 ♗f4! *(203)*

203



After 10 ♗e3 ♘xc3 11 bxc3 ♘c6 12 ♘xc6 bxc6 13 ♕a4 ♕b6 14 ♖ac1 ♖ab8 (Geller-Fischer, Mallorca, 1970) Black seized the b-file, exploiting the poor position of the bishop at e3. In the present game Petrosian improves on this variation for White.

10 ... ♘c6

Now 10 ... ♘xc3 11 bxc3 ♘c6 no longer works because of 12 ♕b3!, when Black loses a pawn. But instead of the move played, 10 ... f6 came into consideration.

11 ♘xc6!

White creates a target to attack – a weak pawn at c6. The subsequent play involves pressure down the c-file and the exploitation of the strong point at c5, a plan which proves very effective in practice.

11 ... bxc6
12 ♘a4

White needs this knight, so he avoids its exchange.

12 ... ♕a5

In the end the strongest piece will be forced back from here to its original position. The natural continuation was 12 ... f6! 13 ♖c1, and now not 13 ... e5? because of 14 ♗e3!, when White retains the advantage, but 13 ... g5! 14 ♗e3 ♕e8 15 f3 ♘d6 16 ♗f2 g4!, and Black initiates dynamic play, which is precisely to Korchnoi's taste.

13 ♖c1 ♕b4

This was the idea of the previous move: Black forces the advance of the e-pawn. But this queen manoeuvre is hardly advisable. Possibly Black was intending to answer 14 e3 with 14 ... g5, but then concluded that after 15 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 16 ♗xg5 he would not have compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

14 e3 ♖ac8 15 f3 ♘d6 16 a3

16 ♖f2 suggests itself, but then after 16 ... ♘c4 17 b3 there follows 17 ... e5!, a move which is also possible on 17 g4. In the event of 17 e4 the game would have entered a phase of great complications, the consequences of which were not easy

to assess. For example: 17 ... dxe4 18 a3 ♕b5 19 ♗f1 (*19 fxe4 ♗g4!*) 19 ... e3! 20 ♖g2 e2 21 ♖xe2! (*21 ♗xe2? ♘xb2 22 ♗xb5 ♘xd1 23 ♗a6 ♗xd4+ 24 ♔f1 ♘e3+ 25 ♗xe3 ♗xe3 26 ♖e1 ♗d4 27 g4 ♗e6 28 ♖d1 c5 29 ♗xc8 ♗c4+ 30 ♔e1 ♖xc8*, and White has to struggle for a draw) 21 ... ♖fd8 22 ♖d2 ♘xd2 23 ♗xb5 ♗xd4+ 24 ♔g2 cxb5 25 ♖xc8 ♖xc8! (*25 ... ♗xc8 26 ♕xd2 bxa4 27 ♕a5!* with advantage to White) 26 ♗xd2 bxa4 with sufficient compensation for the queen.

On 16 b3 Black can reply 16 ... ♘b7, covering the c5 square, and after the exchange of knights it is not so easy for White to exploit the only weakness – the pawn at c6.

On 16 g4 Black could have maintained a defensible position by 16 ... ♗d7 17 ♘c5 ♖fd8 18 ♖f2 ♗e8.

16 ... ♕a5 17 ♖c5 ♕d8 18 ♔h1 ♖e8

18 ... f6 was stronger, threatening not only 19 ... e5 but also 19 ... g5.

19 ♖e1 ♗d7

It is hard to explain why Korchnoi should change plan. Black was clearly intending to play 19 ... e5, when after 20 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 21 dxe5 ♖xe5 White achieves little by 22 e4 in view of 22 ... ♕e7, although, of course, he can try by 22 ♕c1 to increase the pressure on the c-file. The move played allows White to carry out a favourable regrouping.

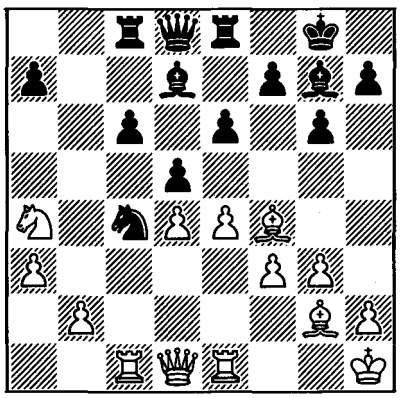
20 ♖c1 ♘c4

Even here 20 ... e5 was not too late, e.g 21 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 22 dxe5 ♖xe5 23 ♕d4 ♕e8! 24 ♕xa7 ♖a8 with sufficient counterplay. True, 24 ♘c5 (instead of *24 ♕xa7*) was possible, retaining the advantage. But now White carries out an important advance in the centre and increases his spatial advantage.

21 e4 e6 *(204)*

For the last time Korchnoi misses the chance of freeing himself somewhat by 21 ... e5, exploiting the fact that the knight at a4 will come under attack from the bishop at d7. For example: 22 dxe5 ♘xe5 (*22 ... g5 23 ♗d2*) 23 exd5 (*23 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 24 f4 ♗g7 25 e5 f6!* is no better) 23 ... cxd5 24 ♘c3 d4! or 24 ♖xc8 ♕xc8!.

204



22 b3!

By sacrificing a pawn, White intensifies the pressure. On 22 ♗f1 there could have followed 22 ... g5!? 23 ♗xc4 gxf4 24 ♗a6 ♖b8 25 gxf4 ♕h4 with sharp play.

22 ... ♘xa3
23 e5 ♖b8

Too passive. 23 ... g5! 24 ♗e3 f6 25 f4 ♖f8 came into consideration.

24 ♖a1 ♘b5 25 ♕d2 ♗f8 26 ♘c5

At last the knight reaches c5. White is not afraid of it being exchanged, since he then obtains a dangerous attack on the dark squares.

26 ... ♗c8 27 ♖a4 ♕b6 28 b4 ♘c7 29 ♖ea1 a5

Dictated by a desire to activate his pieces. 29 ... a6 was better, when it is not easy for White to win the pawn, since he has to concern himself over his b4 pawn. In this case, exploiting the fact that Black is tied up, White would have prepared a pawn offensive on the kingside.

30 bxa5 ♕b2 31 ♕xb2 ♖xb2 32 ♗c1 ♖c2 33 ♗a3 ♘a6?

33 ... ♗xc5! 34 ♗xc5 ♗a6 was more tenacious, but in time trouble Korchnoi overlooks this possibility.

34	**♗f1**	**♗xc5**
35	**♗xc5**	**♔g7**

If 35 ... ♘xc5 then 36 dxc5 ♗b7? 37 ♖b1! ♗a8 38 ♖ab4! ♔g7 39 ♖b8 ♖c1 40 ♖xe8 ♖xb1 41 ♔g2 ♗b7 42 ♖b8! (*42 a6? ♗xa6 43 ♗xa6 ♖c1 44 h4 ♖xc5* with drawing chances) 42 ... ♖b2+ 43 ♔g1 ♖b1 44 a6 ♖xf1+ 45 ♔xf1 ♗xa6+ 46 ♔f2 and White wins.

But Black can consider 36 ... ♖xc5 (instead of *36 ... ♗b7?*) 37 a6 ♗xa6! 38 ♗xa6 ♖b8, when White has a piece for two pawns, but the realization of the advantage in this type of position is very difficult.

36 ♗d6 ♖d8 37 ♖4a2 ♖xa2 38 ♖xa2 ♖d7 39 ♖b2 Black lost on time

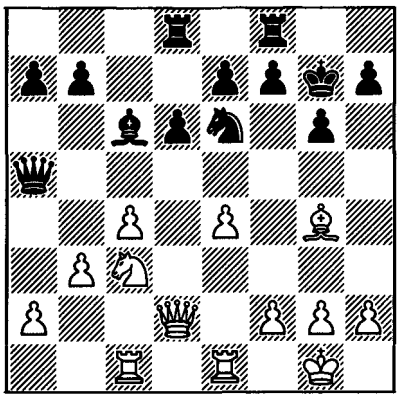
Game 5

(503) Korchnoi-Petrosian

Sicilian Defence

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♗g7 5 e4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 ♘g4 8 ♕xg4 ♘xd4 9 ♕d1 ♘e6 10 ♕d2 d6 11 ♗e2 ♕a5 12 ♖c1 ♗d7 13 0-0 ♘c5 14 ♗h6 0-0 15 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 16 b3 ♗c6 17 ♖fe1 ♘e6 18 ♗g4 ♖ad8 *(205)*

205



19 ♖e3 ♘f4 20 g3 h5 21 ♕b2 hxg4 22 ♘d5+ e5 23 gxf4 ♖de8 24 ♖g3 ♗d7 25 ♖d1 f6 26 fxe5 ♖xe5 27 ♘c3 ♕c5 28 ♕d2 f5 29 ♕xd6 ♕xd6 30 ♖xd6 ♗c6 31 f3 ♔h6 32 f4 ♖ee8 33 exf5 ♗f3 34 ♖xg6+ ♔h7 35 ♖g5 ♖e1+ 36 ♔f2 ♖h1 37 ♖h5+ ♔g7 38 ♘d5 ♖a1 39 f6+ ♔g6 40 ♖g5+ ♔f7 41 ♖g7+ ♔e6 42 ♖e7+ ♔f5 43 ♖e5+ 1-0

21st World Chess Olympiad
Nice, June 1974

Board 4, +11 –0 =3.

(504) Kroes-Petrosian

King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 b6 6 ♗e3 0-0 7 ♗d3 a6 8 ♘ge2 c5 9 0-0 ♘c6 10 ♖c1 ♘g4 11 fxg4 cxd4 12 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 13 ♗b1 ♘c6 14 h3 ♖b8 15 ♕d2 ♗d7 16 ♘d5 ♖b7 17 ♔h1 ♘e5 18 b3 ♗c6 19 ♕f2 ♗xd5 20 exd5 ♘d7 21 ♕d2 ♕a8 22 ♗h6 ♘e5 23 ♗e3 ♕b8 24 ♗f4 ♘d7 25 ♖f3 ♖c7 26 ♗g5 ♘e5 27 ♖ff1 ♖fc8 28 ♗f4 ♘d7 29 ♕f2 ♖f8 30 ♕e2 ♕d8 31 ♗g5 ♗f6 32 ♗h6 ♗g7 33 ♗g5 ♘e5 34 ♗f4 ♖c8 35 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 36 ♗d3 a5 37 ♗b1 ♕c7 38 ♖c2 ♕c5 39 ♖d2 a4 40 bxa4 ♕xc4 41

♕xc4 ♖xc4 42 ♗c2 ♖fc8 43 ♗b3 ♖c1 44 ♖xc1 ♖xc1+ 45 ♖d1 ♖c3 46 ♔g1 ♗g3 47 ♔f1 ♖e3 48 ♖b1 ♔g7 49 ♔g1 ♖e4 50 ♖f1 h5 51 gxh5 gxh5 52 ♖d1 h4 53 ♖f1 e5 54 ♖d1 ♖e2 55 ♖f1 e4 56 ♖d1 e3 57 ♔f1 ♖f2+ 58 ♔g1 ♖f4 59 ♖f1 e2 60 ♖xf4 e1=♕+ 61 ♖f1 ♗f2+ 0-1

(505) Arafat-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f4 0-0 6 ♗d3 ♘c6 7 ♘f3 ♗g4 8 ♗e3 e5 9 d5 exf4 10 ♗xf4 ♘d4 11 h3 ♗xf3 12 gxf3 ♘h5 13 ♗e3 c5 14 h4 ♗f6 15 ♗h6 ♗xh4+ 16 ♔d2 ♗g5+ 17 f4 ♗xh6 18 ♘e2 ♘xe2 19 ♗xe2 ♗xf4+ 20 ♔c2 ♘g3 21 ♖h3 f5 22 exf5 ♘xf5 23 ♕d3 ♘d4+ 24 ♔c3 ♕a5+ 0-1

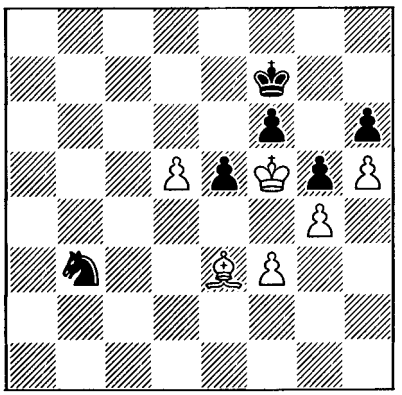
(506) Petrosian-Freyer
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 ♗g4 8 ♗g5 ♗xf3 9 ♗xf3 h6 10 ♗e3 ♘bd7 11 h4 a6 12 h5 gxh5 13 ♗xh5 ♘c5 14 ♗f3 ♘h7 15 b4 ♘d7 16 ♗g4 ♘g5 17 ♗xg5 hxg5 18 ♗f5 ♖e8 19 ♕h5 ♘f8 20 ♘d1 ♘g6 21 ♗xg6 fxg6 22 ♕xg6 ♕f6 23 ♕xf6 ♗xf6 24 ♘e3 1-0

(507) Petrosian-Camara
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♕d2 e5 8 d5 a6 9 ♘ge2 h6 10 ♗e3 ♔h7 11 g4 ♘g8 12 0-0-0 ♘e7 13 ♘g3 b6 14 ♗d3 ♘c5 15 ♗c2 ♗d7 16 h4 a5 17 h5 g5 18 b3 f6 19 ♕e2 ♘c8 20 a3 ♕e7 21 ♔d2 ♘a7 22 ♖a1 ♖fb8 23 b4 ♘b7 24 ♖hb1 ♗f8 25 ♔e1 ♕e8 26 ♗d3 ♘c8 27 ♖c1 ♘e7 28 ♕d1 axb4 29 axb4 ♖xa1 30 ♖xa1 ♖a8 31 ♕c1 ♕b8 32 ♖a3 ♘c8 33 ♕a1 ♖xa3 34 ♕xa3 ♔g7 35 ♗c2 ♔f7 36 ♔d2 ♔e8 37 ♗a4 ♕a7 38 ♔c2 ♔d8 39 ♔b3 ♗xa4+ 40 ♕xa4 ♕xa4+ 41 ♔xa4 ♘a7 42 ♘b5 ♘c8 43 ♘e2 ♔d7 44 ♘c1 ♗e7 45 ♘d3 ♗f8 46 ♘c3 ♘a7 47 ♔b3 ♘c8 48 ♘a4 ♗e7 49 c5 bxc5 50 bxc5 dxc5 51 ♘axc5+ ♘xc5 52 ♘xc5+ ♔d6 53 ♘a6 c6 54 ♔c4 cxd5+ 55 exd5 ♔d7 56 ♘b8+ ♔c7 57 ♘c6 ♗d6 58 ♔d3 ♔d7 59 ♔e4 ♔e8 60 ♘a5 ♔f7 61 ♘c4 ♗b4 62 ♗b6 ♗f8 63 ♗d8 ♗c5 64 ♔f5 ♗e7 65 ♗c7 ♘a7 66 ♘d6+ ♗xd6 67 ♗xd6 ♘b5 68 ♗b4 ♘d4+ 69 ♔e4 ♘b5 70 ♗e1 ♔e7 71 ♗d2 ♘d4 72 ♗b4+ ♔f7 73 ♗c5 ♘b3 74 ♗f2 ♔e7 75 ♔f5 ♔f7 76 ♗e3 *(206)*

206



76 ... ♘a1 77 ♔e4 ♘b3 78 ♔d3 ♘a5 79 ♗d2 ♘b3 80 ♗e3 ♘a5 81 ♗b6 ♘b7 82 ♔c4 ♔e7 83 ♗c5+ 1-0

(508) Cooper-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

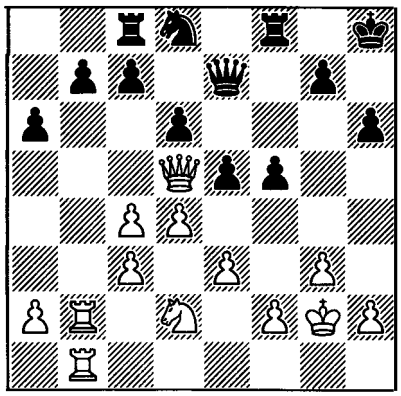
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 c6 7 0-0 a6 8 ♖e1 b5 9 e5 ♘e8 10 ♗g5 ♖a7 11 ♗h4 ♖b7 12 cxb5 axb5 13 d5 b4 14 dxc6 ♘xc6 15 ♘d5 ♕a5 16 ♖c1 ♗e6 17 ♘f4 ♗d7 18 ♕d5 ♕b6 19 ♕b3 e6 20 ♘d3 ♖a7 21 ♖ed1 dxe5 22 ♘c5 ♗c8 23 ♘a4 ♕b7 24 ♕c2 ♘f6 25 ♘c5 ♕a8 26 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 27 ♘e4 ♗g7 28 ♘d6 ♘e7 29 ♕c5 ♗a6 30 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 31 ♕xb4 ♘d5 32 ♕c5 ♖a5 33 ♕c6 ♖xa2 34 ♕xa8

♖fxa8 35 ♘g5 ♖f8 36 ♖b1 h6 37 ♘ge4 ♖b8 38 ♘c4 ♖b4 39 ♖bc1 ♖aa4 40 b3 ♖a8 41 ♘c5 ♖b5 42 ♘d6 ♖bb8 43 ♘c4 e4 44 ♘xe4 ♖xb3 45 g3 g5 46 h3 ♔h7 47 ♘c5 ♖bb8 48 ♘d7 ♖b7 49 ♘c5 ♖c7 0-1

(509) Petrosian-Keene
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d3 ♗b4 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 ♕xf6 8 ♘d2 0-0 9 g3 d6 10 ♗g2 ♗d7 11 0-0 ♕e7 12 ♔h1 a6 13 ♕c2 ♖ab8 14 ♖ab1 ♘d8 15 e3 ♗c6 16 d4 ♗xg2+ 17 ♔xg2 ♘c6 18 ♕e4 f5 19 ♕d5+ ♔h8 20 ♖b2 ♘d8 21 ♖fb1 ♖c8 *(207)*

207



22 c5 dxc5 23 ♕xc5 ♕xc5 24 dxc5 ♖f6 25 ♘b3 ♘c6 26 ♖d1 ♔g8 27 ♖d5 ♖e8 28 ♘d2 ♘a5 29 e4 f4 30 g4 ♖g6 31 ♔h3 ♖ge6 32 ♘f3 b5 33 cxb6 cxb6 34 ♔g2 ♘c4 35 ♖b1 ♖c8 36 ♖bd1 ♖e7 37 h4 ♔f7 38 h5 b5 39 g5 hxg5 40 ♔h3 ♘b2 41 ♘xg5+ ♔e8 42 ♖1d2 ♘c4 43 ♖2d3 ♘b2 44 ♖f3 ♘a4 45 ♖d6 ♘xc3 46 ♖xa6 ♘e2 47 ♖fa3 ♘d4 48 ♖d6 ♖d8 49 ♖g6 ♖c8 50 ♔g4 ♖c1 51 ♖a8+ ♔d7 52 ♖a7+ ♔d8 53 ♖d6+ 1-0

(510) Sosonko-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 0-0 ♘bd7 7 ♕c2 c6 8 b3 a5 9 ♘bd2 b6 10 e4 ♗b7 11 ♗b2 ♖c8 12 ♖fe1 ♕c7 13 ♖ad1 ♖fd8 14 ♕b1 ♕b8 15 ♘g5 dxc4 16 ♘xc4 ½-½

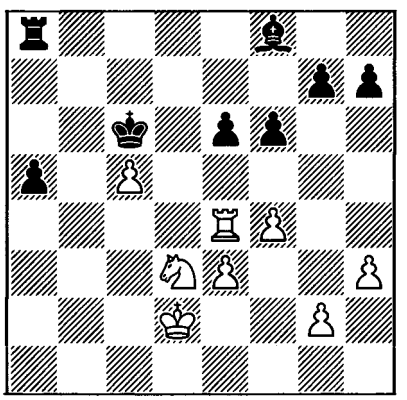
(511) Petrosian-Szmetan
Benko Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 cxb5 a6 5 bxa6 ♗xa6 6 ♘c3 g6 7 ♘f3 d6 8 ♘d2 ♕a5 9 g3 ♗g7 10 ♗g2 0-0 11 0-0 ♘bd7 12 ♕c2 ♘e8 13 ♘b3 ♕c7 14 ♖b1 ♘ef6 15 ♘d2 ♕a5 16 b3 ♖fb8 17 a3 ♘e8 18 ♗b2 ♘c7 19 ♖fc1 ♘e5 20 b4 cxb4 21 axb4 ♕xb4 22 ♘ce4 ♘f3+ 23 ♗xf3 ♗xb2 24 ♖xb2 ♕xb2 25 ♕xb2 ♖xb2 26 ♖xc7 ½-½

(512) Uddenfeldt-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 dxc4 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 a3 0-0 9 b4 ♗e7 10 ♗b2 b5 11 ♗e2 ♗b7 12 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 13 ♖c1 ♗d5 14 ♘e5 ♖c8 15 ♗f3 ♘xe5 16 ♗xe5 ♕d7 17 ♗d4 ♖xc1 18 ♕xc1 ♗xf3 19 ♘xf3 ♖c8 20 ♕b1 ♕c7 21 h3 ♕c2 22 ♘e5 ♘e4 23 ♘d3 f6 24 ♗c5 ♕xb1 25 ♖xb1 ♖d8 26 ♖b3 ♔f7 27 f3 ♘xc5 28 bxc5 ♔e8 29 ♔f2 ♔d7 30 ♔e2 ♖c8 31 a4 bxa4 32 ♖a3 a5 33 ♖xa4 ♖a8 34 f4 ♗f8 35 ♔d2 ♔c6 36 ♖e4 *(208)*

208



36 ... a4 37 ♖xe6+ ♔d7 38 ♖b6 a3 39 ♖b1 ♔c6 40 e4 ♗xc5 41 ♖c1 a2 42 ♖xc5+ ♔b6 43 ♖c1 a1 = ♕ 44 ♖xa1 ♖xa1 45 ♔e3 ♔h5 46 f5 ♔c4 47 ♘f4 ♖a3+ 48 ♔f2 ♔d4 49 ♘e6+ ♔xe4 50 ♘xg7 ♔f4 0-1

(513) Petrosian-Browne
Sicilian Defence
(notes by Razuvayev)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 ♘f3 g6 4 e4 ♘c6 5 d4 cxd4 6 ♘xd4 ♘xd4

The Maroczy Bind is now reached so frequently via this move order that it may soon have to be assigned to the English Opening. In the last USSR Championship (Moscow, 1973) 6 ... ♗g7 7 ♗e3 ♘g4 8 ♕xg4 ♘xd4 9 ♕d1 ♘e6 was very popular. Browne chooses a simpler continuation, one which normally leads to considerable simplification.

7	**♕xd4**	**d6**
8	**♗e2**	

A common alternative is 8 f3 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♕d2 ♗e6 11 ♖c1 ♕a5 12 ♘d5.

8 ... ♗g7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♕e3

10 ♗g5 is also good. Thus Smejkal-Zuckerman (Polanica Zdroj, 1972) went 10 ... ♗e6 11 ♕d2 ♖c8 12 b3 b5? 13 e5! with advantage to White.

10	**...**	**♗e6**
11	**♗d2**	**♕b6**

All this is well known. According to theory the game is level, but in my opinion White stands very slightly better.

12	**b3**	**♕xe3**
13	**♗xe3**	**♗d7**

13 ... ♘d7 followed by ... ♘c5 comes into consideration, but Browne chooses a plan of passive defence. It is true that to a certain extent this decision is justified, since it is difficult for White to create active play.

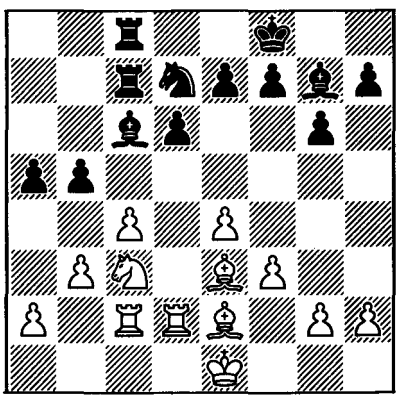
14 ♖ac1 ♖fc8 15 ♖fd1 ♗c6 16 f3 a5 17 ♔f2 ♘d7 18 ♖c2 ♖c7 19 ♖dd2!

White's last few moves have prepared the transfer of his king to the centre, where it will be a little closer to the one advanced black pawn at a5. And in the event of the exchange of rooks, White may acquire play on the queenside.

19 ... ♖ac8 20 ♔f1 ♔f8 21 ♔e1 b5? *(209)*

Black's position is slightly inferior, but it is a long way from being lost. The American grandmaster's composure lets him down. 21 ... ♗e5 22 g3 ♘c5 would have been satisfactory, with a solid position for Black.

209



22 ♘d5! ♗xd5 23 ♖xd5 bxc4 24 ♖xa5! c3

24 ... cxb3 loses to 25 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 26 ♖a8+ etc.

25 b4 ♖b8 26 a3 e6 27 ♗d3 ♘e5 28 ♔e2 ♘c6 29 ♖a6 ♔e7 30 b5 ♘d4+ 31 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 32 a4 ♖cb7 33 ♗c4!

White constantly finds new ways to strengthen his position. On c4 the bishop prevents ... d5, and the d3 square is now free for the king.

33 ... f5 34 ♔d3 ♗e5 35 h3 ♔f6 36 a5!

This leads to a quick win. The following exchange sacrifice by Black is forced.

36 ... ♖xb5 37 ♗xb5 ♖xb5 38 ♖a2 d5 39 exf5 ♔xf5 40 ♖b6 ♖c5 41 a6 ♖c7 Black resigns

(514) Petrosian-Bilek
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 c4 ♗g7 4 g3 c6 5 ♗g2 a6 6 a4 a5 7 ♘c3 d6 8 0-0 ♘a6 9 h3 0-0 10 e4 ♘d7 11 ♗g5 ♖e8 12 ♖e1 ♕c7 13 ♖e2 ♘b4 14 ♖c1 e5 15 ♖d2 ½-½

(515) Petrosian-Venalainen
Sicilian Defence

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 ♗g7 6 e4 d6 7 ♗e2 0-0 8 0-0 ♘c6 9 ♗e3 ♗d7 10 ♕d2 a6 11 f3 ♕a5 12 ♘b3 ♕d8 13 ♖fd1 b6 14 ♖ac1 ♖b8 15 ♔h1 ♗e6 16 ♘d5 ♘d7 17 ♘d4 ♘xd4 18 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 19 ♕xd4 ♖e8 20 ♖c3 ♕c8 21 f4 ♕c5 22 ♕d2 ♖bc8 23 ♖dc1 ♕f2 24 ♖f1 ♕h4 25 f5 ♗xd5 26 exd5 1-0

(516) Petrosian-Visier
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Shekhtman)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 f3

Some are of the opinion that the Sämisch Variation does not give White any advantage in this opening, but it is not this which determines the choice of a particular continuation.

5 ... c6 6 ♗e3 a6 7 c5

Here various moves and plans have been tried: 7 a4, 7 ♗d3, 7 ♘ge2, and 7 ♕d2 followed by 8 0-0-0. The move made by Petrosian is fully in accordance with his tastes – a blockade of the queenside, and a position with a minimum of active play for Black.

7 ... 0-0

The game Korchnoi-Gheorghiu (Moscow, 1971) went 7 ... b5 8 cxd6 exd6 9 a4 ♗b7 10 ♘h3 0-0 11 ♗e2 ♘bd7 with equality.

8 ♘ge2 a5

Black is on the wrong track. Byrne played more strongly against Larsen in the 1973 Leningrad Interzonal: 8 ... ♘bd7 9 ♘c1 b5 10 ♗e2 dxc5 11 dxc5 ♘e5 12 ♕c2 ♗e6 etc.

9 cxd6 exd6 10 ♘g3 ♖e8 11 ♕d2 b5

A demonstration of strength on the queenside, but within a short time Black will only have blockaded pawns and weak squares here. He should have concerned himself over the development of his pieces.

12 ♗e2 d5 13 e5 ♘fd7 14 ♗h6 b4 15 ♘a4 ♗xh6 16 ♕xh6 ♗a6 17 h4

A text-book flank attack with the centre secure.

17 ... ♗xe2 18 ♔xe2 ♘a6 19 h5 ♘f8 20 ♖ac1

Not so much attacking the c6 pawn as suppressing the opponent's counterplay.

20 ... ♖a7
21 ♔f2

The c6 pawn is indirectly defended – 21 ♖xc6 ♕d7 22 ♖hc1 ♘b8 23 ♘b6 ♕b7 24

♖f6 ♖a6 25 ♘a4 ♕b5+.

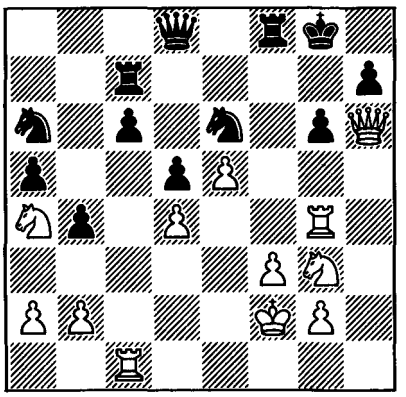
21 ... ♘e6 22 hxg6 fxg6 23 ♖h4 ♖c7

Black appears to have miscalculated: 24 ♖xc6 ♖xc6 25 ♕xh7+ ♔f8 26 ♕h8+ ♔f7 27 ♖h7+ ♘g7 28 ♖xg7+ ♔e6 29 ♕h3 mate, but this is merely another trap – 24 ♖xc6 ♕xh4 25 ♕xh4 ♖xc6.

24 ♖g4 ♖f8 *(210)*

This allows an elegant finish.

210



25 ♖xg6+ hxg6 26 ♕xg6+ ♘g7 27 ♖h1 ♖f4

The position abounds in pretty variations. Here is one of them: 27 ... ♕e8 28 ♕h7+ ♔f7 29 ♘f5!.

28 ♘h5 ♖cf7
29 e6 Resigns

*(517) Petrosian-Ivkov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘f3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 d6 8 e4 e5 9 d5 ♘e7 10 ♘d2 0-0 11 ♘f1 ♕a5 12 ♗d2 ♘e8 13 ♘g3 f5 14 exf5 ♘xf5 15 ♕c2 g6 16 0-0 ♗d7 17 ♘e4 ♘f6 18 ♘g5 ♖ae8 19 f3 ♘g7 20 g4 ♕a4 21 ♕b3 ♖b8 22 ♗c2 ♕a5 23 a4 ♕c7 24 h3 a6 25 a5 b5 26 axb6 ♖xb6 27 ♕a3 ♕d8 28 ♕c1 ♕e7 29 ♕e1 ♖b2 30 ♗d3 ♗c8 31 ♗c1 ♖b3 32 ♗c2 ♖b6 33 f4 h6 34 fxe5 ♕xe5 35 ♕xe5 dxe5 36 ♘e4 h5 37 ♗a3 ♘xe4 38 ♖xf8+ ♔xf8 39 ♗xe4 ♖b3 40 ♗xc5+ ♔e8 41 ♖f1 1-0

USSR Team Championship
Moscow, August-September 1974

Board 1, +2 –1 =6.

(518) Smyslov-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 e6 6 e3 ♘ge7 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 0-0 9 0-0 ♘xd4 10 exd4 d5 11 cxd5 ♘xd5 12 ♕b3 ♗xd4 13 ♗h6 ♗g7 14 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 15 ♖fd1 ♕b6 16 ♘xd5 ♕xb3 17 axb3 exd5 18 ♖xd5 a6 19 b4 ♖b8 20 ♖d6 ♗e6 21 h4 ♖fd8 22 ♖ad1 ♖xd6 23 ♖xd6 b6 ½-½

(519) Petrosian-Kuzmin
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 0-0 ♖e8 7 ♘d5 ♘xd5 8 cxd5 ♘d4! 9 ♘e1 (9 ♘xd4?! exd4 ∓; weak point at e2) **9 ... c6 10 e3 ♘b5 11 d3 ♘c7 12 ♘c2 ♗f8 13 dxc6 dxc6 14 ♕e2 ♗e6 15 ♖d1 ♕d7 16 ♖d2** (better 16 b3 ♗g4 17 ♗f3 ♗xf3 18 ♕xf3 intending 19 ♗b2 ±) **16 ... ♗h3 17 ♗h1 ♖ad8 18 b3 ♗g4 19 ♗f3 ♗xf3 20 ♕xf3 ♘e6 21 ♕g4 g6 22 ♗b2 h5 23 ♕e2 e4 24 ♖ad1 ♘g5 25 ♘e1 ♗b4?!** (25 ... ♕e6 ±) **26 ♗f6! ♗xd2 27 ♖xd2 ♕d5** (27 ... ♘f3+ 28 ♘xf3 exf3 29 ♕xf3 ♖c8 30 ♕f4 ±; 27 ... ♘h3+ 28 ♔g2 ♖c8 29 dxe4 ♕e6 30 e5 ±) **28 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 29 h4 ♘e6 30 d4 c5?!** (better 30 ... ♕f5 intending ... ♘e6-c7-d5) **31 ♘c2 a6 32 ♕c4 ♕f5 33 ♕e2 g5?** (better 33 ... cxd4 ±) **34 dxc5**

♖xd2 35 ♕xd2 ♕g4 36 ♘d4! ± ♘xc5 37 ♕a5! ♕d1+ 38 ♔h2 ♘d3 39 ♕xg5+ ♔h8 40 ♕h6+ ♔g8 41 ♕g5+ ±± (41 ... ♔h8 42 ♕f5 intending 43 ♕xe4) **1-0** (Kotov)

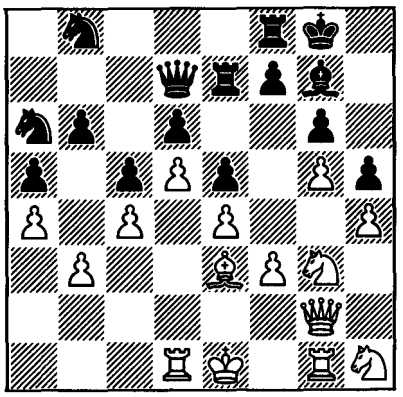
(520) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕d7 7 a4 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 ♕g4 f5 10 ♕h5+ g6 11 ♕e2 ♘b8 ± 12 h4 h6 13 ♘h3 ♘c6 14 ♘f4 ♘ge7 15 g4 ♖g8 16 ♖g1 0-0-0 17 a5 ± (with attack) **17 ... fxg4 18 ♘d3?!** (better 18 ♕xg4 ♘f5 19 h5! g5 20 axb6 axb6 21 ♘g6 intending f2-f4 ±; 19 ... gxh5 20 ♕xg8 ♖xg8 21 ♖xg8+ ♔b7 22 a6 mate; 21 ... ♘d8 22 axb6 ±) **18 ... h5 19 ♘c5 bxc5 20 ♕a6+ ♔b8 21 ♖b1+ ♘b4 22 cxb4 ♕c6! 23 bxc5+ ♔a8 24 ♕xc6+** (only move; 25 ♕d3 ♖b8 ∓) **24 ... ♘xc6 25 c3 ♘xa5 26 f3! gxf3 27 ♔f2 ⩲ ♘c4 28 c6 a5 29 ♖b7 ♖b8 30 ♖xc7 ♖b6 31 ♗h6! ♔b8 32 ♖e7 ♖xc6 33 ♔xf3 a4 34 ♖a1 a3 35 ♔f4!** (intending ♔g5-f6) **35 ... ♖a6 36 ♔g5 ♘e3 37 ♖a2 ♘d1 38 ♔f6 ♘xc3 39 ♖a1 ♖h8 40 ♗g7 ♖c8 41 ♖xe6 = ♘e4+ 42 ♔f7 ♖c7+ 43 ♖e7 g5 44 ♗f6 gxh4 45 ♗xh4 a2 46 e6 ♘d6+ 47 ♔f6 ½-½** (Kotov)

(521) Petrosian-Bronstein
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 f3 e5 6 ♘ge2 c6 7 ♗g5 ♘bd7 8 d5 0-0 9 ♕d2 ♕b6 10 ♗e3 ♕c7 11 g4 ± (with attack) **11 ... h5 12 g5 ♘e8 13 h4 a5 14 b3 ♘c5 15 ♖d1 ♘a6 16 ♘a4 c5 17 ♘g1** (intending ♗h3) **17 ... b6 18 ♗h3 ♗xh3 19 ♘xh3 ♖b8 20 ♘c3 ♕d7 21 ♕g2 ♘ec7 22 a4** ± (with attack; intending ♘c3-e2-g3xh5) **22 ... ♖be8 23 ♘e2 ♘b8 24 ♘g3 ♖e7 25 ♘f2 ♖fe8 26 ♖g1 ♘ca6 27 ♘fh1 ♖f8** *(211)*

211



28 ♘xh5!? gxh5 29 ♘g3 f5! 30 gxf6 ♗xf6 31 ♘xh5+ ♖g7 32 ♘xg7 ♗xg7 33 ♗h6 ♖f7 34 ♖d2 ♘c7 35 ♕g6 ♘e8 ⩲ 36 ♖dg2 ♕h3! (intending ... ♕xh4+; intending ... ♘d7-f8) **37 ♗xg7 ♘xg7 38 ♕xf7+!** (38 ♕xd6? ♘d7 intending 39 ... ♕xf3 ∓) **38 ... ♔xf7 39 ♖xg7+ ♔f8 40 ♖g8+ ♔f7 41 ♖1g7+ ♔f6 42 ♖g6+ ♔f7 43 ♖6g7+ ♔f6 44 ♖h7 ♕h1+ 45 ♔f2 ♕h2+ 46 ♖g2 ♕f4 47 ♔e2 ♕c1 = 48 ♖gg7 ♕c2+ 49 ♔f1 ♕d1+ 50 ♔f2 ♕d2+ 51 ♔f1 ♕d1+ 52 ♔f2 ♕d2+ 53 ♔g3 ♕e1+ 54 ♔g2 ♕e2+ 55 ♔g3 ♕e1+ 56 ♔g2 ♕e2+ 57 ♔g3 ♕e1+ ½-½** (Kotov)

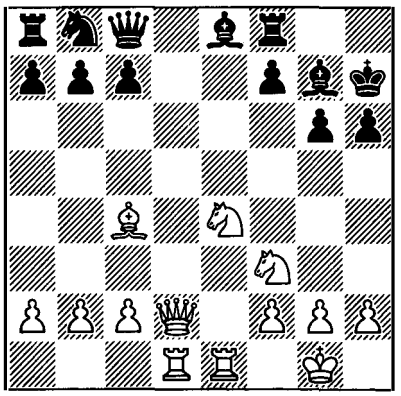
(522) Petrosian-Averbakh
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♘f3 d5 6 ♗d3 c5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 bxc3 ♕c7 10 cxd5 exd5 11 ♘h4 ♘e7 12 ♗b2 ♖e8 13 a4 ♗e6 14 ♖c1 c4 15 ♗c2 ♕d7 ∓ 16 g3 ♘g6 17 ♘g2 ♗f5 18 f3 ♗xc2 19 ♕xc2 ♖e6 20 ♖a1 ♖ae8 21 ♗a3 h5 22 h4 ♖a6 23 ♗b4 ♕h3 24 ♔f2 ♘e7 25 ♗xe7! = ♖xe7 26 ♖h1 ♕e6 27 ♖he1 ♕h3 28 ♖g1 ♕e6 29 ♖ge1 ♕h3 30 ♖h1 ♕e6 31 ♖ab1 ♘e8 32 ♖he1 ♕h3 33 ♖h1 ♕e6 34 ♖he1 ♕h3 35 ♖h1 ½-½ (Kotov)

(523) Tal-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 d5 ♘b8 8 ♖e1 (8 h3) **8 ... e5?!** (8 ... c6) **9 dxe6! ♗xe6 10 ♗f4 h6** (10 ... ♘c6 11 ♕d2!?; 11 h3) **11 ♘d4 ♗d7 12 ♕d2 ♔h7 13 e5! ± dxe5 14 ♗xe5 ♘e4?** (14 ... ♘c6!? ±) **15 ♘xe4 ♗xe5 16 ♘f3 ♗g7** (16 ... ♗xb2 17 ♖ad1 intending ♕b4 ±±) **17 ♖ad1 ♕c8 18 ♗c4 ♗e8** (18 ... ♗g4?!) *(212)*

212



19 ♘eg5+! ±± hxg5 (19 ... ♔g8 20 ♘e6 ±±; 19 ... ♔h8 20 ♕f4 hxg5 21 ♘xg5 ♗h6 ♘xf7+! ±±) **20 ♘xg5+ ♔g8 21 ♕f4 ♘d7 22 ♖xd7! ♗xd7 23 ♗xf7+ 1-0** (Tal)

International Tournament
Manila, October 1974

1 Vasyukov 10½; 2 **Petrosian** (+5 -0 =9) 9½; 3 Larsen 9; 4-5 Gheorghiu, Gligorić 8½; 6-7 Kavalek, Ljubojević 8; 8-9 Andersson, Pfleger 7½; 10 Quinteros 7; 11-12 Portisch, Torre 6½; 13 Kraidman 4; 14 Cardoso 3; 15 Naranja 1.

(524) Kavalek-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕d7 7 a4 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 ♕g4 f5 10 ♕h5+ g6 11 ♕e2 ♘b8 12 h4 ½-½

(525) Petrosian-Quinteros
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘d7 5 g3 e5 6 ♗g2 ♘gf6 7 0-0 0-0 8 e4 ♖e8 9 h3 exd4 10 ♘xd4 ♘c5 11 ♖e1 a5 12 ♖b1 c6 13 ♗f4 a4 14 b3 axb3 15 axb3 h6 16 ♕c2 ♘e6 17 ♘xe6 ♖xe6 18 ♖ed1 g5 19 ♗e3 ♕e7 20 ♖a1 ♖xa1 21 ♖xa1 ♕c7 22 ♖d1 ♕a5 23 ♘e2 ♕c7 24 b4 ♖e8 25 ♕d3 ♘d7 26 ♘d4 ♘e5 27 ♕c2 ♕e7 28 b5 ♗d7 29 ♘f5 ♗xf5 30 exf5 ♖c8 31 ♕e4 ♔f8 32 ♔h1 ♗f6 33 ♗c1 ♘d7 34 bxc6 bxc6 35 ♕d3 ♗e5 36 ♗a3 ♘c5 37 ♕e3 ♕f6 38 f4 gxf4 39 gxf4 ♗b2 40 ♖xd6 ♖e8 41 ♖xf6 1-0

(526) Portisch-Petrosian
Modern Defence

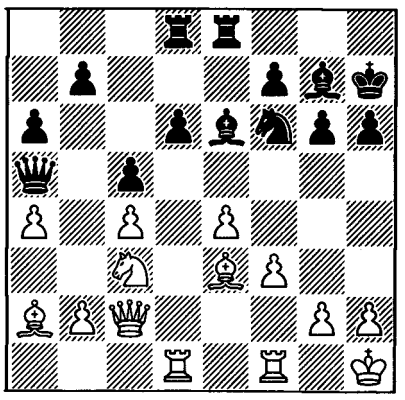
1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 e5 5 ♘ge2 (5 dxe5) **5 ... ♘c6 6 d5 ♘ce7** (6 ... ♘d4 7 ♗e3) **7 ♘g3 a5** (7 ... f5 8 exf5 ♘xf5 9 ♗d3) **8 ♗e2 b6 9 ♗e3 h5 10 h4 ♘h6 11 ♕d2** (11 f3 f5!) **11 ... ♘g4 12 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 13 f3 ♗d7 14 0-0-0 ♘g8** (intending ... ♘h6, ... f6, ... ♘f7, ... ♗h6) **15 ♘ge2 ♘h6** (15 ... ♗h6 16 f4 exf4 17 ♗xf4 intending e4-e5) **16 ♘b5 ♔f8 17 ♘ec3** (intending a2-a3, b2-b4, ♔b2, ♖a1, c4-c5) **17 ... ♔g8 18 b3 f5 19 ♔b2 ♘f7 20 a3 ♗f6 21 ♗f2 ♖h7 22 b4 ♖g7 23 ♔b3 ♗e7 24 ♕e2 ♕c8** (24 ... ♔h7 intending ... ♘h6-g8-f6) **25 ♗e3 ♕b7 26 ♗d2 ♗f6 27 ♖b1** (27 ♘a4 fxe4 28 ♕xe4 ♗f5 intending ... e4) **27 ... ♔h7 28 ♕d3 ♔h8 29 ♘e2 axb4 30 axb4 ♖gg8 31 ♘ec3 f4 32 ♖a1 ♖gc8 33 ♕e2** (33 ♕c2) **33 ... ♖xa1 34 ♖xa1 ♗xh4 35 ♖a7 ♕b8 36 ♕f1 ± ♗e7 37 ♕a1 ♘d8 38 ♗e1**

♔g7 39 ♗f2 ♔f8 40 ♕a6? (40 ♖a6! ♕b7 41 ♘a7 ♖a8 42 b5 intending ♘c6 ±) **40 ... ♗e8** (40 ... ♔e8) **41 ♘a3 g5 42 ♘ab5** (42 b5 intending ♘c2-b4) **42 ... h4** (42 ... g4 intending ... g3, ... h4, ... ♗h5 ∓) **43 ♕a1 ♘f7 44 ♖a6 ♗d7 45 ♘a7 ♖e8 46 ♘c6 ♕c8 47 ♖a7 ♗xc6 48 dxc6 g4 49 fxg4** (49 ♘d5 ♗d8 50 ♗xb6 cxb6 51 c7; 49 ♘d5 gxf3 50 ♘xe7 ♔xe7 51 ♗xb6 ♕g4; 49 ♘d5 gxf3 50 ♖xc7 ♕g4 51 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 52 ♘xe7 ♔xe7 53 ♕a7+ ♔f6 54 c7 fxg2 intending 55 ... ♕d1+ =) **49 ... ♕xg4 50 ♕h1 ♗d8 51 ♔a4! ♖e6 52 ♘d5?** (52 ♔b5 d5 53 cxd5 ♘d6+ 54 ♔a6 ±±) **52 ... ♕e2 53 ♘xc7 ♗xc7 54 ♖xc7 ♕xc4** (54 ... ♕xf2 55 ♖xf7+? ♔xf7 56 c7 ♕a2+ 57 ♔b5 ♕a8 intending ... ♕e8+ ∓∓; 55 ♕h3!) **55 ♕xh4 ♕a6+ 56 ♔b3 ♕d3+ 57 ♔b2 ½-½** (Ljubojević)

(527) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 c4 g6 2 e4 c5 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 d4 ♕a5+ 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 d5 ♘d4 7 ♗d2 ♘xf3+ 8 ♕xf3 d6 9 ♗d3 ♘f6 10 ♕e2 0-0 11 0-0 e6 12 ♔h1 ♕d8 13 dxe6 ♗xe6 14 ♖ad1 a6 15 ♗g5 h6 16 ♗c1 ♖e8 17 f3 ♕e7 18 ♗c2 ♖ed8 19 a4 ♖e8 20 ♗e3 ♖ad8 21 ♗b3 ♔h7 22 ♕d2 ♕c7 23 ♗a2 ♕a5 24 ♕c2 *(213)*

213



24 ... ♕b6 25 b3 ♕a5 26 ♗d2 ♕c7 27 ♗b1 ♗d7 28 ♗e1 ♗c6 29 ♗h4 ♖d7 30 ♕d2 ♕a5 31 ♗e1 ♕b6 32 ♗c2 ♕d8 33 ♗d3 ♖de7 34 ♗h4 ♖d7 35 ♕c2 ♔g8 36 ♘e2 ♕e7 37 ♘c3 ♕d8 38 ♖b1 ♕e7 39 ♖be1 g5 40 ♗f2 ♘h5 ½-½

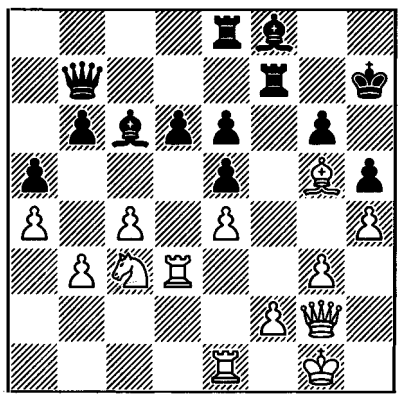
(528) Andersson-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c6 3 b3 d5 4 ♗b2 ♗g4 5 e3 e6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 d3 ♖e8 9 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 10 a3 a5 11 ♖e1 ♗f8 12 ♘f1 ♕b6 13 ♕c2 e5 14 h3 ♗f5 15 ♘g3 ♗g6 16 ♖ab1 h6 17 ♘h4 ♗h7 18 ♗f1 ♖e6 19 e4 ½-½

(529) Petrosian-Ljubojević
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 e4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 e5 6 ♗e2 a5 7 0-0 ♘gf6 8 ♖e1 0-0 9 ♗f1 ♖e8 10 ♖b1 c6 11 d5 ♘c5 12 b3 ♗d7 13 dxc6 ♗xc6 14 ♕c2 ♘h5 15 ♗e3 ♘f4 16 ♖bd1 ♘fe6 17 ♖d2 ♕e7 18 ♘d5 ♕f8 19 g3 ♖ed8 20 ♖ed1 ♔h8 21 ♗h3 ♖ab8 22 ♘c3 b6 23 ♗g2 ♖bc8 24 ♔h1 ♗b7 25 ♕b1 ♗c6 26 ♔g1 ♕e7 27 ♘d5 ♕b7 28 h4 h5 29 ♗h3 ♖f8 30 ♘g5 ♖cd8 31 ♗xe6 ♘xe6 32 ♘xe6 fxe6 33 ♘c3 ♕c7 34 ♘b5 ♕b7 35 ♘c3 ♕c7 36 ♕d3 ♔h7 37 ♕e2 ♖d7 38 ♖d3 ♖ff7 39 ♕f1 ♗f8 40 a4 ♕b7 41 ♕g2 ♖d8 42 ♗g5 ♖e8 43 ♖e1 *(214)*

214



43 ... ♗e7 44 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 45 ♖ed1 ♖d8 46 ♕f1 ♖d7 47 ♕e2 ♖f8 48 ♕e3 ♕d8 49 ♖1d2 ♖ff7 50 ♔f1 ♖f8 51 ♔e1 ♕c7 52 ♔d1 ♖f6 53 ♔c2 ♕d8 54 f3 ♖ff7 55 ♕g1 ♕c7 56 ♔b2 ♖d8 57 ♕d1 ♖fd7 58 g4 ♔h8 59 ♕g1 ♖g7 60 ♕e3 ♔h7 61 ♕g5 ♗e8 62 ♕f6 ♖e7 63 gxh5 gxh5 64 ♖g2 ♖dd7 65 ♘b5 ♕c5 66 ♖xd6 ♕e3 67 ♘a3 ♕f4 68 ♕xf4 exf4 69 ♖xd7 ♗xd7 70 c5 bxc5 71 ♘c4 ♗c8 72 ♖g5 ♔h6 73 ♖xc5 ♗a6 74 ♘e5 ♗e2 75 ♖c2 ♗f1 76 ♖c1 ♗e2 77 ♖e1 ♗a6 78 ♖g1 ♗e2 79 ♔c2 ♔h7 80 ♔d2 ♗a6 81 ♖g5 ♔h6 82 ♖g8 ♗f1 83 ♖g6+ ♔h7 84 ♖g5 ♔h6 85 ♖g1 ♗a6 86 ♘c4 ♖c7 87 ♔c3 ♖d7 88 ♖g5 ♖d1 89 ♖xa5 ♗xc4 90 ♔xc4 ♖f1 91 ♖e5 ♖xf3 92 ♖xe6+ ♔g7 93 ♖e5 ♖e3 94 ♔b4 f3 95 ♖f5 ♖xe4+ 96 ♔a3 ♖e3 97 ♖f4 ♔g6 98 ♔b4 ♔g7 99 a5 ♔g6 100 ♔a4 1-0

(530) Torre-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 0-0 ♘e7 8 dxc5 ♗xc5 9 ♘b3 ♗d6 10 ♘bd4 0-0 11 c3 ♗g4 12 ♗e2 ½-½

(531) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 d5 c6 8 ♘ge2 cxd5 9 cxd5 ♘bd7 10 ♘g3 a6 11 ♗e2 h5 12 ♗g5 ♕e8 13 ♕c2 ♘h7 14 ♗d2 ♕d8 15 ♘f1 b5 16 ♗e3 f5 17 exf5 gxf5 18 ♗f2 ♘df6 19 ♘e3 e4 20 f4 ♗d7 21 ♕d2 ♖c8 22 a3 ♕e8 23 0-0 ♕g6 24 h3 ♖f7 25 a4 ♗h6 26 ♗h4 b4 27 ♘a2 a5 28 ♘c1 ♖g7 29 ♗b5 ♗xb5 30 axb5 ♖c5 31 ♖xa5 ♖b7 32 ♘b3 ♖cxb5 33 ♖xb5 ♖xb5 34 ♘d4 ♖c5 35 ♘dxf5 ♗f8 36 ♖c1 ♘xd5 37 ♖xc5 ♘xe3 38 ♖b5 ♕e8 39 ♕e2 ♘xf5 40 ♖xf5 ♕e6 41 ♖xh5 ♗g7 42 ♗f2 ♕b3 43 ♕d2 ♘f6 44 ♖g5 ♕d3 45 ♕c1 ♔h7 46 ♕c7 1-0

(532) Naranja-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 d4 ♗g7 4 ♘c3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗d2 ♘b6 7 ♕c2 ♘c6 8 ♖d1 0-0 9 e3 ♗f5 10 ♕c1 a5 11 ♗e2 a4 12 0-0 ♕c8 13 d5 ♘b8 14 e4 ♗g4 15 ♗h6 c6 16 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 17 ♕e3 ♘8d7 ½-½

(533) Petrosian-Kraidman
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♗g5 h6 4 ♗h4 d5 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 c4 c6 7 cxd5 ♕a5+ 8 ♘bd2 exd5 9 ♗d3 ♗d6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♕c2 ♕c7 12 ♖fc1 ♖e8 13 a3 a5 14 b3 ♘g4 15 ♘f1 ♘gf6 16 ♘3d2 ♘g4 17 ♘f3 ♘gf6 18 ♗g3 ♘e4 19 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 20 ♕b2 a4 21 b4 b5 22 ♕c2 ♗b7 23 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 24 ♘g3 ♖e6 25 ♘f5 ♕f8 26 ♘e1 ♖f6 27 ♘g3 ♘b6 28 ♘d3 ♘c4 29 ♘c5 ♗c8 30 ♖e1 ♖g6 31 ♕c3 f5 32 ♘e2 ♖f6 33 ♘f4 ♖a7 34 ♘fd3 g5 35 ♘e5 ♖g7 36 ♖a2 ♖e7 37 ♖ae2 ♘b6 38 f3 ♕g7 39 ♖f1 ♕f8 40 ♖ef2 ♕e8 41 e4 ♗e6 42 exf5 ♗xf5 43 ♖e2 ♔g7 44 f4 ♕h5 45 fxg5 ♕xg5 46 ♘f3 ♖xe2 47 ♘xg5 hxg5 48 ♕f3 1-0

(534) Vasyukov-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 d4 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 e5 11 ♘b5 ♕e7 12 dxe5 ♘xe5 13 ♘bd4 ♗g4 ½-½

(535) Petrosian-Cardoso
English Opening

1 g3 g6 2 ♗g2 ♗g7 3 c4 c6 4 ♘c3 e5 5 e4 ♘e7 6 ♘ge2 d6 7 d4 0-0 8 0-0 ♘d7 9 b3 f5 10 exf5 gxf5 11 ♔h1 ♘g6 12 dxe5 dxe5 13 ♗a3 ♖e8 14 ♕c2 ♘f6 15 ♖ad1 ♕c7 16 ♗h3 f4 17 ♗xc8 ♕xc8 18 ♘e4 ♕h3 19 ♘g1 ♕h5 20 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 21 ♕e4 ♖ad8 22 ♘f3 ♕h3 23 ♗b2 ♖xd1 24 ♖xd1 ♔f7 25 ♖e1 ♖e7 26 ♗c3 fxg3 27 fxg3 h5 28 ♘g1 ♕e6 29 ♔g2 h4 30 ♘h3 hxg3 31 hxg3 ♔g7 32 ♘f2 ♖d7 33 ♖h1 ♖d8 34 ♕e3 b6 35 ♘e4 ♕g4 36 ♖h7+ 1-0

(536) Pfleger-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 d4 0-0 5 g3 d6 6 ♗g2 c5 7 d5 ♘a6 8 0-0 ♘c7 9 e4 ♖b8 10 a4 b6 11 ♖e1 a6 12 e5 ♘h5 13 exd6 exd6 14 ♗g5 f6 15 ♗d2 a5 16 h3 ♘a6 17 ♘e4 ♘c7 18 ♗c3 f5 19 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 20 ♘c3 ♕f6 21 ♕d2 ♗d7 22 ♖e2 ♖be8 23 ♖ae1 ♖xe2 24 ♖xe2 ½-½

(537) Petrosian-Larsen
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b4+ 5 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 6 ♕xd2 ♗a6 7 b3 0-0 8 ♗g2 d5 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♘c3 c6 11 ♘e5 ♕d6 12 0-0 ♘bd7 13 f4 ♖ad8 14 ♖fd1 ♘b8 15 ♖ac1 ♗c8 16 e4 dxe4 17 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 18 ♗xe4 c5 19 ♕c2 cxd4 20 ♗xh7+ ♔h8 21 ♗e4 ♔g8 22 ♗h7+ ♔h8 23 ♗e4 ½-½

1975

International Tournament
Las Palmas, April 1975

1 Ljubojević 11; 2-4 Andersson, Mecking, Tal 10; 5-6 Hort, Olafsson 9½; 7 **Petrosian** (+4 –0 =10) 9; 8-9 Bellon, Tatai 6½; 10 Cardoso 5; 11-12 Pomar, O.Rodriguez 4½; 13 Visier 4; 14-15 Debarnot, Fernandez 2½; Larsen 3/6 (withdrew).

(538) Larsen-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 cxd4 8 exd4 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 b6 10 ♕b3 ♗xc3 11 bxc3 ♗b7 12 ♘e5 ♕c7 13 ♗a3 ♖e8 14 ♗b5 ♘c6 15 ♗xc6 ♗xc6 16 c4 ♗b7 17 ♖fd1 ♖ac8 18 ♖ac1 ♘d7 19 ♘g4 f5 20 ♘e3 ♘f6 21 f3 ♕d7 22 ♗b2 ♗c6 23 ♖e1 f4 24 ♘f1 b5 25 d5 exd5 26 cxb5 ♗xb5 27 ♗xf6 gxf6 28 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 29 ♘d2 ♔g7 30 ♕b4 d4 31 ♘b3 d3 32 ♕xf4 ♖e5 33 h4 ♕e7 34 ♔h2 ♕d6 35 ♘d4 ♗d7 36 ♖d1 ♕a3 37 ♕g3+ ♔f7 38 f4 ♖h5 39 f5 ♗xf5 40 ♕c7+ ♕e7 ½-½

(539) Petrosian-Olafsson
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 dxc4 5 ♕a4+ ♘bd7 6 ♕xc4 c5 7 ♕c2 b6 8 b3 ♗b7 9 ♗b2 ♗e7 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♖c8 12 ♖fd1 a6 13 d3 ♕c7 14 ♖ac1 ½-½

(540) Visier-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 a6 9 ♗d3 cxd4 10 exd4 ♘c6 11 ♗e3 ♗e7 12 ♖c1 ♘b4 13 ♗b1 b6 14 ♘e5 ♗b7 15 ♖e1 ♖c8 16 ♗g5 g6 17 ♗h6 ♖e8 18 ♕e2 ♕d6 19 ♖cd1 b5 20 a3 ♘bd5 21 ♘e4 ♘xe4 22 ♗xe4 ♗f6 23 ♕f3 ♕e7 24 ♖c1 ♖ed8 25 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 26 ♘d3 ♗a8 27 h3 ♕d6 28 ♘e5 ♗xe5 29 ♗xd5 ♗h2+ 30 ♔h1 ♕xd5 31 ♕xd5 ♗xd5 32 ♔xh2 f6 33 ♖c1 ♖xc1 34 ♗xc1 ½-½

(541) Petrosian-Tal
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♗xd2+ 7 ♘bxd2 d6 8 0-0 0-0 9 e4 e5 10 d5 ♘b8 11 ♘e1 a5 12 ♘d3 ♘a6 13 b3 b6 14 a3 ♘c5 15 ♕c2 ♗d7 16 b4 ♘xd3 17 ♕xd3 ♖a7 18 ♕c3 ♖fa8 19 ♘b3 ½-½

(542) Cardoso-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

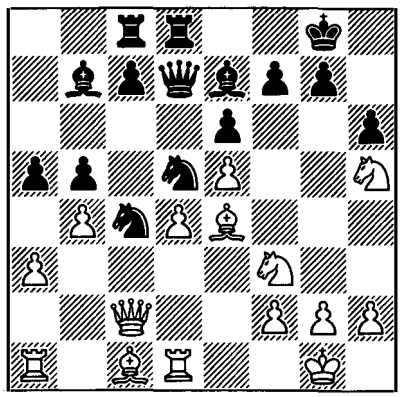
1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 a6 7 g5 ♘fd7 8 h4 b5 9 ♗g2 ♗b7 10 h5 ♘c6 11 a3 ♖c8 12 ♖h3 ♘xd4 13 ♕xd4 ♖c4 14 ♕e3 ♗e7 15 f4 e5 16 f5 h6 17 g6 fxg6 18 hxg6 ♘f6 19 ♗d2

♕a8 20 0-0-0 ♘xe4 21 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 22 b3 ♖d4 23 f6 ♗xf6 24 ♖e1 d5 25 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 26 ♕c5 ♖xe1+ 27 ♗xe1 ♔d7 28 ♗b4 ♕c6 29 ♕a7+ ♔e6 30 ♖g3 e4 31 ♕f7+ ♔e5 32 ♖c3 ♕e6 33 ♖c7 ♔f5 34 ♖d7 ♖e8 35 ♖d6 ♕c8 36 ♖xd5+ ♔g4 37 ♖d1 ♕e6 38 ♖g1+ ♔h3 39 ♕a7 e3 40 ♕b7 ♕e4 41 ♕d7+ ♖e6 42 ♕d1 e2 43 ♕e1 ♕e5 44 ♖h1+ ♔g4 45 ♕g1+ ♔f5 46 ♕f2+ ♔xg6 47 ♖g1+ ♔f7 48 ♖e1 ♔g8 49 ♔d2 ♗g5+ 50 ♔d3 ♕d5+ 0-1

(543) Petrosian-Fernandez
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 e3 ♗e7 6 ♗xc4 0-0 7 0-0 a6 8 e4 b5 9 ♗d3 ♗b7 10 ♕c2 h6 11 e5 ♘d5 12 ♗e4 ♕d7 13 ♖d1 ♖d8 14 ♘e2 ♘c6 15 a3 ♘a5 16 ♘g3 ♖ac8 17 b4 ♘c4 18 ♘h5 a5 *(215)*

215



19 ♗xh6 gxh6 20 ♕c1 ♘ce3 21 fxe3 ♘c3 22 ♕xc3 ♗xe4 23 ♖f1 axb4 24 axb4 ♔h8 25 ♘g3 ♗g6 26 ♖a7 ♕e8 27 e4 h5 28 ♕e3 ♕f8 29 ♘e2 ♕g7 30 ♘f4 ♖g8 31 ♖b7 ♕h7 32 ♘xg6+ ♕xg6 33 ♕e2 ♗xb4 34 ♖xb5 ♗e7 35 ♖b7 ♗d8 36 d5 ♖a8 37 d6 c5 38 ♘e1 ♖g7 39 ♘d3 ♗g5 40 g3 h4 ½-½

(544) Bellon-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 g6 2 ♘f3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘d7 5 h3 c6 6 a4 a5 7 ♗e3 e6 8 ♕d2 d5 9 exd5 exd5 10 ♗g5 f6 11 ♗f4 ♘f8 12 ♗d3 h5 13 0-0-0 ♔f7 14 ♔b1 b6 15 ♖de1 ♖a7 16 ♖hg1 ♖e7 17 ♘e2 h4 18 ♕c3 ♖e6 19 ♗c1 ♘e7 20 ♘h2 ♕d6 21 ♗f4 ½-½

(545) Petrosian-Mecking
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 c6 3 b3 d5 4 ♗b2 ♗g4 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♗e2 e6 7 0-0 ♗d6 8 cxd5 cxd5 9 ♘d4 ♗xe2 10 ♕xe2 0-0 11 f4 ♖c8 12 ♘c3 a6 13 ♖fc1 ♕e7 14 a3 ♖fe8 15 b4 ♗b8 16 ♘f3 e5 17 fxe5 ♘xe5 18 ♘a4 ½-½

(546) Hort-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 a6 7 g5 ♘fd7 8 ♗e3 b5 9 a3 ♗b7 10 h4 ♘c6 11 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 12 ♕d4 ♕c8 13 ♗g2 ♘e5 14 a4 b4 15 ♘e2 a5 16 ♘g3 ♘d7 17 b3 ♕c7 18 ♖d1 ♗b7 19 ♖d2 ♗a6 20 ♕a1 ♖c8 21 ♗f1 ♕b7 22 ♗xa6 ♕xa6 23 ♘e2 e5 ½-½

(547) Andersson-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 b3 b6 7 ♗b2 ♗b7 8 d3 c5 9 e3 ♘c6 10 ♕e2 ♕c7 11 ♘c3 dxc4 12 dxc4 ♖ad8 13 ♖fd1 ♕b8 14 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 15 ♖d1 ♕a8 ½-½

(548) Petrosian-Tatai
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 c5 4 e3 d5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗e2 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 b3 ♘e4 10 ♗b2 cxd4 11 ♘xe4 dxe4 12 ♘xd4 ♕b6 13 ♕c2 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 ♕g6 15 f4 ♗e6 16 ♕b2 ♖fc8 17 ♖ac1 a6 18 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 19 ♖c1 h5 20 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 21 ♕c2 ♗g4 22 ♗xg4 ♕xg4 23 h3 ♕g3 24 ♕c8+ ♔h7 25 ♕f5+ ♕g6 26 ♕d7 ♗h4 27 ♕xb7 ♕g3 28 ♕xe4+ g6 29 ♕b1 ♕f2+ 30 ♔h1 ♗g3 31 ♕a1 ♕e2 32 ♗h8 f6 33 ♗xf6 ♕xe3 34 ♗h8 ♕e7 35 ♗e5 1-0

(549) Pomar-Petrosian
Tarrasch Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 ♘c3 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘c6 6 e3 d5 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗e2 ♗d6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♗d2 ♕e7 11 ♖e1 ♗e5 12 ♗f3 ♖d8 13 ♖c1 ♗e6 14 ♕a4 ♗d7 15 ♕b3 ♕d6 16 h3 ♘xd4 17 exd4 ♗xd4 18 ♘xd5 ♗e6 19 ♘xf6+ gxf6 20 ♕xb7 ♖ab8 21 ♕e4 ♗xf2+ 22 ♔xf2 ♕xd2+ 23 ♔g1 ♕xb2 24 ♔h1 ♕d4 25 ♖c7 a5 26 ♕xd4 ♖xd4 27 ♖c3 ♔g7 28 ♖a3 ♖b5 29 ♖e4 ♖d2 30 ♖ea4 ♗xh3 31 ♔h2 ♗e6 32 ♖xa5 ♖bb2 33 ♗e4 f5 34 ♖g3+ ♔f6 35 ♗f3 ♖xa2 36 ♖xa2 ♖xa2 37 ♖h3 ♔g7 38 ♖g3+ ♔h8 39 ♖h3 ♖a4 40 ♗c6 ♖c4 41 ♗f3 ♖b4 42 ♔g1 f4 43 ♖h5 ♔g7 44 ♖e5 ♔f6 45 ♖e4 ♖xe4 46 ♗xe4 ♗f5 47 ♗d5 ♗e6 48 ♗e4 h5 49 ♔f2 ♔e5 50 ♗f3 ♗g4 51 ♗c6 h4 52 ♗e8 ♗e6 53 ♗c6 ♗b3 54 ♗e8 ♗d5 55 ♗d7 f5 56 ♗c8 ♗c6 57 ♗a6 f3 58 gxf3 ♔f4 59 ♗c8 h3 60 ♗xf5 ♗xf3 61 ♗xh3 ½-½

(550) Petrosian-Debarnot
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 ♘bd7 8 cxd5 exd5 9 a3 ♗xc3 10 bxc3 c4 11 ♗c2 ♖e8 12 ♘d2 ♕a5 13 ♗b2 ♘b6 14 ♖e1 ♗d7 15 a4 ♘e4 16 ♘f1 f5 17 f3 ♘f6 18 h3 h5 19 ♘g3 g6 20 ♔f2 h4 21 ♘f1 ♖e6 22 ♔g1 ♔f7 23 ♖e2 ♖h8 24 ♗c1 ♘c8 25 ♕e1 ♗c6 26 ♗a3 ♕c7 27 ♕f2 a5 28 ♖ae1 ♔g7 29 ♘d2 ♘h5 30 ♖a1 ♕g3 31 ♘f1 ♕xf2+ 32 ♔xf2 ♖he8 33 ♖ee1 ♘g3 34 ♘d2 f4 35 e4 dxe4 36 fxe4 ♗xe4 37 ♘xe4 ♘xe4+ 38 ♖xe4 ♖xe4 39 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 40 ♖b1 b6 41 d5 ♖e3 42 ♖d1 ♖xc3 43 ♗b2 1-0

(551) Ljubojević-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 exd5 ♕xd5 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 11 ♘xd4 ♗d7 12 ♗f4 ♖c8 13 ♗b3 ♗c5 14 ♖ad1 0-0 15 c3 ♖fd8 16 h3 ♔f8 17 ♖fe1 ½-½

(552) Petrosian-O.Rodriguez
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 g6 6 e4 d6 7 f4 ♗g7 8 ♗b5+ ♘fd7 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 ♘f3 ♘a6 11 0-0 ♘c7 12 a4 ♘a6 13 ♖e1 ♖e8 14 h3 ♘b4 15 ♗c4 a6 16 ♗e3 ♖b8 17 ♗f2 b5 18 axb5 axb5 19 ♘xb5 ♘b6 20 ♗f1 ♗xb2 21 ♗h4 ♕d7 22 ♖a7 ♖b7 23 ♖a5 ♗g7 24 e5 dxe5 25 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 26 fxe5 ♘6xd5 27 ♘d6 ♖c7 28 ♗b5 ♕e6 29 ♘e8 ♗xe5 30 ♘xc7 ♘xc7 31 ♗g3 ♗xg3 32 ♖xe6 ♘xe6 33 ♕f3 ♗c7 34 ♗e8 1-0

Moscow Spartakiad
May 1975

(553) Kozlov-Petrosian
Alekhine's Defence

1 e4 ♘f6 2 e4 ♘d5 3 d4 d6 4 ♘f3 c6 5 c4 ♘c7 6 h3 dxe5 7 ♘xe5 ♘d7 8 ♘f3 g6 9 ♘c3 ♗g7 10 ♗e2 b5 11 cxb5 cxb5 12 0-0 b4 13 ♘a4 0-0 14 ♗d2 ♘d5 15 ♖c1 e6 16 ♕b3 a5 17 ♖fd1 ♗b7 18 a3 ♕e7 19 axb4 axb4 20 ♗b5 ♖fb8 21 ♘c5 ♘xc5 22 dxc5 ♖a5 23 ♕c4 ♗xb2 24 ♗f4 ♖c8 25 ♗d6 ♕f6 26 c6 ♗xc6 27 ♗xc6 ♗xc1 28 ♖xc1 ♕d8 29 ♗e5 ♘e7 30 ♗f6 ♖xc6 31 ♕xc6 ♘xc6 32 ♗xd8 ♘xd8 33 ♖c8 ♖d5 34 ♖b8 ♔g7 35 ♖xb4 e5 36 g3 h6 37 h4 f5 38 ♖b6 ♘f7 39 h5 g5 40 ♖g6+ ♔f8 41 ♖a6 ♖d1+ 42 ♔g2 ♔e7 43 ♘h2 ♖d5 44 ♘f1 f4 45 gxf4 gxf4 46 ♘h2 e4 47 ♘g4 ♖xh5 48 ♖f6 f3+ 49 ♔g3 ♖g5 50 ♖f4 0-1

6th USSR Spartakiad
Riga, July 1975

Board 1, +2 –2 =4.

(554) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 d4 d5 6 c4 dxc4 7 ♘a3 ♘c6 8 ♘xc4 ♗e6 9 b3 a5 10 ♗b2 ♗d5 11 ♖c1 a4 12 bxa4 ♘e8 13 ♘fe5 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 ♗xe5 15 dxe5 ♕xd1 16 ♖fxd1 ♖xa4 17 a3 ♘g7 18 ♖d5 ♘e6 19 f4 ♘b8 20 ♔f3 c6 21 ♖a5 ♖xa5 22 ♘xa5 ♘d7 23 ♗c3 ♖a8 24 ♖d1 ♘dc5 25 ♗b4 ♔f8 26 g4 ♘a6 27 ♗e1 ♖d8 28 ♖xd8+ ♘xd8 29 ♗f2 c5 30 ♔e4 ♔e8 31 a4 ♔d7 32 ♘c4 ♔c7 33 f5 b6 34 ♗g3 e6 35 ♘d6 ♘b4 36 ♗h4 ♘bc6 37 ♗xd8+ ♘xd8 38 f6 ♔b8 39 g5 ♔a7 40 ♔d3 ♔a6 41 ♔c4 ♔a5 42 ♔b3 ♔a6 43 e3 ½-½

(555) Karpov-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♗xc6 dxc6 7 d3 ♘d7 8 ♘bd2 0-0 9 ♘c4 f6 10 ♘h4 ♘c5 11 ♘f5 ♗xf5 12 exf5 ♕d5 13 ♕g4 e4 14 ♘e3 ♕e5 15 ♘c4 ♕d5 ½-½

(556) Petrosian-Gurgenidze
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 e5 4 ♘f3 ♘c6 5 g3 ♗g4 6 ♗g2 ♗g7 7 d5 ♘ce7 8 e4 f6 9 0-0 ♘h6 10 b4 ♘f7 11 ♕b3 0-0 12 c5 f5 13 ♘g5 ♘xg5 14 ♗xg5 fxe4 15 h3 ♗d7 16 ♘xe4 ♗b5 17 ♖fc1 h6 18 cxd6 cxd6 19 ♘xd6 hxg5 20 ♘xb5 ♘f5 21 ♘c7 ♘d4 22 ♕e3 ♖c8 23 ♘e6 ♘xe6 24 dxe6 e4 25 ♖xc8 ♕xc8 26 ♕xe4 ♗xa1 27 ♕xg6+ ♗g7 28 e7 ♕c1+ 29 ♔h2 ♕d2 30 ♕e6+ ♔h7 31 exf8=♕ 1-0

(557) Petrosian-Butnorius
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♘e2 ♗a6 6 ♘g3 0-0 7 e4 d5 8 cxd5 ♗xf1 9 ♔xf1 ♗xc3 10 bxc3 exd5 11 e5 ♘e4 12 ♕d3 f5 13 ♘e2 ♘g5 14 ♗xg5 ♕xg5 15 g3 ♕h6 16 ♘f4 ♘c6 17 ♕f3 ♘e7 18 ♘xd5 ♕h3+ 19 ♔g1 ♘xd5 20 ♕xd5+ ♔h8 21 f4 ♖ad8 22 ♕c6 ♕h5 23 ♔f2 g5 24 ♔e3 ♕f7 25 ♖hf1 g4 26 ♖fd1 ♖fe8 27 c4 ♖e6 28 ♕b5 ♖h6 29 ♖d2 ♖h3 30 d5 h5 31 ♕b4 h4 32 ♖g1 ♔g7 33 e6 ♕f6 34 ♕b2 hxg3 35 hxg3 ♕xb2 36 ♖xb2 ♔f6 37 ♔d4 ♖dh8 38 ♖e2 ♖3h7 39 c5 ♖e8 40 ♔c4 ♖hh8 41 ♖ge1 bxc5 42 ♔xc5 ♖h3 43 ♖g2 ♖eh8 44 ♖ee2 ♖3h7 45 ♔c6 1-0

(558) Spassky-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 a6 9 a4 cxd4 10 exd4 ♕a5 11 ♗g5 ♘d5 12 ♘e4 ♘d7 13 ♕e2 ♖e8 14 ♖fc1 ♘f8 15 ♘c5 ♘e7 16 ♕e4 ♘f5 17 ♗d3 ♕b6 18 ♖c2 a5 19 ♕g4 ♕d6 20 ♗b5 ♗d7 21 ♗f4 ♕e7 22 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 23 ♖c7 ♖ed8 24 d5 ♗d6 25 ♗g5 ♘f6 26 ♖xe7 ♘xg4 27 ♖xb7 f6 28 ♗d2 exd5 29 ♗d7 ♘gh6 30 ♗e6+ ♔h8 31 ♖c1 ♘e7 32 ♘d4 ♖a6 33 ♗d7 ♘hg8 34 ♗b5 ♖aa8 35 ♔f1 ♗e5 36 ♘e6 ♖db8 37 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 38 b3 ♖a8 39 f4 ♗d6 40 ♘c7 ♖a7 41 ♘a6 1-0

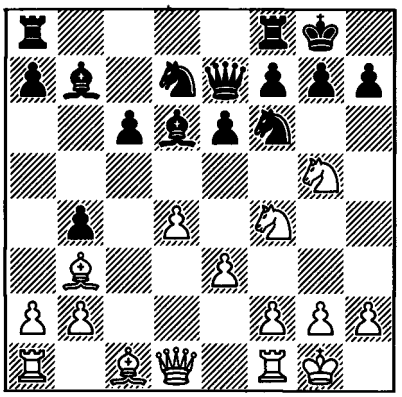
(559) Tal-Petrosian
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 c5 8 e3 d5 9 ♕e2 ♘c6 10 ♖d1 dxc4 11 bxc4 ♕c7 12 ♘c3 a6 13 ♖ab1 ♖ab8 14 ♗a1 ♘a5 15 d3 ♘d7 16 ♕c2 ♖fe8 17 ♖d2 ♗f6 18 ♗b2 ♗a8 19 ♗a1 ♗b7 ½-½

(560) Petrosian-Bagirov
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 c6 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♗d3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b5 8 ♗b3 b4 9 ♘e2 ♗b7 10 0-0 ♗d6 11 ♘f4 0-0 12 ♘g5 ♕e7 *(216)*

216



13 ♘fxe6 fxe6 14 e4 h6 15 ♘xe6 ♘xe4 16 ♕e2 c5 17 ♘xc5+ ♔h8 18 ♘xb7 ♖xf2 19 ♕xf2 ♘xf2 20 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 21 ♖xf2 ♕xd4 22 ♗f4 ♘f6 23 ♖d1 ♕c5 24 ♖c1 ♕b6 25 ♗c7 ♕e3 26 ♗f4 ♕b6 27 ♗c7 ♕b5 28 h3 ♖e8 29 ♔h2 ♕h5 30 ♗d1 ♕d5 31 ♗b3 ♕d4 32 ♖fc2 ♘d5 33 ♗g3 ♘e3 34 ♖f2 ½-½

(561) Vaganian-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 e3 e6 5 b3 ♗e7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 d4 ♘bd7 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 e4 dxe4 11 ♘xe4 c5 12 ♕e2 cxd4 13 ♘xd4 ♘c5 14 ♘xc5 bxc5 15 ♘f3 ♕c7 16 ♘e5 ♖ad8 17 ♖fe1 ♖d6 18 ♗c3 ♗a8 19 ♕e3 ♖fd8 20 ♕h3 g6 21 ♖e3 ♘h5 22 ♘g4 ♖d4 23 ♗xd4 cxd4 24 ♖e5 f5 25 ♘h6+ ♔g7 26 ♖xe6 ♔xh6 27 ♕xf5 ♖g8 28 ♖ae1 ♗d6 29 g3 ♗b7 30 h4 1-0

International Tournament
Milan, August-September 1975

1 Portisch 7; 2-4 Karpov, Ljubojević, **Petrosian** (+2 –0 =9) 6½; 5 Smejkal 6; 6-7 Browne, Tal 5½; 8-11 Andersson, Gligorić, Larsen, Unzicker 5½; 12 Mariotti 2½.

Semi-final match v. Karpov: +0 –0 =4.

Match for 3rd place v. Ljubojević: +1 –1 =4.

(562) Petrosian-Karpov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘f3 d5 7 0-0 cxd4 8 exd4 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 b6 10 ♗g5 ♗b7 11 ♕e2 ♗xc3 12 bxc3 ♘bd7 13 ♗d3 ♕c7 14 c4 ♘g4 15 ♗e4 ♗xe4 16 ♕xe4 ♘gf6 17 ♕d3 h6 18 ♗xf6

♘xf6 19 a4 ♖ac8 20 ♖fc1 ♖fd8 21 h3 e5 22 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 23 dxe5 ♖xd3 24 exf6 ♖d4 25 a5 gxf6 26 axb6 axb6 27 ♖ab1 ♖dxc4 28 ♖xc4 ♖xc4 29 ♖xb6 ½-½

(563) Mariotti-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘e7 4 ♘gf3 ♘d7 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗d3 g6 7 h4 h6 8 ♘f1 ♗g7 9 c3 ♘f8 10 ♘g3 ♕d6 11 ♗e3 ♗g4 12 ♕a4+ ♗d7 13 ♕c2 h5 14 ♕d2 0-0-0 15 ♘g5 ♗e8 16 0-0-0 f6 17 ♘h3 ♗f7 18 ♖de1 ♘e6 19 ♘f4 ♘xf4 20 ♗xf4 ♕d7 21 ♖e2 ♖de8 22 ♖he1 ♘c6 23 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 24 ♖xe8+ ♕xe8 25 ♕e3 ♕xe3+ 26 ♗xe3 ♘d8 27 ♘e2 ♘e6 28 ♘f4 ♘xf4 ½-½

(564) Petrosian-Portisch
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 ♗g4 3 ♗g2 ♘d7 4 0-0 ♘gf6 5 d3 e5 6 c4 dxc4 7 dxc4 c6 8 ♕c2 ♗c5 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 h3 ♗xf3 11 ♗xf3 ♕e7 12 ♔h2 ♖fe8 13 ♗g5 h6 14 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 15 e3 e4 16 ♗g2 h5 17 ♖fd1 ♕e6 18 ♘e2 ♖ad8 19 ♔g1 g6 20 a3 ♗b6 21 b3 ♕e7 22 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 23 ♖d1 ♕xa3 24 ♘c3 ♔g7 25 h4 ♗a5 26 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 27 ♗xe4 ♖d8 ½-½

(565) Petrosian-Smejkal
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♕a4+ ♗d7 5 ♕b3 dxc4 6 ♕xc4 ♗g7 7 g3 c6 8 ♗g2 ♘a6 9 0-0 ♗e6 10 ♕a4 ♕c8 11 ♖e1 ♗h3 12 ♗h1 0-0 13 d3 ♘c7 14 ♗f4 ♘fd5 15 ♗d2 ♗g4 16 ♖ac1 e5 17 ♘g5 ♘b6 18 ♕b4 ♖d8 19 ♘ge4 ♗f5 20 ♗g5 ♖d4 21 ♕a3 ♗xe4 22 ♗xe4 ♘e6 23 ♗e3 ♗f8 24 ♕b3 ♖d8 25 ♗g2 ♘d4 26 ♕d1 ♕e6 27 ♗d2 ♖d7 28 ♘e4 ♗e7 29 b3 a5 ½-½

(566) Ljubojević-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 ♗d7 13 ♘f1 ♘c4 14 b3 ♘b6 15 ♘e3 c4 16 bxc4 ♘xc4 17 ♘xc4 bxc4 18 ♗a3 ♖fe8 19 ♖b1 ♗f8 20 ♕e2 ♖ab8 21 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 22 ♘d2 ♖c8 23 ♗b4 g6 24 ♕f3 ♗g7 25 ♖d1 ♗e6 26 dxe5 dxe5 27 ♘f1 ♖d8 28 ♘e3 ♖xd1+ ½-½

(567) Petrosian-Unzicker
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 a3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 c5 9 ♘f3 ♕c7 10 ♗e2 b6 11 0-0 ♗b7 12 ♗b2 ♘bd7 13 h3 ♖fd8 14 a4 ♖ac8 15 ♖e1 ♗xf3 16 gxf3 ♘e5 17 ♖c1 ♕b7 18 f4 ♘g6 19 ♗f3 ♕c7 20 ♕e2 ♘h4 21 ♗h1 ♘f5 ½-½

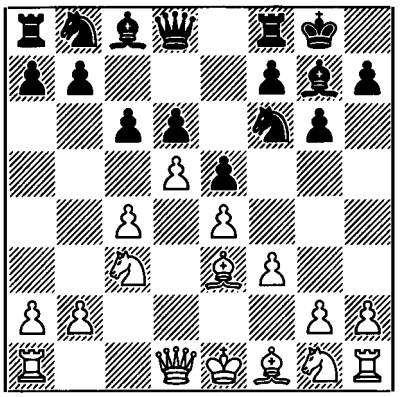
(568) Browne-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 a6 5 ♗d3 ♘f6 6 0-0 d6 7 c4 g6 8 ♘c3 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♖c1 b6 11 ♕e2 ♗b7 12 ♖fd1 ♘bd7 13 f3 ♖e8 14 ♕f2 ♖c8 15 ♗f1 ♕c7 16 ♘db5 axb5 17 ♘xb5 ♕b8 18 ♘xd6 ♗c6 19 b3 ♗f8 20 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 21 ♕d2 ½-½

(569) Petrosian-Gligorić
King's Indian Defence
(notes by Razuvayev)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 d5 c6 *(217)*

217



This last move by Black is the patent of grandmaster Geller. This variation was frequently encountered some twenty years earlier, when it became popular after Geller's victory over Smyslov in the 7th game of the USSR Championship play-off match (Moscow, 1955): 1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 ♘ge2 c6 8 d5 cxd5 9 cxd5 ♘e8 10 ♕d2 f5 11 h3? ♘d7 12 g3? ♘b6 13 b3 f4! 14 gxf4 exf4 15 ♗d4 ♘d7 16 h4 ♘e5 with advantage to Black.

Initially White usually tried a direct attack on the king (g2-g4, h2-h4 etc), but practice showed that Black had an interesting plan of counterplay. Nowadays this variation is handled as follows: 8 ♘ge2 cxd5 9 cxd5 a6 10 g4 h5! (paradoxical, but correct; Black's aim is to block the opponent's offensive on the kingside) 11 h3 ♘bd7 12 ♗g5! ♕b6 13 ♕d2 ♘h7! with roughly equal chances (Boleslavsky).

It then transpired that White was by no means obliged to castle long, and that the open c-file plus his well placed pieces provide excellent preconditions for play in the centre and on the queenside. The initiator of this new fashion must rightly be considered Polugayevsky. The culminating moment in the development of this variation, in my opinion, came in 1973, when Polugayevsky and Geller upheld their conceptions four times in major events (Amsterdam, Petropolis, Portorož and Moscow). And although in the majority of the games White gained some advantage from the opening, Geller succeeded in repulsing the onslaught. In recent tournaments Gligorić has frequently played this way with Black, but with less success.

8 ♗d3 cxd5

This move looks completely natural, but against Knaak (Amsterdam, 1974) Geller employed an interesting idea: 8 ... b5!? 9 dxc6 bxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♘xc6 11 ♘ge2 ♗e6 12 ♗b3 ♕b8 13 0-0 ♖d8 with good chances.

9 cxd5 ♘h5

9 ... ♘e8 is more often played. Polugayevsky v Geller (Moscow, 1973) continued 10 ♕d2 f5 11 ♘ge2 f4 12 ♗f2 ♘a6 13 0-0-0 ♗d7 14 ♔b1 ♘ec7 15 ♘c1 b6 16 ♗c2 ♖f7 17 ♘d3 with advantage to White.

10 ♘ge2 f5
11 exf5 ♗xf5

Hardly a happy experiment. Black concedes the e4 square and pins his hopes on piece play on the kingside. 11 ... gxf5 was preferable.

12 0-0 ♘d7
13 ♘e4

Here Petrosian's suggestion of 13 ♗b5 comes into consideration.

13 ... ♘f4
14 ♘2g3!

An important move. White reinforces his e4 square and attacks the bishop at f5. The d6 pawn was immune (*14 ♘xd6 ♗xd3*), while after 14 ♘xf4 exf4 15 ♗xf4 ♗xe4 16 fxe4 ♗xb2 17 ♖b1 ♗d4+ 18

♔h1 ♘c5 Black has an active position. Now, of course, 14 ... ♘xd5 loses the knight to 15 ♗c4.

14 ... ♔h8 15 ♗c2 ♘b6 16 ♗b3 ♖c8

In this way Black succeeds in weakening the d5 pawn, but in doing so he loses time and White is able to exchange a pair of rooks, which is to his advantage. 16 ... h5 came into consideration.

17 ♕d2 ♘c4 18 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 19 b3 ♖c8 20 ♖ac1 ♖xc1 21 ♖xc1 ♗h6?

Without any pawn advances, Black cannot create counterplay on the kingside. 21 ... h5 was essential.

22 ♔h1! a6 23 a4 ♗g7 24 a5!

Now Black has no defence against the invasion of the rook at c7. The game is decided.

24 ... ♕d7 25 ♗b6 ♔g8 26 ♖c7 ♕b5 27 ♘xd6 ♕xd5 28 ♕xd5+ ♘xd5 29 ♖xb7

In the ending White has both a material and a positional advantage.

29 ... ♗d3 30 h3 h5 31 ♘ge4 ♗h6 32 h4!

Very precise. The white knight heads for g5, and Black does not have even a hint of counterplay. The conclusion was:

32 ... ♗c1 33 ♗c5 ♘f6 34 ♘g5! ♗xg5 35 hxg5 ♘d5 36 b4 ♘c3 37 b5! axb5 38 a6 ♗c4 39 ♘xc4 Black resigns

(570) Tal-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘b8 10 d4 ♘bd7 11 ♘bd2 ♗b7 12 ♗c2 ♖e8 13 ♘f1 ♗f8 14 ♘g3 c5 15 d5 g6 16 a4 c4 17 ♗g5 ♗g7 18 ♕d2 ♘c5 19 ♖a3 ♕c7 20 ♖ea1 ♖ab8 21 ♕e3 ♘fd7 22 ♗h6 ♗h8 23 ♘h2 ♗c8 24 axb5 axb5 25 ♘g4 ♘f6 ½-½

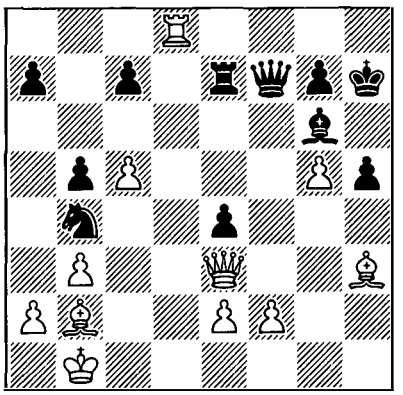
(571) Petrosian-Andersson
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 a6 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 d6 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 b3 ♘bd7 11 e4 ♕c7 12 ♗b2 0-0 13 ♕e3 ♖ac8 14 ♘d4 ♕b8 15 ♖e1 ♖fe8 16 h3 ♗f8 17 ♖ad1 ♗a8 18 ♖e2 ♖c7 19 ♖ed2 ♖ec8 20 ♗a1 ♖c5 ½-½

(572) Larsen-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 g3 ♗b4 4 ♘f3 e4 5 ♘d4 ♘c6 6 ♘c2 ♗xc3 7 dxc3 h6 8 ♗e3 ♕e7 9 ♗g2 d6 10 ♘b4 ♘xb4 11 cxb4 0-0 12 ♕d4 ♖e8 13 h3 b6 14 0-0-0 ♗b7 15 ♔b1 ♘d7 16 g4 ♘e5 17 c5 dxc5 18 bxc5 ♖ad8 19 ♕c3 ♗d5 20 ♗d4 f6 21 ♗e3 b5 22 b3 ♘c6 23 h4 ♗f7 24 g5 fxg5 25 hxg5 ♖xd1+ 26 ♖xd1 h5 27 ♗c1 ♗g6 28 ♕e3 ♕f7 29 ♗h3 ♖e7 30 ♗b2 ♘b4 31 ♖d8+ ♔h7 *(218)*

218



32 a3 ♘d5 33 ♕d4 ♘f4 34 ♕e3 ♘xh3 35 ♕xh3 e3+ 36 ♔a2 exf2 37 ♕c8 ♖e8 38 ♖xe8 ♕xe8 39 ♕xc7 ♕f7 0-1

Semi-Final Match

(573) Karpov-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 ♗d7 13 ♘f1 ♘c4

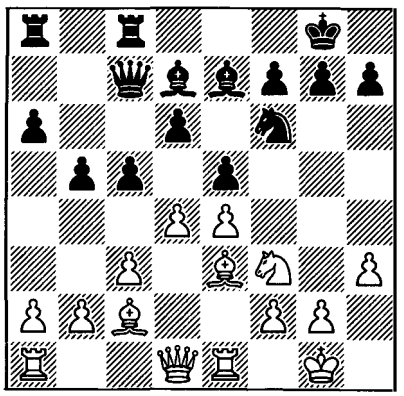
A rare continuation; 13 ... ♖fe8 is much more common.

14 ♘e3

The alternative was to push back the opponent's knight by 14 b3 ♘b6 15 ♘e3 (but not *15 dxe5 dxe5 16 a4*, which after *16 ... c4 17 a5 cxb3! 18 axb6 ♕xc3!* turned to Black's advantage in the game Boleslavsky-Smyslov, Groningen, 1946) 15 ... c4 16 bxc4 ♘xc4 17 ♘xc4 bxc4 18 ♗a3.

14 ... ♘xe3
15 ♗xe3 ♖fc8! *(219)*

219



This is the improvement, which largely explains Petrosian's unexpected choice of opening. The usual continuation here is 15 ... ♗c6.

16 ♖c1

For a number of reasons, closing the centre does not have the same effect as in many other variations of the Ruy Lopez. Firstly, on 16 d5 Black is ready to play 16 ... c4 followed by 17 ... ♗e8, 18 ... ♘d7 and 19 ... ♘c5, with play on the queenside. And secondly, one pair of minor pieces has already been exchanged, and Black is not at all cramped in his manoeuvring.

16 ... ♗c6
17 ♘d2

Karpov again avoids the blockading 17 d5 ♗e8, rightly assuming that in this way White cannot gain an advantage.

17 ... cxd4

An important interposition. After 17 ... ♕b7 18 d5 ♗e8 19 c4 White would have achieved a King's Indian type set-up with a definite spatial advantage.

18 cxd4 ♕b7
19 d5

Keeping the central tension with 19 f3 is unfavourable for White, since after 19 ... ♘h5 Black begins to use the weakened dark squares. And in many other cases Black can successfully play ... d5.

19 ... ♗e8 20 ♕e2 ♗d8 21 b4 ♗b6 22 ♗d3

Extensive simplification cannot now be avoided, the open c-file acting like a safety-valve. In such a situation it is no longer possible to create pressure on the opponent's position. It can only be a question of a transition into an endgame, and it proves to be completely level.

22 ... ♗xe3 23 ♕xe3 ♖xc1 24 ♖xc1 ♖c8 25 ♘b3 ♖xc1+ 26 ♕xc1 ♗d7 27 ♔h2 ♕b6 28 ♕d2 ♕c7 Drawn

(574) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♗d2 ♗f6

This manoeuvre was employed in the 23rd game of the Korchnoi-Karpov Final Candidates Match (1974). 7 ... d6 often used to be played here, but more rarely 7 ... d5, when after 8 cxd5 exd5 9 ♘e5! ♘xd2 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 0-0 c6 12 e4 White had the better game in Reshevsky-Polugayevsky, Petropolis Interzonal, 1973. Another possibility is 7 ... c5 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♖c1 ♗f6 10 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 11 ♗c3 ♘c6 with roughly equal chances (Petrosian-Portisch, 1st match game 1974).

8 ♕c2 ♘xd2 9 ♕xd2 0-0 10 0-0 d6 11 e4

White strives in the first instance to occupy the centre. In the aforementioned game Korchnoi chose a different continuation – 11 ♖ad1 ♘d7 12 ♘e1 ♗xg2 13 ♘xg2 ♕e7, but without success.

11 ... ♘d7
12 d5

Otherwise Black will advantageously play ... c5.

12 ... ♕e7
13 ♖fe1

13 ♘b5 a6 14 ♘bd4 came into consideration (but not *14 ♘xc7 ♖ac8 15 e5 ♘xe5*, when the knight cannot be rescued).

13 ... ♗xc3!

Before blocking the centre, Black rids himself of his bad bishop.

14 ♕xc3 e5
15 b4

White transfers the weight of the struggle to the queenside, where he has a spatial advantage, but by accurate defence Black maintains the balance.

15 ... a5
16 a3 ♖a7!

Forty years ago such a move would have caused astonishment, but now it is a typical procedure. By preparing the doubling of rooks on the a-file, Black wishes to reduce the tension on the queenside.

17 ♘h4 g6 18 ♗h3 ♖fa8 19 ♘g2 ♗c8 20 ♘e3 ♘f6 21 ♗xc8 ♖xc8

White's position is still the more pleasant, but nothing concrete is apparent.

22 f3 ♖ca8 23 ♖ec1 ♘d7 24 h4 ♕e8 25 ♕b2

Essentially neither player can strengthen his position. Both have to adopt waiting tactics, although the hope that the opponent will commit a rash step is a very faint one.

25 ... ♖a6
26 b5

About such positions Salo Flohr once wittily remarked: "On the queenside it is already a draw". Soon the truce spreads to the whole board.

26 ... ♖6a7 27 a4 ♕e7 28 ♔g2 ♘c5 29 ♕c2 ♖f8 30 ♖h1 ♖7a8 31 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 32 g4 h6 Drawn

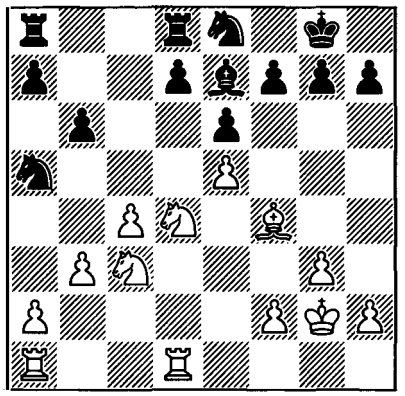
(575) Karpov-Petrosian
English Opening
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 c5 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 0-0 9 ♖d1 ♘c6 10 ♕f4 ♕b8 11 e4 ♕xf4 12 ♗xf4 ♖fd8 13 e5 ♘e8 14 ♘d4 ♘a5 15 b3 ♗xg2 16 ♔xg2

(diagram 220)

16 ... d6 17 exd6 ♗xd6 18 ♗xd6 ♘xd6 19 ♖d2 ♔f8 20 ♖ad1 ♔e7 21 f4 ♖ac8 22 ♔f3 ♘c6 23 ♘xc6+ ♖xc6 24 ♘e4 ♘b7 25 ♖xd8 ♘xd8 26 ♔e3 ♘b7 27 ♖d4 h6 28 b4 f6 Drawn

220



Right up to move 16 the game was a repeat of Petrosian-Portisch, 5th match game, Mallorca 1974. In that game the Hungarian GM chose the dubious 16 ... g5, and after 17 ♗e3 ♔g7 18 f4! gxf4 19 gxf4 ♘c6 20 ♘ce2 ♘xd4 21 ♘xd4 ♗c5 22 ♔f3! he ran into great difficulties. On this occasion, now playing Black, the Ex-World Champion demonstrates the correct defensive plan.

A more tense situation would have been maintained by 18 ♗e3. After 18 ♗xd6, as played in the game, Karpov again held the initiative, but by preparing further exchanges, Black was able to draw.

(576) Petrosian-Karpov
English Opening
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 ♘xd5 6 cxd5 ♘d4 7 ♗g2 ♘xf3+ 8 ♗xf3 0-0 9 0-0 d6 10 ♗g2 ♗c5 11 b3 ♗d4 12 ♖b1 ♗f5 13 d3 ♕d7 14 ♗b2 ♗xb2 15 ♖xb2 ♗h3 16 ♗xh3 ♕xh3 17 ♖c2 ♕d7 18 ♕c1 ♖fc8 19 ♕e3 c5 20 dxc6 ♖xc6 21 ♖xc6 bxc6 22 d4 ♖e8 23 ♖e1 h6 24 ♔g2 a5 25 h3 exd4 26 ♕xd4 c5 27 ♕d5 a4 28 bxa4 ♕xa4 29 ♕xd6 ♕xa2 30 ♕xc5 Drawn

The World Champion's choice of opening set-up may have been something of a surprise for Petrosian (usually on *1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3* Karpov plays *2 ... e6*), who reacted with the immediate 5 ♘d5 (*5 ♗g2 0-0 6 ♘d5* is more usual).

On the 7th move White cannot play 7 ♘xe5?, since after 7 ... ♕e7 8 f4 d6 9 ♘d3 (*9 ♕a4+? b5 10 ♕xb4 ♘c2+*) 9 ... ♕e4 he loses material. But instead of 7 ♗g2, as chosen by Petrosian, in recent years White has usually played 7 ♘xd4 exd4 8 ♗g2 0-0 9 0-0. Thus the game Smejkal-Korchnoi (Leningrad Interzonal, 1973) continued 9 ... ♗d6 10 e4 dxe3 11 dxe3 c5, and Black was still faced with trying to equalize.

Later all the minor pieces disappeared from the board, and the position became completely level.

Match for 3rd Place

(577) Petrosian-Ljubojević
Modern Benoni
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

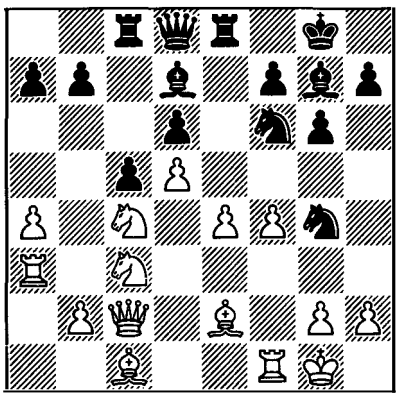
In the first game of the match for third place, Petrosian outplayed his opponent in a positional struggle with astonishing ease.

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 g6 6 ♘f3 ♗g7 7 e4 d6 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 ♘d2 ♖e8 11 a4 ♘e5 12 ♖a3 ♗d7 13 ♕c2 ♖c8 14 f4!

The black knights, which have no secure refuge, are now forced to wander aimlessly around the board.

14 ... ♘eg4
15 ♘c4 *(221)*

221



15 ... ♕e7

On 15 ... ♘h5 White does not immediately capture the pawn – 16 ♘xd6?? ♗d4+ 17 ♔h1 ♕h4 with inevitable mate, but first includes the exchange 16 ♗xg4 ♗xg4, and only then plays 17 ♘b5, after which Black is in difficulties.

16 h3 b5?!

Played with the faint hope that the opponent will take the pawn with his knight: 17 ♘xb5 ♘xe4 18 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 19 hxg4 a6 20 ♘c3 ♗d4+, although, to be serious, even this variation can be improved for White. But Petrosian does not allow Black the slightest saving chance.

17 axb5 ♘h5 18 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 19 ♕f2

Of course, White also wins after 19 hxg4 ♘g3, but he wants a one hundred per cent guarantee.

19 ... ♗d7 20 e5 dxe5 21 ♘xe5 ♗xe5

Otherwise this knight will soon settle at c6.

22 fxe5 ♕xe5 23 ♖xa7 ♖cd8 24 ♕xf7+ ♔h8 25 ♕f2 ♕b8 26 ♕xc5 ♗xh3 27 ♕d4+ ♔g8 28 ♗h6 ♗d7 29 d6 ♖e6 30 ♖c7 Black resigns

(578) Ljubojević-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 d5 5 a3 ♗e7 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 cxd5 exd5 9 b4 ♖e8 10 ♗d3 ♗b7 11 0-0 ♗d6 12 ♗b2 (12 ♘b5) **12 ... a6 13 ♘e5! c5** (13 ... ♗xe5? 14 dxe5 ♖xe5 15 ♘b5 ♖e7 16 ♗xf6 intending ♗xh7+, ♘d4 ±) **14 bxc5 bxc5 15 ♖ab1!** ± **♕c7** (15 ... ♘c6 16 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 17 dxc5 ♗xc5 18 ♘e2 ±; 17 ... ♗xh2+? 18 ♔xh2 ♘g4+ 19 ♔g3 ♕g5 20 ♗xh7+ ♔h8 21 ♕f5 ±±) **16 h3! c4!** (17 ♗e2 ± ♗xe5 18 dxe5 ♖xe5 19 ♘a4 ♖e6 20 ♗xf6 ♖xf6 21 ♕b2 ♖a7 22 ♕d4 ±; 17 ... ♘c6 18 f4 ♘e7 19 ♗f3 ♖ac8 20 g4 ±; 17 ... ♘fd7 18 f4 f6 19 ♗h5 ♖e7 20 ♗f3 ♘b6 21 e4! fxe5 22 fxe5 ±) ½-½ (Ljubojević)

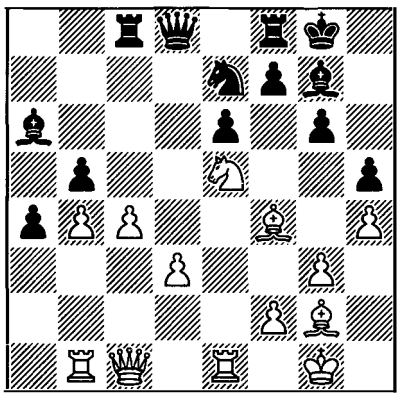
(579) Petrosian-Ljubojević
French Defence

1 d4 e6 2 e4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 0-0 ♘e7 8 dxc5 ♗xc5 9 ♘b3 ♗d6 10 ♗d2 0-0 11 ♗c3 ♗g4 12 ♘bd4 (intending ♘xc6, ♕d4) **12 ... ♗h5! 13 ♗e2 ♘g6! 14 ♘e1?!** (14 ♘f5 ♘f4 15 ♗xg7 ♖e8 16 ♗d3 ♘b4 ∓; 17 ♗b5 ♕c8! 18 ♘xd6 ♕g4 19 ♘e1 ♕xg7 20 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 21 ♕d2 ♕g5! [*21 ... ♘xg2?? 22 ♕c3!* ±±] 22 ♕xb4 ♘xg2 ∓∓; 15 ♘xg7 ♗g6 intending ... f6 ∓; 14 g3!?) **14 ... ♗xe2 15 ♘xe2 ♖e8** ∓ **16 ♘f3 ♘h4?!** (16 ... ♖e4!?) **17 ♘ed4 ♖e4 18 ♘xc6 bxc6 19 g3** (19 ♘d4 ♕d7) **19 ... ♘xf3+ 20 ♕xf3 ♕g5 21 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 22 ♖xe4 ♖xe4** (22 ... dxe4!?) **23 ♔g2 h5?!** (23 ... ♕e7!?) **24 ♖e1 = ♖xe1 25 ♗xe1 ♕c1 26 ♕c3 h4 27 ♕xc6** (27 ... ♕xe1 28 ♕xd6 ♕e4+ 29 ♔h3 hxg3 30 fxg3 ♕f5+) ½-½ (Ljubojević)

(580) Ljubojević-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 g3 ♘ge7 6 ♗g2 g6 7 0-0 ♗g7 8 ♖e1 b6 9 a3!? h6!? 10 ♖b1 a5 11 h4 (11 e5?! g5) **11 ... ♗a6 12 exd5 ♘xd5 13 ♘c4 0-0 14 ♘ce5 ♖c8** (14 ... ♘xe5 15 ♘xe5 ♖c8 16 c4 ♘e7 17 b4) **15 ♘xc6 ♖xc6 16 c4 ♘e7 17 ♗f4** (17 ♘e5 ♖d6) **17 ... b5 18 ♕c1! ± h5** (18 ... ♕xd3?! 19 ♘e5; 18 ... ♔h7) **19 ♘e5 ♖c8 20 b4! cxb4 21 axb4 a4** *(222)*

222



22 ♕e3 ♘f5 23 ♕a7 ♖a8 24 ♕c5! (24 ♗xa8 ♕xa8 ○○) **24 ... ♖c8 25 ♘c6 ♕d7** (25 ... ♕xd3 26 ♗f1 intending cxb5) **26 cxb5 ♗b7 27 ♗e5 ♗xe5 28 ♘xe5 ±± ♕d8 29 ♘c6 ♕xd3 30 ♗e4 ♕d6 31 ♕xd6?** (31 ♗xf5 ♕xc5 32 bxc5 ♗xc6 33 ♗c2 ♗d5 34 c6 a3 35 ♗b3 a2 36 ♖b2 ♖a8 37 ♖a1 ±±) **31 ...♘xd6 32 ♘e7+ ♔g7 33 ♘xc8 ♘xe4 34 ♘b6 ♘d2 35 ♘xa4 ♖b8?** (35 ... ♘xb1) **36 ♖bc1 ♘f3+ 37 ♔f1 ♘xe1 38 ♔xe1 ♖a8 39 ♘c5 ♗d5 40 b6 ♖b8** (40 ... ♖d8 41 ♖a1 ♖d6 42 b7 ♖b6 43 ♖a8) **41 ♘d7 ♖a8 42 ♖c7 ♖a1+ 43 ♔d2 ♖a2+ 44 ♔e3 e5 45 b7 ♖a3+ 46 ♔d2 ♖a2+ 47 ♔c3 1-0** (Ljubojević)

(581) Petrosian-Ljubojević
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 ♘bd7 6 e3 c6 7 ♗d3 ♗d6 8 ♘f3 ♘f8 9 ♗h4 ♘g6 10 ♗g3 0-0 11 ♖b1 ♖e8 12 ♕c2 ♘f4 13 ♗xf4 ♗xf4 14 0-0 ♗d6 ½-½

(582) Ljubojević-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 g3 ♘ge7 6 ♗g2 g6 7 0-0 ♗g7 8 ♖e1 b6 9 a3 h6 10 ♖b1 a5 11 h4 a4 12 exd5 exd5 13 ♘f1 0-0 14 ♗f4 ♖a7 15 c3 ♘f5 16 ♖c1 ♔h7 17 ♖c2 ♖e8 18 ♖xe8 ♕xe8 19 ♖e2 ♕d8 ½-½

Alekhine Memorial Tournament
Moscow, October-November 1975

1 Geller 10½; 2 Spassky 10; 3-5 Kholmov, Korchnoi, Vaganian 9½; 6-7 Hort, **Petrosian** (+4 –1 =10) 9; 8-9 Belyavsky, Tal 8½; 10 Forintos 7; 11 R.Byrne 6; 12-13 S.Garcia, Lengyel 5½; 14 Planinc 5; 15 Stean 4; 16 Böhm 3.

(583) Petrosian-Kholmov
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 0-0 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 b6 10 ♖d1 cxd4 11 exd4 ♗b7 12 ♗d3 ♘d5 13 ♗d2 ♗e7 14 ♖ac1 ♘xc3 15 bxc3 ♕c7 16 c4 ♗d6 17 ♗e4 ½-½

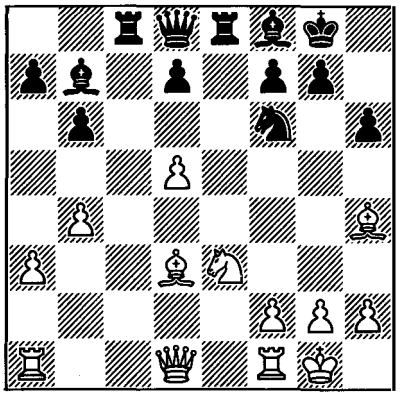
(584) Vaganian-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘f3 ♗g7 3 e4 e5 4 d4 d6 5 ♗g5 f6 6 ♗e3 ♘h6 7 h3 ♘f7 8 ♘c3 ♘d7 9 ♕c2 c6 10 ♗e2 0-0 11 0-0 ♕e7 12 ♖ad1 ♖e8 13 b4 b6 14 b5 ♗b7 15 bxc6 ♗xc6 16 d5 ♗b7 17 a4 ♗h6 18 a5 ♖eb8 19 ♖a1 ½-½

(585) Petrosian-Planinc
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 b6 2 ♘c3 ♗b7 3 d4 ♘f6 4 d5 (4 f3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 e6 intending ... c5 ±) **4 ... e6 5 a3 ♗d6! 6 ♘f3** (6 e4 exd5 7 cxd5 0-0 ∞) **6 ... 0-0 7 e4 exd5 8 exd5** (8 cxd5? ♖e8 9 ♗g5 ♘xe4) **8 ... c6 9 ♗e2 cxd5 10 cxd5 ♘a6 11 0-0 ♖e8 = 12 ♗g5 h6 13 ♗h4 ♖c8 14 ♘d4 ♘c5 15 ♘f5** (15 ♗f3 =) **15 ... ♗f8 16 b4 ♘ce4 17 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 18 ♗d3 ♖e8** (18 ... ♖e5 19 ♘e3) **19 ♘e3** *(223)*

223



19 ... g5 20 ♗g3 ♘xd5 21 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 22 ♗h7+ ♔xh7 23 ♕xd5 = ♕e7 (23 ... ♖e6 24 ♕b7) **24 ♖ad1 a5 25 bxa5 bxa5 26 ♕xa5 ♕xa3 27 ♕f5+ ♔g8 28 ♖xd7 ♕b3 ½-½** (Matanović)

(586) Petrosian-Böhm
Slav Defence
(notes by Suetin)

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7

8 ... 0-0 is more often played, with the possible sequel 9 ♕e2 ♗g4 (*9 ... ♘e4* is very strongly met by *10 ♗d3! ♗xc3 11 bxc3 ♘xc3 12 ♕c2 ♗xd3 13 ♕xd3 ♘d5 14 ♗a3 ♖e8 15 ♖ab1*, when White gains a persistent initiative, as in Najdorf-Trifunović, match, 1946) 10 h3 ♗h5 11 ♖d1 ♘bd7 12 e4 ♕e7, and as numerous games have shown, Black has sufficient resources for counterplay.

9	**♕e2**	**♗g6**
10	**e4!?**	**♗xc3 (?)**

Reopening a dormant theoretical debate of 30 years' standing, Black accepts the challenge and captures the opponent's central pawn. This decision is not approved of by theory, and the present game is unlikely to change the established view.

Therefore it would have been more sensible to continue 10 ... 0-0 11 ♗d3 ♖e8 (or *11 ... ♕a5 12 ♘a2! ♗e7 13 ♗d2 ♕h5 14 ♘c3 ♖fd8 15 ♗f4 c5 16 d5!*, with rather the better position for White, Szabo-Smyslov, Zürich, 1953) 12 e5! ♘d5 13 ♗xg6 fxg6 14 ♗d2 ♗e7 15 ♕e4 ♘f8 16 a5, with a slight but persistent initiative for White, Spassky-Petrosian, match 1969. Thus Petrosian already had sufficient experience in playing such positions, although in the present game he has to perform a different role – that of storming Black's defences.

11	**bxc3**	**♘xe4**
12	**♗a3**	**♕c7**

Accepting the further pawn sacrifice – 12 ... ♘xc3 – gives White an attack after 13 ♕b2 ♘d5 (*13 ... ♘xa4 14 ♕b3!*) 14 ♕xb7 ♘5b6 15 ♘d2! etc.

13	**♖fc1**	**0-0-0**
14	**a5**	**♖he8**

In the game Taimanov-Lipnitsky, Baku, 1951, Black defended differently: 14 ... ♘d6 15 ♗b3 ♗h5! 16 ♕d3 ♖he8 17 ♘d2 ♗g6 18 ♕f3 ♘b5, although here too after 19 ♗b4 e5 20 ♗a4 White's bishops were very active and he had more than sufficient compensation for the sacrificed pawn.

15 ♘h4! ♘d6
16 ♘xg6 hxg6

Of course, not 16 ... ♘xc4 17 ♘e7+, when White wins the exchange.

17 ♗b3 ♖h8

The position has clarified. For the pawn White has two strong, long-range bishops, and – perhaps more important – excellent attacking prospects on the queenside. With his last move Black reveals his plan, which is to mount a counterattack along the h-file. But this plan is short-lived, and merely allows White to develop his queenside initiative unhindered. Black should have preferred 17 ... e5, aiming for counterplay in the centre.

18 h3 ♖h5 19 ♗d1 ♖dh8 20 ♖cb1 ♖h4

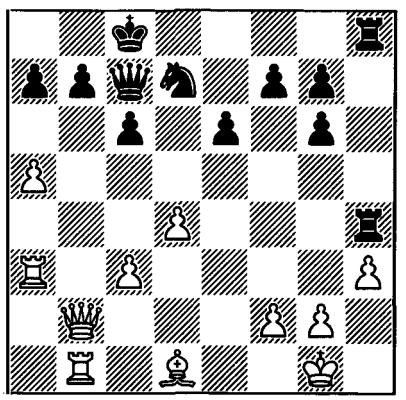
Both here and on the previous move ... ♖xa5? was bad because of ♗xd6 etc.

21 ♗xd6

Grandmaster Flohr rightly states that the advantage of the two bishops lies in the fact that at a convenient moment one of them can be advantageously exchanged for an enemy knight. Here this thesis is very strikingly revealed. White commences powerful pressure down the b-file, against which Black has no adequate counter.

21 ... ♕xd6 22 ♕b2 ♕c7 23 ♖a3 *(224)*

224



23 ... ♖e8

Realizing that his plan has not succeeded, Black sounds the retreat, but it is too late. With the following forcing combination White gains a decisive advantage.

24 ♖b3 b6 25 axb6 axb6 26 ♖a3! ♔d8 27 ♖a8+ ♔e7 28 ♕a3+ c5

All this is forced. 28 ... ♕d6? loses to 29 ♖xe8+.

29 ♖a7 ♕d6 30 ♗a4 ♖d8 31 dxc5 ♕xc5

Of course, 31 ... bxc5 is met by the crushing 32 ♖d1.

32 ♕xc5+ bxc5
33 ♗c6!

The concluding finesse. On the immediate 33 ♖bb7 Black could have given up the exchange by 33 ... ♖xa4!, with some chances of saving the game. But now White wins a piece.

33 ... ♖c4 34 ♖bb7 ♖xc3 35 ♗xd7 ♔f6 36 ♗c6 ♖f8 37 f4 c4 38 ♗e8!

This settles matters. The mate threat on f7 will result in Black losing further material.

38 ... ♔f5 39 ♖xf7+ ♖xf7 40 ♖xf7+ ♔e4

and without waiting for White's reply, **Black resigned.**

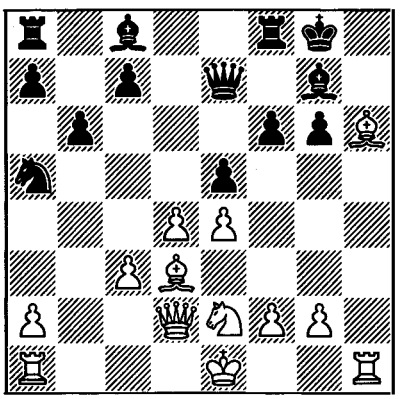
(587) Tal-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘b8 10 d3 ♘bd7 11 ♘bd2 ♗b7 12 ♘f1 ♘c5 13 ♗c2 ♖e8 14 ♘g3 ♗f8 15 b4 ♘cd7 16 ♗b3 h6 17 ♘h4 ½-½

(588) Petrosian-Stean
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ♗g7 7 ♗c4 0-0 8 ♘e2 b6 9 h4 ♘c6 10 h5 ♘a5 11 ♗d3 e5 12 hxg6 hxg6 13 ♗h6 f6 14 ♕d2 ♕e7 *(225)*

225



15 0-0-0 ♗e6 16 d5 ♗d7 17 ♖h2 ♖f7 18 ♖dh1 ♖e8 19 f4 c6 20 fxe5 ♕xe5 21 ♘f4 g5 22 ♘g6 ♕d6 23 ♗xg7 ♖xg7 24 e5 ♖xe5 25 dxc6 ♗xc6 26 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 27 ♖h8+ ♔f7 28 ♖f1 ♗e4 29 ♕e1 1-0

(589) Lengyel-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 dxe5 dxe5 8 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 ½-½

(590) Petrosian-Hort
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 d5 2 c4 c6 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 g6 5 d4 ♗g7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 b6 8 b4 ♗b7 9 ♗b2 ♘bd7 10 cxd5 cxd5 11 ♕b3 ♕b8 12 a4 a6 13 b5 a5 14 ♖ac1 ♖c8 15 ♖c2 e6 16 ♗a3 ♗f8 17 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 18 ♕a3+ ♔g7 19 ♖fc1 ♖c7 20 ♘d1 ♖xc2 21 ♖xc2 ♕f8 ½-½

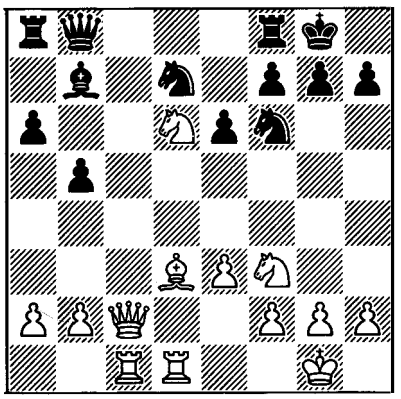
(591) Spassky-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 ♘e5 e6 7 f3 ♗b4 8 ♘xc4 0-0 9 ♗g5 c5 10 dxc5 ♕xd1+ 11 ♖xd1 ♗c2 12 ♖d2 ♗b3 13 e4 ♘bd7 14 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 15 ♘d6 ♖fd8 16 ♗c4 ♗xc3 17 bxc3 ♗xa4 18 ♖a2 ♗c6 19 ♔f2 ½-½

(592) Petrosian-R.Byrne
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 c5 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♕c2 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 a6 10 ♗d3 ♘bd7 11 0-0 b5 12 ♘e4 ♕b6 13 ♖ac1 ♗e7 14 ♗c7 ♕a7 15 ♗d6 ♗xd6 16 ♘xd6 ♕b8 17 ♖fd1 ♗b7 *(226)*

226

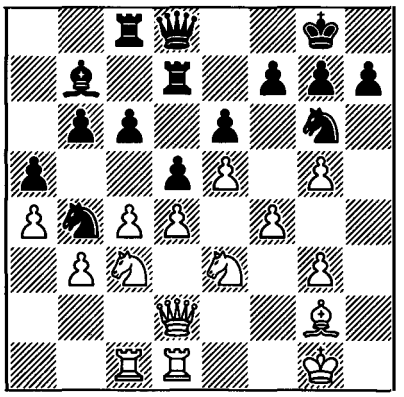


18 ♘g5 g6 19 ♕c7 ♗d5 20 b3 ♖a7 21 ♕xb8 ♘xb8 22 e4 ♗c6 23 e5 ♘d5 24 h4 h6 25 ♘ge4 ♗a8 26 g3 ♘c6 27 f4 ♘d4 28 ♖c5 ♘f5 29 ♖dc1 ♘xd6 30 ♘xd6 ♖d7 31 a4 ♘b4 32 ♗e2 bxa4 33 bxa4 f6 34 ♗g4 f5 35 ♗e2 g5 36 ♖c8 ♖dd8 37 ♖8c7 gxf4 38 gxf4 ♖b8 39 ♔f2 ♘d5 40 ♖a7 ♖b2 41 ♖g1+ 1-0

(593) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 ♘bd7 7 ♕d3 c6 8 0-0 b6 9 e4 ♗a6 10 b3 ♖c8 11 ♗f4 ♖e8 12 ♖fd1 ♘f8 13 a4 ♗b4 14 e5 ♘6d7 15 ♗d2 ♘b8 16 ♕c2 ♗e7 17 ♕a2 ♗b7 18 ♕b2 a5 19 h4 ♘a6 20 ♗g5 ♘b4 21 ♖ac1 ♖c7 22 ♕d2 ♕d7 23 ♘h2 ♗xg5 24 hxg5 ♖ec8 25 ♘g4 ♕d8 26 f4 ♖d7 27 ♘e3 ♘g6 *(227)*

227

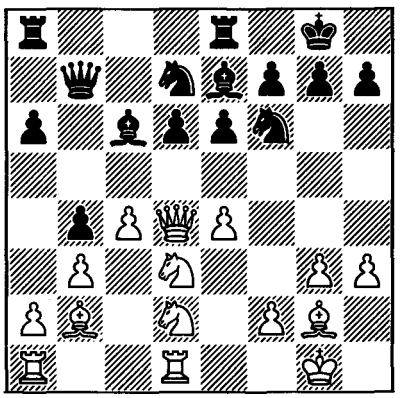


28 f5 exf5 29 ♘xf5 ♘f8 30 ♘d6 ♖xd6 31 exd6 ♕xd6 32 cxd5 cxd5 33 ♕f4 ♕d8 34 ♗h3 ♘g6 35 ♕f3 ♖c6 36 ♖f1 ♖c7 37 ♘b5 ♖e7 38 ♖ce1 ♗a6 39 ♗f5 ♘f8 40 ♕f4 ♗xb5 41 axb5 ♖xe1 42 ♖xe1 g6 43 ♗b1 ♘e6 44 ♕f6 ♕c7 45 ♔g2 ♕c3 46 ♖f1 ♕c7 47 ♖f3 ♘f8 48 ♔f2 ♘e6 49 ♔e2 ♘g7 50 ♖e3 ♘e6 51 ♔d2 ♕d7 52 ♖c3 ♕e8 53 ♗c2 ♕f8 54 ♗b1 ♕e8 55 ♖f3 ♕f8 56 ♖f1 ♕e8 57 ♖f2 ♕f8 58 ♖f3 ♕g7 59 ♖c3 ♕f8 60 ♔c1 ♕e8 61 ♔b2 ♕a8 62 ♕e7 ♕b8 63 ♖f3 ♕f8 64 ♕f6 ♕e8 65 ♖c3 ♕a8 66 g4 ♕e8 67 ♕e5 ♕d8 68 ♗xg6 hxg6 69 ♖h3 ♘d3+ 70 ♖xd3 ♘xg5 71 ♖c3 ♘e4 72 ♖h3 f6 73 ♕h2 ♔f7 74 ♖h8 1-0

(594) Petrosian-S.Garcia
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 e6 4 ♘f3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 a6 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 d6 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 b3 ♘bd7 11 ♗b2 ♕b8 12 e4 0-0 13 h3 b5 14 ♘d2 b4 15 ♘e2 ♖e8 16 ♘c1 ♗c6 17 ♘d3 ♕b7 *(228)*

228



18 a4 ♖ed8 19 ♕e3 ♘e8 20 ♖ac1 ♘c5 21 ♘xc5 dxc5 22 ♗f3 ♖d7 23 ♗e2 ♖ad8 24 e5 a5 25 ♘f3 ♖xd1+ 26 ♖xd1 ♖xd1+ 27 ♗xd1 ♕d7 28 ♗e2 ♗b7 29 ♘d2 ♘c7 30 ♗d3 ♘a6 31 ♔f1 ♘b8 32 ♔e2 ♘c6 33 ♗e4 h6 34 f4 ♔f8 35 ♘f3 ♘d8 36 g4 ♗xe4 37 ♕xe4 ♕c6 38 ♕xc6 ♘xc6 39 ♗c1 ♔e8 40 ♗e3 ♔d7 41 h4 ♗f8 42 ♔d3 ♘d8 43 h5 ♔c6 44 g5 ♗e7 45 gxh6 gxh6 46 ♔e4 ♗f8 47 ♘e1 f5+ 48 exf6 ♘f7 49 ♘d3 ♗d6 50 f5 e5 51 ♘f2 ♗c7 52 ♔f3 ♘d6 53 ♗xh6 ♘xf5 54 ♗e3 ♔d6 55 h6 ♔e6 56 h7 ♘h4+ 57 ♔g4 ♘g6 1-0

(595) Forintos-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♗f4 ♘c6 6 e3 e6 7 ♗d3 ♗e7 8 h3 0-0 9 ♘f3 ♗d7 10 0-0 ♕b6 11 a3 ½-½

(596) Petrosian-Belyavsky
King's Indian Attack

1 ♘f3 c5 2 g3 g6 3 c3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♘f6 6 d3 ♗g7 7 e4 d6 8 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 9

♖e1 0-0 10 d4 cxd4 11 cxd4 ♕c7 12 b3 ♖ac8 13 ♗a3 b5 14 ♗h3 h5 15 ♘g5 ♘g4 16 ♘df3 ♕a5 17 ♗b2 ♖c7 18 ♗g2 e6 19 ♖e2 ♖fc8 20 a3 ♕b6 21 ♕d3 ♘gf6 22 ♘xf7 ♔xf7 23 ♘g5+ ♔g8 24 ♘xe6 ♘f8 25 ♘xc7 ♖xc7 26 e5 ♘d5 27 b4 a6 28 e6 ♖e7 29 ♖ae1 ♕d8 30 f4 ♕e8 31 f5 gxf5 32 ♕xf5 ♕g6 33 ♕xg6 ♘xg6 34 ♖f1 h4 35 ♖f5 ♘f6 36 d5 ♘e8 37 ♖g5 ♗xb2 38 ♖xb2 ♖g7 39 ♖f2 hxg3 40 hxg3 ½-½

(597) Geller-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d5 11 ♕a4 ♕d7 12 ♕xd7 ♘xd7 13 cxd5 ½-½

43rd USSR Championship
Yerevan, November-December 1975

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	Pts	Place
1	**Petrosian**	●	1	1	0	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	½	1	1	10	1
2	Vaganian	0	●	1	½	½	½	0	0	1	1	1	½	1	½	1	1	9½	2-5
3	Gulko	0	0	●	1	½	1	1	0	½	½	1	1	1	½	1	½	9½	2-5
4	Romanishin	1	½	0	●	½	1	1	1	½	0	½	1	½	1	0	1	9½	2-5
5	Tal	½	½	½	½	●	½	½	½	1	0	1	½	½	1	1	1	9½	2-5
6	Balashov	½	½	0	0	½	●	0	1	½	1	½	½	1	1	1	½	8½	6-8
7	Geller	½	1	0	0	½	1	●	½	½	½	½	1	½	1	½	½	8½	6-8
8	Polugayevsky	½	1	1	0	½	0	½	●	1	½	0	½	½	1	1	½	8½	6-8
9	Belyavsky	0	0	½	½	0	½	½	0	●	0	½	1	1	1	1	1	7½	9-10
10	Bronstein	½	0	½	1	1	0	½	½	1	●	½	½	0	0	½	1	7½	9-10
11	Dvoretsky	½	0	0	½	0	½	½	1	½	½	●	½	0	½	½	1	6½	11
12	Alburt	½	½	0	0	½	½	0	½	0	½	½	●	1	½	½	½	6	12
13	Dorfman	0	0	0	½	½	0	½	½	0	1	1	0	●	1	0	½	5½	13
14	Furman	½	½	½	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	½	½	0	●	½	1	5	14
15	Doroshkevich	0	0	0	1	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	½	1	½	●	0	4½	15
16	Klovan	0	0	½	0	0	½	½	½	0	0	0	½	½	0	1	●	4	16

By winning the 1975 USSR Championship, Petrosian became Soviet Champion for the fourth time – an outstanding achievement! Immediately after the tournament he was 'attacked' by journalists:

How do you explain the very interesting course of the 43rd Championship of the Country?

In the early 1950s, when I was young, it was not customary to separate Championships of the Country into 'interesting' and 'uninteresting' – in all of them there was a fascinating struggle.

The 43rd Championship was certainly a success, and was one of the most fascinating in recent years. I know that now, when conclusions begin to be drawn,

some will associate the success of the Yerevan tournament with the 'battle of the generations', the '30-move rule', and so on. But I consider that the main hero of the Championship was the Yerevan spectator. It was he, with his interest and his love for chess, who 'forced' the participants to exert every effort and play with maximum intensity. I am sure that all chess players would agree with me, when I say that it is better to play in an overcrowded hall, even if it be slightly noisy, than in one which is half-empty and cold.

Before the start of the Championship, did you count on taking 1st place?

It was a very strong tournament, and, naturally, I could not definitely count on winning. But I very much wanted to play well in Yerevan, I prepared thoroughly, and I thought that I had fair chances of finishing first.

How do you explain your only defeat in this tournament?

As you know, before the game with Romanishin, I was ill, and even had to postpone one round. In my meeting with the Lvov master, since I still felt indisposed, I decided to employ Tolush's method. In one of the USSR Championships (the 1959 one, I think), when no longer a young grandmaster, he tried, as he himself said, to decide everything within 20-25 moves. After all, even a 55-year-old player can operate at full intensity for 2-3 hours. And so, being still not altogether well, I happily went in for a sharp variation, and saw the knight sacrifice for White, but thought: "If Romanishin does not go in for the sacrifice, well and good, and if he sees the strongest continuation, then at least it will all be over quickly and I will be able to go home . . ."

After your draw in the last round, did you expect to be sole winner of the Championship?

Of course, any of my pursuers had real chances of catching me. But at the same time, last rounds have their own laws, and to win 'to order' here is extremely difficult. This is why I, for example, endeavour if possible not to leave decisive games to the last day.

Your opinion about the young prize-winners in the Championship?

Both in this tournament, and in general, definite successes have already been achieved by Vaganian, Romanishin and Balashov. But, to be honest, the play of the first two impresses me more. In the play of Vaganian and Romanishin there is more imagination, inventiveness, and their own ideas, and it is more in keeping with the age of these players. In general, from the creative viewpoint, Romanishin was one of the heroes of this Championship. If only they had a little more in the way of stability and an academic approach, and if others had their imagination and creative inspiration . . .

(598) Petrosian-Furman
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 c6 4 0-0 ♗f5 5 b3 e6 6 ♗b2 h6 7 d3 ♗e7 8 ♘bd2 0-0 9 c4 ♘bd7 10 a3 a5 11 ♕c2 ♗h7 12 ♗c3 ♖e8 13 ♕b2 ♗d6 14 ♘e5 ♘xe5 15 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 16 ♕xe5 ♕b6 17 h3 ♖ad8 18 ♖fb1 ♘d7 19 ♕c3 ♖a8 20 b4 axb4 21 axb4 ♖ec8 22 ♖b3 ♖xa1+ 23 ♕xa1 ♕d8 24 ♖a3 ♗g6 25 ♖a7 ♖b8 26 ♘b3 ♕f8 27 cxd5 cxd5 28 ♕a4 ♕c8 29 ♕b5 ♘e5 30 f4 ♕c6 31 ♕c5 ♕xc5 32 bxc5 ♘c6 33 ♖a4 b6 34 g4 bxc5 35 ♘xc5 ♖b4 36 ♖a8+ ♖b8 37 ♖a4 ♖b4 38 ♖a6 ♘d4 39 ♖a8+ ♔h7 40 f5 exf5 41 ♘d7 h5 ½-½

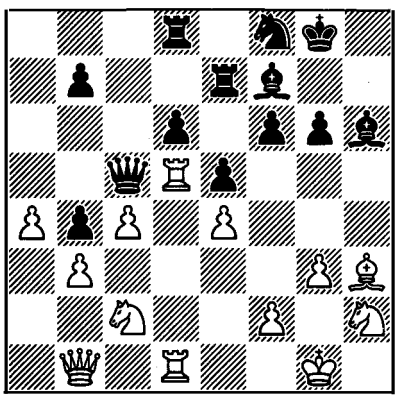
(599) Geller-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 8 ♖c1 c6 9 ♗d3 ♘d7 10 0-0 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 e5 12 ♘e4 exd4 13 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 14 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 15 ♘xd4 ♖d8 16 ♖fd1 ♗d7 17 f3 ♔f8 18 ♔f2 ♔e7 19 e4 ♘e8 20 ♔e3 ♘c7 21 ♖d2 g6 22 ♖cd1 ♗e8 23 f4 c5 24 ♘f3 ♖xd2 25 ♖xd2 ♖d8 26 ♖xd8 ♔xd8 27 g4 ♔e7 28 h4 b6 29 g5 hxg5 30 hxg5 ♘b5 ½-½

(600) Petrosian-Doroshkevich
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 a4 a5 7 b3 c6 8 ♗b2 ♕c7 9 ♘bd2 ♖e8 10 e4 ♘a6 11 h3 e5 12 ♖e1 ♘d7 13 ♘c4 ♘b4 14 c3 ♘a6 15 ♕d2 ♗f8 16 ♖e2 ♘ab8 17 ♕c2 ♘b6 18 ♘e3 ♘a6 19 ♖ae1 f6 20 ♕b1 ♗e6 21 c4 ♘d7 22 h4 ♘b4 23 ♘h2 ♗f7 24 ♖c1 ♕b8 25 h5 ♗g7 26 ♗h3 ♘f8 27 hxg6 hxg6 28 d5 ♖e7 29 ♗a3 ♕a7 30 ♖d1 ♖d8 31 ♖ed2 ♕c5 32 ♘c2 ♗h6 33 ♖d3 cxd5 34 ♗xb4 axb4 35 ♖xd5 *(229)*

229

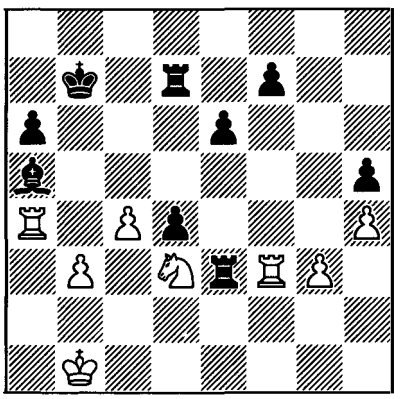


35 ... ♗xd5 36 ♖xd5 ♕c7 37 ♘xb4 ♘e6 38 ♘g4 ♗g5 39 ♖d1 ♖ee8 40 ♘d5 ♕f7 41 ♘dxf6+ ♔g7 42 ♘xe8+ 1-0

(601) Klovan-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♗e7 6 ♗xf6 gxf6 7 ♘f3 b6 8 ♗d3 ♗b7 9 ♕e2 ♘d7 10 0-0-0 c6 11 ♔b1 ♕c7 12 ♖he1 0-0-0 13 ♗a6 ♗xa6 14 ♕xa6+ ♕b7 15 ♕e2 ♖hg8 16 g3 ♔b8 17 a3 b5 18 ♖d3 ♔a8 19 ♖c1 ♘b6 20 ♘c5 ♕c7 21 ♘d2 ♖d5 22 ♘cb3 ♖b8 23 ♘f1 ♘c4 24 ♘e3 ♖dd8 25 ♖c3 ♘xe3 26 fxe3 b4 27 axb4 ♗xb4 28 ♖c4 ♖d5 29 ♖f1 f5 30 e4 fxe4 31 ♕xe4 h5 32 ♕h7 ♖b7 33 ♕b8+ ♖b8 34 ♕g7 ♖b7 35 ♕g8+ ♖d8 36 ♕g5 ♖d5 37 ♕g8+ ♖d8 38 ♕h7 ♖d5 39 ♕e4 ♕b6 40 ♖f3 ♕b5 41 ♕d3 a6 42 ♘c1 c5 43 b3 ♖bd7 44 c3 ♗a5 45 ♖a4 ♕b7 46 ♕e4 cxd4 47 c4 ♖g5 48 ♕xb7+ ♔xb7 49 h4 ♖e5 50 ♘d3 ♖e3 *(230)*

230



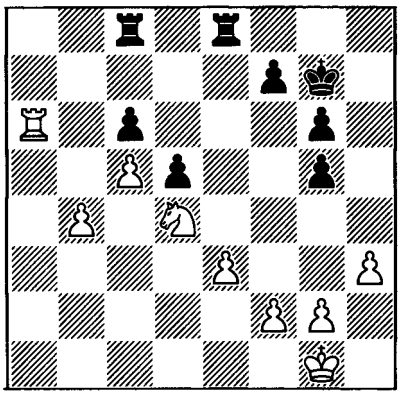
51 ♘c5+ ♔c8 52 ♖f1 ♗e1 53 ♘xd7 ♔xd7 54 ♖xf7+ ♔d6 55 ♖xa6+ ♔c5 56 ♔c2 d3+ 57 ♔d1 ♗c3 58 ♖f1 ♖e2 59 ♖a8 ♖b2 60 b4+ ♔xc4 0-1

(602) Petrosian-Dorfman
Slav Defence

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 e3 ♘f6 4 b3 c6 5 ♘c3 ♘bd7 6 ♗b2 ♗d6 7 d4 0-0 8 ♗d3 a6 9 0-0 b5 10 ♕c2 ♗b7 11 c5 ♗c7 12 b4 h6 13 a4 ♕e7 14 ♘e2 e5 15 dxe5 ♘xe5 16 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 17 ♗xe5 ♕xe5 18 h3 ♖fb8 19 ♘d4 ♘e8 20 ♖a3 ♘c7 21 ♖fa1 g6 22 ♕c3 ♕e8

23 ♖1a2 bxa4 24 ♖xa4 ♕d7 25 ♘f3 ♕e7 26 ♕d4 ♖e8 27 ♕f4 ♔g7 28 ♕g3 ♖ac8 29 ♘d4 ♕g5 30 ♕xg5 hxg5 31 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 32 ♖xa6 ♗xa6 33 ♖xa6 *(231)*

231

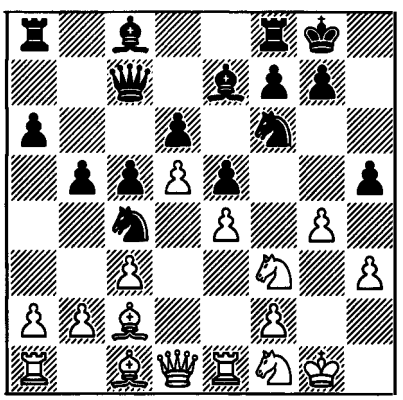


33 ... ♖c7 34 ♘xc6 ♖e6 35 b5 ♖e4 36 ♖a7 ♖c8 37 ♖d7 ♖c4 38 ♖xd5 ♔h6 39 ♔h2 f5 40 ♔g3 ♖c3 41 ♔f3 f4 1-0

(603) Tal-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 b5 6 ♗b3 d6 7 ♖e1 ♗e7 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 ♗e6?! 13 ♘f1 (13 d5; 13 ♘g5) **13 ... ♘c4 14 d5!?** (14 ♘g5; 14 ♘g3) **14 ... ♗c8 15 g4 h5!?** *(232)*

232

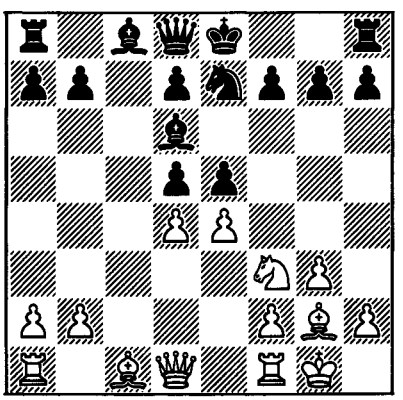


16 gxh5 ♗xh3 (16 ... ♘xh5? 17 b3 ♘b6 18 ♘xe5 ±±; 16 ... ♕d7?! 17 ♘g5?! ♘h7 18 ♘xh7 ♔xh7 19 b3 ♕xh3! 20 bxc4 ♗g4 21 ♖e3 ♗xd1 22 ♖xh3 ♗xc2 ∓; 17 b3! ♘b6 18 ♘g5 ♘h7 19 ♘xh7 ♔xh7 20 ♖e3 ±) **17 ♘3h2 g6!** (17 ... ♗xf1 18 ♘xf1 g6 19 ♘g3 ♔g7 20 ♔h1 ♖h8 21 ♖g1 ±) **18 ♘g3 ♔g7 19 ♔h1!** (19 ♕f3 ♖h8 20 ♘f5+ ♗xf5! 21 h6+ ♔h7 22 exf5 g5) **19 ... ♖h8 20 ♖g1 ♔f8 21 a4! ♘b6** (21 ... ♘xh5? 22 ♘xh5 ♖xh5 23 ♕xh5! gxh5 24 ♗h6+ ♔e8 25 ♖g8+ ♔d7 26 ♖xa8 ±; 21 ... bxa4?!) **22 axb5 axb5 23 ♖xa8+ ♘xa8 24 hxg6** (24 ♕f3!? gxh5 25 ♘f5 ♗xf5 26 ♕xf5 ♘b6 27 ♗g5 ♘g4) **24 ... fxg6 25 ♘gf1 ♔f7 26 ♕f3?!** (26 f4!?) **26 ... ♕c8! 27 ♗g5 ♗xf1** (27 ... ♗g4 28 ♕g2! ♖h3 29 ♗xf6? ♗f3! 30 ♕xf3 ♖xf3 31 ♗xe7 ♖xf2 ∓∓; 29 ♘d2! ♕h8 30 ♖a1 ±) **28 ♖xf1** (28 ♗xf6!? ♗xf6 29 ♖xf1) **28 ... ♕g4** (28 ... ♖h3 29 ♕g2 ♘h5 30 ♗e3 ±) **29 ♕g2?!** (29 ♕g3!? ♘b6 =) **29 ... ♘b6 30 ♗xf6 = ♕xg2+ 31 ♔xg2 ♗xf6 32 ♖a1 ♖a8 33 ♖xa8 ♘xa8 34 ♘f3 ♘b6 35 ♔f1 ½-½** (Tal)

(604) Petrosian-Vaganian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 ♗d6 6 ♗g2 ♘xd5 7 cxd5 ♘e7 8 e4 c6 9 0-0 cxd5 10 d4 *(233)*

233

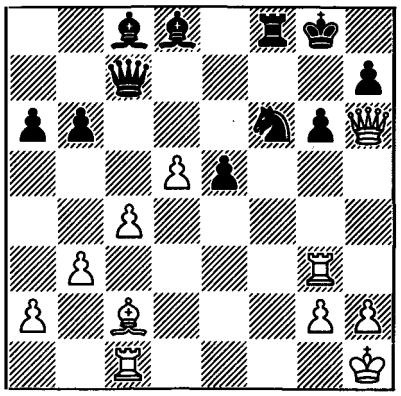


10 ... dxe4 11 ♘xe5 ♘g6 12 ♘xg6 hxg6 13 ♗xe4 ♖b8 14 ♖e1 ♔f8 15 h4 b5 16 ♗g5 ♕b6 17 ♕f3 ♗b7 18 ♖ac1 ♗xe4 19 ♕xe4 ♔g8 20 ♕d5 ♗b4 21 ♖e5 ♔h7 22 ♕xf7 ♖hf8 23 ♕xd7 ♖b7 24 ♕d5 1-0

(605) Romanishin-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e4 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 d6 6 ♗c2 c5 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 b3 ♘c6 11 ♗b2 a6 12 ♔h1 ♕c7 13 f4 ♖ad8 14 ♖c1 ♕b8 15 ♖f3 g6 16 ♘d5 exd5 17 exd5 ♘xd4 18 ♕xd4 ♖de8 19 f5 ♗d8 20 ♕h4 ♖e5 21 ♕h6 ♕c7 22 ♖g3 ♗c8 23 ♗xe5 dxe5 24 fxg6 fxg6 *(234)*

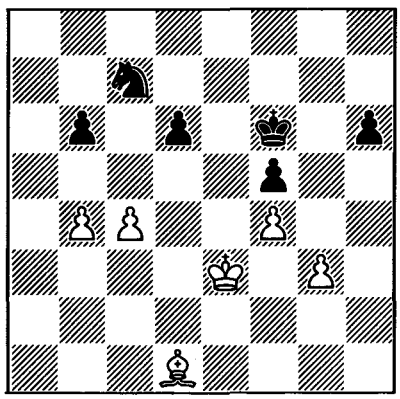
234



25 ♗xg6 ♘g4 26 ♗h5 ♖f6 27 ♕d2 ♖f4 28 d6 ♕g7 29 d7 ♗b7 30 ♕xf4 1-0

♔h1 ♖cd8 26 ♘c2 ♖c8 27 f4 ♘b8 28 ♖c1 ♖ed8 29 ♘e1 h6 30 ♘d3 ♘bd7 31 ♔h2 ♗e7 32 h4 ♘h7 33 ♘d1 ♗f6 34 ♘c3 ♗d4 35 ♘d5 exd5 36 ♗xd4 dxe4 37 ♘f2 ♘hf6 38 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 39 ♗xe4 ♖e8 40 ♗f3 ♖xe3 41 ♕xe3 ♖e8 42 ♕c3 ♘e4 43 ♕b2 f5 44 ♖e1 ♘dc5 45 ♕c2 ♕e7 46 ♕d1 ♕e6 47 ♖e3 a5 48 ♔g2 ♖e7 49 ♗b2 ♔h7 50 ♗e2 ♕f7 51 a3 ♘f6 52 ♖xe7 ♕xe7 53 ♗f3 ♘g4 54 ♗d4 ♘e3+ 55 ♗xe3 ♕xe3 56 ♕d5 ♕e6 57 ♕xe6 ♘xe6 58 h5 ♘d4 59 ♗d1 g5 60 hxg6+ ♔xg6 61 ♔f2 ♔f6 62 ♔e3 ♘e6 63 ♗c2 ♘g7 64 ♗d1 ♘e6 65 b4 axb4 66 axb4 ♘c7 *(235)*

235



67 ♔d4 ♔e6 68 ♗b3 ♔f6 69 ♗a4 ♔e6 70 ♗c6 ♔e7 71 ♗b7 ♔d7 72 ♔d3 ♘e6 73 ♔e3 ♔d8 74 ♗g2 ♔e7 75 ♗d5 ♘c7 76 ♗b7 ♔d7 77 ♔f3 ♘e6 78 ♔g2 ½-½

(606) Petrosian-Balashov
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 a6 7 ♖e1 d6 8 e4 ♘bd7 9 b3 ♗e7 10 d4 cxd4 11 ♘xd4 ♕c7 12 ♗b2 0-0 13 h3 ♖fe8 14 ♖c1 ♗f8 15 ♔h2 ♖ad8 16 ♖c2 ♕b8 17 ♖ce2 ♘c5 18 ♔g1 ♕a8 19 ♗a1 ♕b8 20 ♖e3 ♕c7 21 ♕b1 ♘cd7 22 ♗b2 ♘e5 23 ♕c2 ♘ed7 24 ♕e2 ♖c8 25

(607) Dvoretsky-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 e4 d5 4 e5 ♘e4 5 ♘xe4 dxe4 6 ♕g4 ♘c6 7 ♕xe4 ♕d4 8 ♕xd4 ♘xd4 9 ♔d1 ♗c5 10 d3 ♘c6 11 f4 f6 12 ♘f3 fxe5 13 fxe5 0-0 14 ♗e2 ♗d7 15 ♗d2 ♗e8 16 ♘g5 ♗d7 17 ♗g4 ♖ae8 18 ♗c3 ♗d4 19 ♗xd4 ♘xd4 20 ♘f3 ♖f4 21 h3 ♗c6 22 ♘xd4 ♖xd4 ½-½

'(608) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 ♕b3 ♗e7 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 e3 0-0 8 ♗e2 h6 9 ♗h4 dxc4 10 ♕xc4 ♘d5 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 0-0 ♘5b6 13 ♕d3 e5 14 ♖ad1 ♖e8 15 ♕e4 exd4 16 ♕xe7 ♖xe7 17 ♖xd4 ♘f6 18 ♖d8+ ♖e8 19 ♖xe8+ ♘xe8 20 ♘d4 ♔f8 21 e4 ♗d7 22 f3 ♔e7 23 ♔f2 ♘d6 24 ♘b3 ♖d8 25 ♘c5 ♗c8 26 f4 ♘d7 27 ♘d3 ♘f8 28 ♔e3 ♘e6 29 ♖c1 b6 30 ♘b4 ♗b7 ½-½

'(609) Bronstein-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘f6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5+ ♗d7 7 ♗xd7+ ♘bxd7 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 dxc5 ♘xc5 10 ♘d4 0-0 11 ♘f5 ♖e8 12 ♘b3 ♗f8 13 ♗e3 ♘cd7 14 ♗d4 ♕c7 15 c3 ♕f4 16 ♘e3 ♖ad8 17 g3 ♕e4 18 ♘g2 b6 19 ♖e1 ♕f5 20 ♖xe8 ♖xe8 21 ♘e3 ♕e4 22 ♘d2 ♕d3 23 ♘f3 ♕e4 24 ♘d2 ♕d3 25 ♘b3 ♕e4 26 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 27 ♕d4 ♕f3 28 ♕d1 ♕e4 29 ♕d4 ♕f3 30 ♕d1 ♕e4 ½-½

ʃ (610) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Sicilian Defence
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 g6 3 e4 ♘c6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘xd4

It would appear that the Lvov grandmaster specially prepared this variation for the Championship in Yerevan. It could be no accident that he employed it in two of his most important encounters, with Petrosian and Polugayevsky.

6 ♕xd4 ♘f6
7 ♘c3

It is well known that Black is not caused any trouble by 7 e5 ♘g8 8 ♘c3 ♗g7 etc.

7 ... d6 8 ♗g5 ♗g7 9 ♕d2

Others are of the opinion that the queen should not leave d4 until it is driven away, but the modern prophylactic move, made by Petrosian, is more in keeping with his style.

9 ... 0-0

In his game with Polugayevsky, played four rounds earlier, Belyavsky continued 9 ... ♗e6. After 10 ♖c1 ♖c8 11 b3 ♕a5 12 f3 h6 13 ♗e3 0-0 14 ♗d3 (in the event of *14 ♗xh6 ♗xh6 15 ♕xh6* Black has a pleasant choice between regaining his pawn by *15 ... b5* and initiating complications in the centre with *15 ... d5?! 16 exd5 ♘xd5 17 ♕d2 ♘b4*) 14 ... ♔h7 15 0-0 a6 16 h3 ♘d7 17 f4 f5 18 exf5 ♗xf5 White managed to gain an advantage. On this occasion the young grandmaster decides to change his piece set-up, aiming to exert more pressure on the opponent's pawn centre.

10 ♗d3 a6
11 0-0 ♗d7

The position of the bishop at c6, to where it is soon moved, has its advantages compared with e6. Black gains the chance to attack the central e4 pawn and simultaneously to prepare the undermining ... b5.

12 ♖fe1 ♗c6

12 ... ♕b8, with the idea of ... ♖fc8 and ... b5, can hardly be considered, since even with 13 ♘d5 (or *13 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 14 ♘d5 ♗c6 15 ♘xf6+ exf6 16 ♕h6*) 13 ... ♘xd5 14 exd5 White easily gains the better position.

13 ♖ac1 e6

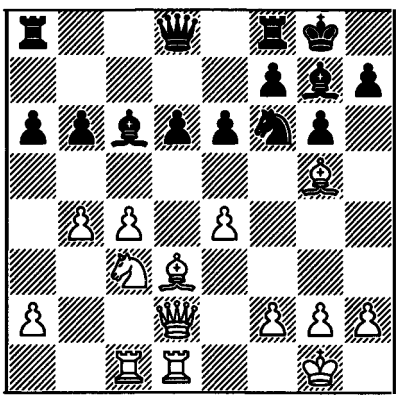
After 13 ... b5 Black most probably did not like the reply 14 ♘d5 (he would be quite happy with *14 cxb5 axb5 15 ♘xb5 ♗xb5 16 ♗xb5 ♖xa2*). Therefore he hastens to safeguard the d5 square against invasion.

14 b4 b6

Black's position is perfectly defensible, but it resembles a house without doors, within which his queen is imprisoned. After 14 ... b5 he would have simply lost a pawn.

15 ♖ed1! *(236)*

236



A subtle move. The opposition of queen and rook is always unpleasant for one of the sides, and in addition the pressure on the d6 pawn becomes very real. The immediate transfer of the queen to h4 was not possible, since after 15 ♕f4 ♘h5 Black would have escaped from the unpleasant pin.

15 c5?! was tempting, but after 15 ... bxc5 (weaker is *15 ... e5 16 cxb6 ♕xb6 17 a3*, when thanks to his control over d5 White has a marked advantage; *15 ... h6 16 ♗xh6* is also insufficient, since both *16 ... ♗xh6 17 ♕xh6 dxc5 18 ♖e3* and *16 ... dxc5 17 e5 ♘d5 18 ♘e4* give White an attack) 16 bxc5 e5 17 ♘d5 ♗xd5 18 exd5 dxc5 19 ♖xc5 ♕d6! 20 ♖c6 ♕xd5 21 ♖xf6 h6 (if *21 ... ♖ad8*, then *22 ♖f3*) 22 ♗h4 (or *22 ♕e2* in the hope of *22 ... hxg5 23 ♖xg6 fxg6 24 ♗c4*, but *22 ... e4* is a good reply) 22 ... ♖ad8 (not *22 ... g5? 23 ♗h7+*) 23 ♖f3 g5, in view of the threat of 24 ... e4 (after *24 ♗g3*) Black re-establishes material equality.

15 ... ♕e7?

A mistake. 15 ... ♕c7 was also unsatisfactory. True, the hasty 16 ♘d5 ♕d8 forces White back to his initial position – 17 ♘c3, but the preparatory 16 ♗b1 is good, forcing (by the threatened capture on d6) one of the black rooks to occupy d8 (if *16 ... ♕b7 17 b5 axb5 18 cxb5 ♗d7 19 ♕xd6*), after which 17 ♘d5 significantly gains in strength.

It was also dangerous to continue 15 ... ♕b8 16 ♗b1 ♖d8 (as already shown, after *16 ... ♕b7 17 b5 axb5 18 cxb5* the e4 pawn is immune) 17 b5 (the immediate *17 e5 dxe5 18 ♕xd8+ ♕xd8 19 ♖xd8+ ♖xd8 20 ♗e4 ♗e8 21 ♗b7* or *20 ... ♗a8 21 c5* is not altogether clear) 17 ... axb5 18 cxb5 ♗b7 (on *18 ... ♗e8* White now has the decisive *19 e5 dxe5 20 ♕xd8 ♕xd8 21 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 22 ♘e4*) 19 ♕e3, and Black loses material.

The correct defence was 15 ... ♖a7!, having in mind both the variation 16 ♗b1 ♖d7 17 ♕f4 ♘h5 18 ♗xd8 ♘xf4 19 ♗xb6 ♗xc3 20 ♖xc3 ♘e2+ and, in case of necessity, the transfer of the queen to a8 to intensify the pressure on the e4 pawn. After losing his bearings, Black ends up in a difficult position.

16 ♕f4!

Black had not anticipated this reply. Now it will be a question of a mortal pin on his knight, since ... e5 and ... ♕e6 would be equivalent to strategic capitulation.

16 ... ♖fd8
17 a3

White has no reason to hurry, and he waits for the ripe fruit itself to fall to the ground.

17 ... ♖ac8 18 ♕h4 a5 19 h3 ♖c7 20 f4 h6

The threat of e4-e5 can only be parried at the cost of a pawn.

21 ♗xh6 ♗xh6 22 ♕xh6 axb4 23 axb4 ♘h5 24 ♗e2 ♘f6 25 ♗d3

Repeating moves to gain time on the clock.

25 ... ♘h5
26 f5 ♕f6

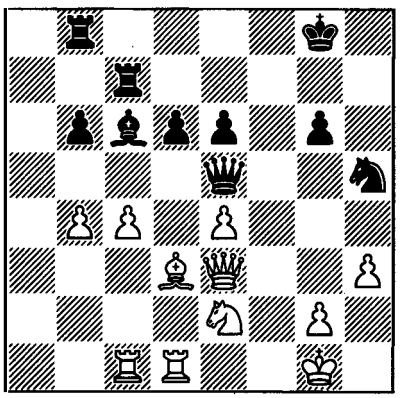
The impression that Black has gained counterplay on the dark squares is illusory.

27 ♘e2 ♕e5 28 fxg6 fxg6 29 ♕e3

White attacks the b6 pawn. Of course, 29 ♕xg6+ ♖g7 30 ♕h6 ♗xe4 would have allowed Black a counterattack.

29 ... ♖b8 *(237)*

237



30 c5

This finally cracks Black's defences.

30 ... bxc5

31 bxc5 ♖d8

31 ... d5 was more tenacious, although even then after 32 ♕d4 White would be bound to win.

32 cxd6 ♖xd6 33 ♖c5 ♖d5 34 ♖c3 ♖dd7 35 ♖dc1 ♗b7 36 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 37 ♖xc7 ♕xc7 38 e5 ♔g7

38 ... ♕c6 was bad because of 39 ♕g5.

39 ♕g5 ♕f7 40 g4 ♕f3 41 ♕xg6+ ♔f8 42 gxh5 Black resigns

(611) Petrosian-Gulko

Queen's Indian Defence

(notes by Gufeld)

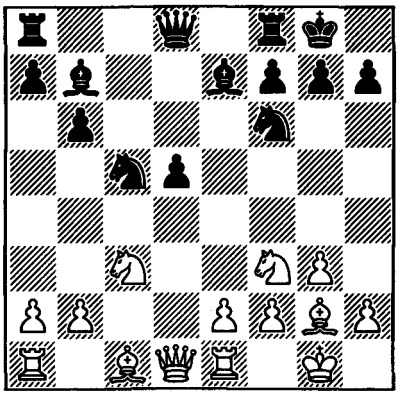
Chess history knows of many games where the tasks of the two opponents are different: one needs only a win, while the other is satisfied with a draw. In such cases a player sometimes has to restrain his natural instincts, and to base his entire strategy only on the required result. The Petrosian-Gulko game was played in the penultimate round. Gulko was leading the Ex-World Champion by half a point, and it was natural that he should wish to maintain this distance going into the last round . . .

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♖e1

White would very much have liked to obtain a position similar to that which occurred a few rounds earlier in the game Petrosian-Balashov (after 7 ... c5 8 e4 d6 9 d4 cxd4 10 ♘xd4), with the better prospects for White. But Black's natural reply deprives White of the greater part of the advantage which chess statistics grant him. 7 d4 is more often played, transposing into a familiar line of the Queen's Indian Defence.

7 ... d5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 d4 ♘bd7 10 ♕b3 c5 11 dxc5 ♘xc5 12 ♕d1 *(238)*

238



By simple and natural moves Black has equalized. The lone pawn in his position at d5 has many friends. The strength of the isolated pawn must be exploited in the middlegame, it being a kind of pivot around which the black pieces can successfully operate, whereas the weakness of this pawn can be emphasized only in the endgame. Hence the plans of the two sides: Black is obliged to play actively in the middlegame, and White to seek ways of transposing into an endgame.

It seems to me that here Gulko committed a psychological mistake. Correctly thinking that the desired equality had been achieved, he began marking time. But the equality is of a dynamic nature, and to maintain it the position demands positive action. Therefore a logical continuation would have been 12 ... ♘ce4, aiming by ... ♗c5 and ... ♘g4 to put pressure on the weakest point in White's position.

12 ... ♘e6?!
13 ♘b5 ♗b4?!

Another inexplicable move. After all, the exchange of dark-square bishops is to White's advantage.

14 ♗d2 ♗c5 15 e3 ♘e4 16 ♗c3 a6 17 ♘bd4 ♘xc3 18 bxc3

How should this position be assessed? If the colours of White and Black are mentally exchanged, it will immediately be apparent that this is a typical position from the Queen's Gambit. The position is level. It can be considered that White ... is simply playing Black.

18 ... ♕c7
19 ♕d3

Threatening 20 ♘xe6 fxe6 21 ♘g5.

19 ... h6
20 ♖e2!

Why do commentators so rarely undertake to work with Petrosian's games? I think that it is very difficult, and sometimes simply impossible, to fathom the profound manoeuvres of this outstanding chess commander. Take this last move. How is it to be understood? Only several moves later does its aim become clear: the possible doubling of rooks on the b-file, putting pressure on the weak b6 pawn ...

20 ... ♖fe8

Another doubtful move. Why not 20 ... ♗e7 with the idea of 21 ... ♗f6 and 22 ... ♘c5?

21 a4 ♗f8 22 ♖b2 ♖ab8 23 ♘xe6!

Several aimless manoeuvres on the part of Black have led to the initiative passing to White. One of the key features of chess strategy is the concept of pawn islands. The fewer one has, the better. Here Petrosian intends to rid himself of one, by preparing c3-c4.

23 ... fxe6 24 ♘d2 ♖bd8 25 c4 a5

A committal decision. Now the one a4 pawn fixes both black pawns at a5 and b6.

True, Black intends to create some strong points on the queenside.

26 cxd5 ♗xd5 27 ♗xd5 ♖xd5 28 ♕g6

Now it is patently clear that White's strategy has triumphed. Black's central squares (e4) are weak, White has a better looking pawn mass, and there are targets for him to attack at e6 and b6. All this gives White the advantage, but is it sufficient to win?

28 ... ♖dd8 29 ♖c2 ♕d7 30 ♘c4 ♗c5 31 ♘xa5

A little combination which serves to further increase White's positional advantage.

31 ... ♗xe3
32 ♘c6 ♗d4

32 ... ♖c8 fails to 33 ♘e5.

33 ♖ac1 ♖a8 34 ♘xd4 ♕xd4 35 ♖c4 ♕e5 36 ♕b1!

Petrosian was probably unwilling to withdraw from such a comfortable square, but his queen has already done its duty there. In the heavy piece ending White's advantage is further increased. It is very difficult for Black to defend his pawns, since, given the opportunity, White can mount an attack on the weakened position of the black king.

36 ... ♖eb8

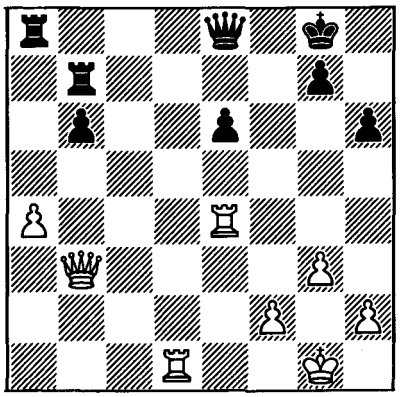
The positioning of the rooks at a8 and b8 does not make an aesthetic impression, but Black too wishes to keep the a4 pawn in view . . .

37 ♖b4 ♕d6 38 ♖d1 ♕c6 39 ♕b3 ♖b7 40 ♖c4

It is pleasing to observe how, by its fire, White's heavy artillery 'suppresses' the opponent's heavy weapons . . .

40 ... ♕e8
41 ♖e4 *(239)*

239



Here the game was adjourned for the first time, and Black sealed his move. He had several possible continuations. 41 ... b5 looks very committal; after 42 ♖xe6 ♕f7 43 a5! White's advantage is undisputed. 41 ... ♕f7!? looks strongest, although even then Black's defence is very difficult.

41 ... ♖d7?! 42 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 43 ♖xe6

The first acquisition. Although a minimal one, it is essentially already decisive.

43 ... ♕f7
44 h4!

A typical text-book procedure – the h-pawn restricts the enemy king's defenders.

44 ... ♖b8 45 h5 ♖a8 46 f3 ♔f8 47 ♕b4+ ♔g8 48 ♕c4 ♖f8

Of course, not 48 ... ♖xa4? 49 ♖e8+.

49 f4 ♔h8
50 ♕d5

Like a boa constrictor, the white queen approaches its victim . . .

50 ... ♕a7 51 ♕d4 ♔h7 52 ♖xb6

Is it all over?!

52 ... ♕a5 53 ♕e4+ ♔h8 54 ♖b5 ♕d2 55 ♖d5 ♕a2 56 ♖e5 ♖b8 57 ♖e8+ ♖xe8 58 ♕xe8+ ♔h7 59 ♕e4+ ♔h8 60 g4

After the game Yefim Geller said: "I would have resigned this position two pawns down". "Young players don't resign", replied Petrosian. "And incidentally", added the Ex-World Champion, "don't you remember how, when you were still young, in the 1953 Candidates Tournament you saved an ending two pawns down against Reshevsky? I would think the stalemating combination you carried out there must have gone into all books on the endgame."*

I think there is no need to say that here there are many roads leading to Rome. White could simply have played his queen to b5 and advanced his a-pawn.

60 ... ♕d2 61 ♔f1 ♔g8 62 ♕e8+ ♔h7 63 ♕g6+ ♔g8 64 ♕e8+ ♔h7 65 ♕e4+ ♔g8 66 g5 hxg5

To continue resisting it was essential to play 66 ... ♕d1+ 67 ♔g2 ♕xh5, but in any case Black's position is lost.

67 fxg5 ♕d1+ 68 ♔g2 ♕xh5 69 g6

Petrosian carries out his intended plan. He could have won immediately by 69 ♕d5+ ♔h8 70 ♕d8+ ♔h7 71 ♕d3+ ♔g8 72 ♕b3+! and wherever the black king moves White exchanges queens, forcing Black's capitulation.

69 ... ♕g5+ 70 ♔h3 ♕h5+ 71 ♔g3 ♕g5+ 72 ♔f3 ♕h5+ 73 ♔e3 ♕c5+ 74 ♔e2 ♕h5+ 75 ♔d2 ♕h2+ 76 ♔c3 ♕g3+ 77 ♔c4?

Fatigue tells. Now White could have won by 77 ♔d4! ♕f2+ 78 ♔d5, when the king easily escapes from the checks on the queenside.

77 ... ♕c7+ 78 ♔d4 ♕b6+ 79 ♔c3 ♕f6+!

Analysis showed that the queen is ideally placed for defence at f6, where it harasses the white king along the 6th rank and simultaneously keeps the g6 pawn under fire.

80 ♔d3

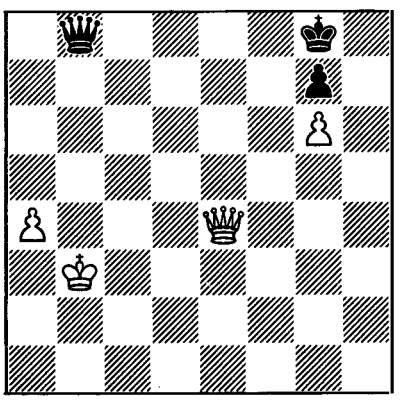
It is probable that, when he began the operation involving the advance of his kingside pawns, Petrosian overlooked that on the intended 80 ♔b3 ♕b6+ 81 ♕b4 ♕e6+! 82 ♕c4 there follows the elegant 82 ... ♔f8!!.

Here Petrosian decided to adjourn the game again, assuming that in analysis he would finally find the thread leading to a win.

80 ... ♕d6+ 81 ♔e2 ♕h2+ 82 ♔f1 ♕h3+ 83 ♔g1 ♕g3+ 84 ♔f1 ♕h3+ 85 ♔e1 ♕g3+ 86 ♔d1 ♕g1+ 87 ♔c2 ♕h2+ 88 ♔b3 ♕b8+ *(240)*

Petrosian asked for the envelope and . . . it was his turn not to seal the strongest move.

240



* Cf. Polugayevsky & Damsky: *The Art of Defence in Chess* (Pergamon, 1988) p. xiii. (Translator's note)

89 ♔a3?!

Again 89 ♔c3 would have won, and if 89 ... ♕g3+ 90 ♔d4, breaking through to the queenside.

89 ... ♕d6+

Again night-time analysis showed that White would have to carry out lengthy manoeuvres with his queen and king in order to repair the mistake enclosed in the envelope.

I am sure that a special analysis of this most interesting ending, which essentially ends in a study, will later be made, and I merely give here what I consider to be the main variation of the analysis.

90 ♔b2 ♕h2+ 91 ♔b3 ♕g3+ 92 ♔c2 ♕f2+ 93 ♔d3! ♕f1+ 94 ♔d4 ♕f6+! 95 ♔c5!! ♕f8+ 96 ♔b5 ♕b8+ 97 ♔c4 ♕c7+ 98 ♔b3 ♕b8+ 99 ♔c3, reaching a position mentioned earlier.

But Gulko simplified Petrosian's task, and the study remained behind the scenes . . .

90 ♔b2 ♕b6+ 91 ♔c3! ♕f6+ 92 ♔c2 ♔f8? 93 ♕a8+ ♔e7 94 ♕b7+ ♔d8 95 ♕d5+!

Here the 'three-day war' between experience and youth concluded. Gulko **resigned.**

(612) Alburt-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 dxc5 ♕xd1+ 7 ♔xd1 ♗xc5 8 ♔e2 ♔e7 9 ♖d1 ♘c6 10 ♘c3 a6 11 a3 ♗d7 12 ♗d2 ♖hd8 13 ♗e1 ♗e8 14 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 15 ♖d1 ♖xd1 ½-½

1976

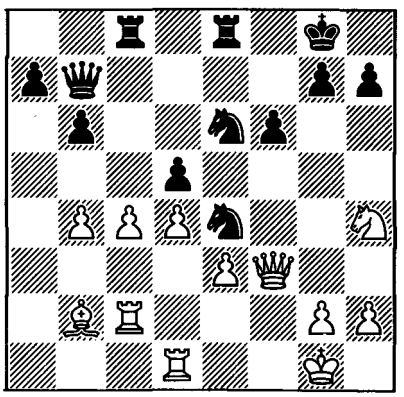
International Tournament
Lone Pine, March 1976

1 **Petrosian** (+4 -0 =3) 5½; 2-10 Browne, Christiansen, Forintos, Miles, Najdorf, Panno, Quinteros, Rogoff, Smyslov 5 . . . (57 competitors)

(613) Sherwin-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♘bd2 b6 5 e3 ♗b7 6 ♗d3 c5 7 0-0 0-0 8 a3 ♗xd2 9 ♗xd2 d6 10 b4 ♘bd7 11 ♗c3 ♕c7 12 ♖c1 ♖fe8 13 ♘h4 ♖ad8 14 f4 ♗e4 15 ♗xe4 ♘xe4 16 ♗b2 ♕b7 17 ♕f3 ♘f8 18 ♖c2 f6 19 ♖d1 ♖c8 20 f5 cxb4 21 axb4 d5 22 fxe6 ♘xe6 *(241)*

241



23 ♕f1 dxc4 24 d5 c3 25 dxe6 cxb2 26 ♖xb2 ♖xe6 27 ♘f5 b5 28 ♕f3 g6 29 ♕g4 ♔h8 30 ♘d4 ♖e7 31 ♘xb5 f5 32 ♕e2 ♕b6 33 ♖b3 a6 34 ♘d4 ♘c3 35 ♕c2 ♖xe3 36 ♖xc3 ♖cxc3 37 ♕f2 ♖ed3 0-1

(614) Petrosian-Peters
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 ♘c6 4 ♗g2 e6 5 ♘f3 ♗e7 6 d4 d5 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♘xd5 exd5 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 a3 a5 12 ♘e1 d4 13 ♘d3 ♗b6 14 ♗d2 ♖e8 15 ♖c1 ♗g4 16 ♖e1 ♖c8 17 h3 ♗f5 18 ♕b3 ♗e4 19 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 20 ♕b5 ♘a7 21 ♖xc8 ♘xc8 22 ♗g5 ♕d6 23 ♖c1 ♘a7 24 ♕f5 ♖e8 25 ♗f4 ♕d8 26 ♖c2 ♘c6 27 h4 h6 28 ♕b5 ♘a7 29 ♕f5 ♘c6 30 ♔f1 ♖e6 31 ♕b5 ♘a7 32 ♕b3 ♘c6 33 h5 ♘e7 34 ♔e1 ♘d5 35 ♕b5 ♘f6 36 ♔d1 ♘d5 37 ♗e5 ♘e7 38 g4 ♘c6 39 ♗g3 ♘a7 40 ♕b3 ♘c6 41 ♔c1 ♖e4 42 f3 ♖e3 43 ♔b1 ♘e7 44 ♗h4 ♕d6 45 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 46 ♖c8+ ♔h7 47 ♖f8 ♕c7 48 f4 ♗c5 49 ♕d5 ♖e5 50 ♖xf7 1-0

(615) Weinstein-Petrosian
French Defence

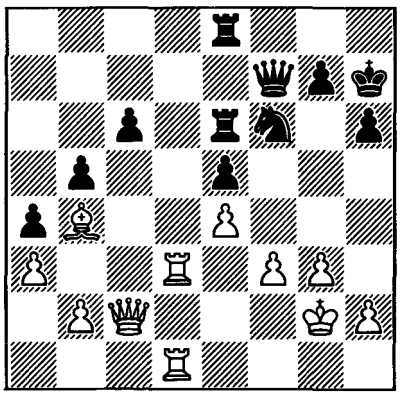
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 a4 ♕c7 12 ♕e2 ♗d6 13 ♘f3 ½-½

(616) Petrosian-Bisguier
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d3 ♗b4 5 ♗d2 0-0 6 g3 ♘d4 7 ♗g2 ♘xf3+ 8 ♗xf3 d6 9 ♗g2 c6 10 0-0 ♗e6 11 ♕b3 a5 12 a3 ♗xc3 13 ♕xc3 ♕d7 14 ♗g5 ♘e8 15 d4 f6

16 ♗e3 ♗h3 17 dxe5 fxe5 18 c5 ♘f6 19 cxd6 ♗xg2 20 ♔xg2 ♕xd6 21 ♗c5 ♕d5+ 22 f3 ♖fe8 23 e4 ♕e6 24 ♖ad1 a4 25 ♖d6 ♕f7 26 ♖fd1 h6 27 ♖6d3 ♔h7 28 ♗b4 ♖e6 29 ♕c4 b5 30 ♕c2 ♖ae8 *(242)*

242



31 ♖d8 ♕g6 32 ♖xe8 ♕xe8 33 ♕d3 ♕g6 34 ♕e3 ♕h5 35 ♖d8 ♕f7 36 ♕b6 ♖e8 37 ♖d6 ♕c4 38 ♖xc6 ♕e2+ 39 ♕f2 ♕d1 40 ♕c2 ♕d4 41 ♖d6 ♕e3 42 ♕d2 ♕a7 43 ♕d3 ♖c8 44 ♗c3 ♕c5 45 ♖e6 ♖e8 46 ♖xe8 ♘xe8 47 ♗b4 ♕c6 48 ♗c3 ♕c5 49 ♕d7 ♘d6 50 ♗b4 ♕c2+ 51 ♔h3 1-0

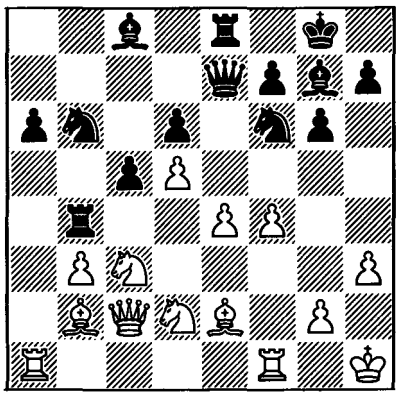
(617) Martz-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 f4 c5 7 ♘f3 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♘c6 9 ♗e3 ♗d7 10 0-0 ♘xd4 11 ♗xd4 ♗c6 12 ♗f3 a5 13 c5 dxc5 ½-½

(618) Petrosian-Quinteros
Modern Benoni

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 d6 5 e4 e6 6 ♘f3 ♘f6 7 ♗e2 0-0 8 0-0 ♖e8 9 ♘d2 exd5 10 cxd5 ♘bd7 11 a4 a6 12 ♖a3 ♖b8 13 a5 ♕c7 14 h3 b5 15 axb6 ♖xb6 16 ♕c2 ♘e5 17 f4 ♘ed7 18 ♔h1 ♖b4 19 b3 ♘b6 20 ♗b2 ♕e7 21 ♖aa1 *(243)*

243



21 ... ♘g4 22 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 23 ♘a2 ♗e2 24 ♗xg7 ♗xf1 25 ♘xb4 ♗b5 26 ♘c6 ♗xc6 27 dxc6 ♔xg7 28 ♖xa6 ♘c8 29 ♕c3+ ♔g8 30 ♕d3 ♕h4 31 ♕f1 ♘e7 32 c7 ♖c8 33 ♖xd6 ♖xc7 34 ♔h2 ♖c8 35 g3 ♕h5 36 g4 ♕h6 37 e5 ♖b8 38 ♕f2 ♖b4 39 ♔g3 ♔g7 40 ♕e3 ♔h8 41 ♖d8+ ♔g7 42 ♘e4 ♘c6 43 ♖c8 g5 1-0 (time)

(619) Panno-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 ♘f3 d5 2 c4 c6 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 ½-½

Interzonal Tournament
Biel, July-August 1976

1 Larsen 12½; 2 **Petrosian** (+6 –1 =12), Portisch, Tal 12; 5-7 R.Byrne, Hübner, Smyslov 11½; 8 Andersson 10½; 9-11 Csom, Geller, Smejkal 10; 12 Sosonko 9½; 13-15 Gulko, Liberzon, Rogoff 9; 16 Sanguinetti 8½; 17 Matanović 8; 18 Castro 6; 19 Lombard 5; 20 Diaz 2½.

(620) Sanguinetti-Petrosian
Irregular Defence

1 ♘f3 d6 2 d4 ♗g4 3 e4 e6 4 c3 c6 5 ♗e2 ♘d7 6 ♘bd2 ♕c7 7 0-0 ♘gf6 8 ♘g5 ♗xe2 9 ♕xe2 h6 10 ♘gf3 e5 11 b3 ♗e7 12 ♗a3 0-0 13 dxe5 ♘xe5 14 ♘xe5 dxe5 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 a4 ♖fd8 17 ♘c4 ♖d7 18 ♖fd1 ♖ad8 19 ♖xd7 ♖xd7 20 b4 ♕e6 21 a5 ♘e8 22 ♘e3 ♘c7 23 ♖d1 ♘b5 24 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 25 c4 ♘c3 26 ♕h5 ♕d3 27 h3 ♕b1+ 28 ♔h2 ♕xe4 29 ♘g4 ♘a2 30 b5 cxb5 31 cxb5 ♘c3 32 ♕h4 ♕f4+ 33 ♔g1 f6 34 ♕h5 ♔f8 35 ♘e3 ♕g5 36 ♕xg5 hxg5 37 a6 b6 0-1

(621) Petrosian-Rogoff
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 g3 ♗b4 4 ♘f3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 0-0 6 0-0 e4 7 ♘e1 ♗xc3 8 dxc3 h6 9 ♘c2 d6 10 ♘e3 ♖e8 11 ♕c2 b6 12 ♗d2 ♘e5 13 ♖ad1 ♘eg4 14 h3 ♘xe3 15 ♗xe3 ♕e7 16 ♗d4 ♗f5 17 ♕c1 ♕e6 18 g4 ♗g6 19 b3 c5 ½-½

(622) Gulko-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘e2 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 d6 5 c4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 g6 7 ♗e2 ♘xd4 8 ♕xd4 ♗g7 9 ♗g5 h6 10 ♗e3 0-0 11 ♕d2 ♔h7 12 0-0 ♗e6 13 ♖ac1 ♕a5 14 f4 ♖ac8 15 b3 a6 16 f5 ♗d7 17 h3 ♗c6 18 ♗d3 ♘d7 19 ♘d5 ♕xd2 20 ♗xd2 ♖fe8 21 ♗b1 ♗d4+ 22 ♔h1 ♔g7 23 fxg6 fxg6 24 ♘f4 ♗f6 25 ♗e3 ½-½

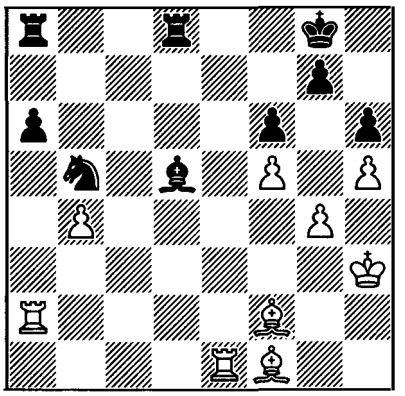
(623) Petrosian-Tal
Catalan Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 c5 4 0-0 ♘c6 5 d4 e6 6 c4 dxc4 7 ♘e5 ♘d5 8 ♘xc6 bxc6 9 ♘c3 ♗e7 10 dxc5 ♕a5 11 ♘xd5 exd5 12 e4 dxe4 13 ♗xe4 0-0 14 ♕c2 h6 15 ♗xc6 ♖b8 16 ♗g2 ♕xc5 17 ♗e3 ♕a5 18 ♗d4 ½-½

(624) Portisch-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 a6 9 a3 cxd4 10 axb4 dxc3 11 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 12 bxc3 ♘e4 13 ♗b2 ♘d6 14 ♗e2 b5 15 ♘d2 ♗b7 16 c4 bxc4 17 ♘xc4 ♘c6 18 ♘xd6 ♖xd6 19 ♗c3 h6 20 ♖fc1 ♘a7 21 ♗e1 ♖b6 22 ♖c7 ♖d8 23 ♖ac1 ♘b5 24 ♖7c5 f6 25 f3 e5 26 ♗f1 ♖d7 27 ♔f2 ♔f8 28 g4 ♔e7 29 h4 ♗d5 30 h5 ♗e6 31 ♔g3 ♖dd6 32 f4 exf4+ 33 exf4 ♖b8 34 f5 ♗d5 35 ♔h3 ♖dd8 36 ♗g3 ♖a8 37 ♗f2 ♔f8 38 ♖5c2 ♗e4 39 ♖a2 ♔g8 40 ♖e1 ♗d5 *(244)*

244



41 ♖aa1 ♗f7 42 ♗c5 ♘c7 43 ♔g3 ♖d7 44 ♖ad1 ♖ad8 45 ♖xd7 ♖xd7 46 ♖e7 ♖d1 47 ♔f2 ♘b5 48 ♖b7 ♖a1 49 ♖b8+ ♔h7 50 ♗g2 ♖a2+ 51 ♔g3 ♖a3+ 52 ♔f2 ♖a2+ 53 ♔g1 ♘c3 54 ♖d8 a5 55 bxa5 ♖xa5 56 ♗b4 ♖a1+ 57 ♔h2 ♘e2 58 ♖d2 ♖a2 59 ♖xa2 ♗xa2 60 ♗c6 ♘f4 ½-½

(625) Petrosian-Lombard
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 c6 5 ♕b3 ♗e7 (5 ... ♕b6!?) **6 ♗f4 0-0 7 e3 ♕a5 8 ♖c1 ♘bd7 9 cxd5 ♘xd5** (9 ... exd5 =) **10 ♗g3 ♘xc3 11 bxc3 c5! 12 ♗d3 cxd4 13 exd4 ♖d8?!** (13 ... ♘f6 14 0-0 b6!?) **14 0-0 ♘c5?!** (14 ... ♘f6 ±) **15 ♗xh7+! ♔xh7 16 dxc5 ♕xc5 17 ♖fe1 ± b6 18 ♖e5 ♖d5** (18 ... ♕c6 19 ♕c2+ ♔g8 20 ♖h5 ± with attack) **19 ♖xd5 exd5?!** (19 ... ♕xd5!?) **20 ♕c2+ g6 21 ♗e5 ♗f5 22 ♕d2 f6 23 ♗d4 ♕d6 24 ♖e1 ♖h8?!** (24 ... ♗e4!?) **25 ♘h4 ♗d7 26 ♕d3 ♗e8 27 f4! ♔g7 28 ♕g3 ♖h5 29 ♕g4 ♗f7?** (30 ♕xh5! gxh5 31 ♘f5+ ±±) **1-0** (Sokolov)

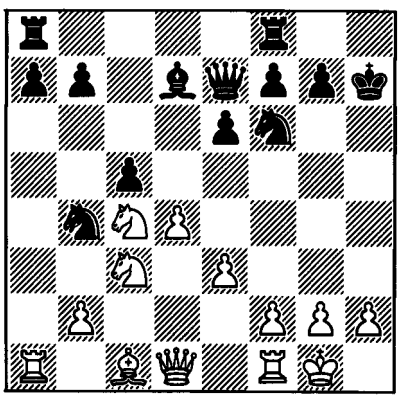
(626) Andersson-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 b6 3 ♗g2 ♗b7 4 0-0 e6 5 c4 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♗d2 d5 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♖c1 ♘d7 11 ♗f4 ♘xc3 12 ♖xc3 ½-½

(627) Petrosian-Sosonko
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 d4 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 a3 dxc4 7 ♗xh7+ ♔xh7 8 axb4 ♘c6 9 ♘f3 ♘xb4 10 0-0 c5 11 ♘e5 ♕e7 12 ♘xc4 ♗d7 *(245)*

245

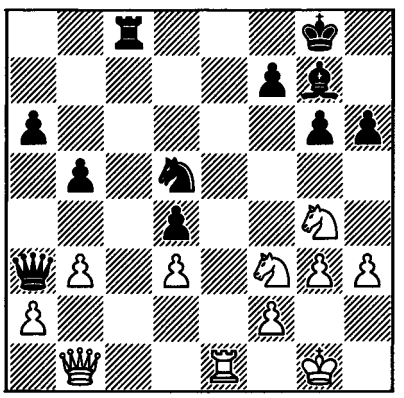


13 e4 cxd4 14 ♕xd4 e5 15 ♕xe5 ♕xe5 16 ♘xe5 ♗e6 17 ♘f3 ♔g8 18 ♘d4 ♗c4 19 ♖d1 ♖fc8 20 ♗g5 ♖c5 21 ♘f5 ♗b3 22 ♗xf6 ♖xf5 23 ♖d4 ♘c2 24 exf5 ♘xa1 25 ♖g4 ♖e8 26 ♖xg7+ ♔f8 27 h4 1-0

(628) O.Castro-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 b3 d5 3 ♗b2 ♘f6 4 exd5 exd5 5 ♘f3 ♗e7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 ♗f5 8 ♖e1 c5 9 d4 ♘c6 10 ♘bd2 ♖c8 11 ♗d3 ♗xd3 12 cxd3 ♕b6 13 ♗a3 ♖fe8 14 ♖c1 ♘b4 15 ♗xb4 ♕xb4 16 ♘f1 cxd4 17 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 18 ♘xd4 ♗f8 19 ♘f3 ♕a3 20 ♕b1 g6 21 ♘e3 ♗g7 22 h3 a6 23 g3 b5 24 ♘c2 ♕d6 25 ♘e3 d4 26 ♘g4 ♘d5 27 ♘g5 h6 28 ♘f3 ♕a3 *(246)*

246



29 ♕d1 ♕xa2 30 ♘fe5 ♘c3 31 ♕f3 ♕xb3 32 ♘d7 ♖d8 33 ♘df6+ ♔h8 34 ♘e5 a5 35 ♕b7 ♖f8 36 ♘ed7 ♖d8 37 ♘e5 ♖f8 38 ♘ed7 ♖d8 39 ♕c7 ♖a8 40 ♕b7 ♖d8 41 ♖e7 ♗xf6 42 ♘xf6 ♔g7 43 ♕c7 ♖a8 44 ♕e5 ♔f8 45 ♕d6 ♕b4 46 ♖e8++ ♔g7 47 ♖xa8 ♕xd6 48 ♘e8+ ♔h7 49 ♘xd6 a4 50 ♘e4 b4 51 ♘c5 a3 52 ♘b3 1-0

(629) Petrosian-Liberzon
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♗f4 ♘f6 5 e3 0-0 6 ♘f3 c5 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♕c2 ♘c6 9 a3 ♕a5 10 ♘d2 ♗e7 11 ♗g3 ♕d8 12 ♘f3 ♕a5 13 ♘d2 ♕b6 14 ♗e2 d4 15 ♘a4 ♕d8 16 e4 ♘d7 17 ♖d1 e5 18 b4 b6 19 ♘b3 ♗b7 20 0-0 ♖e8 21 ♕b2 a5 22 b5 ♘cb8 23 ♗d3 ♘c5 24 ♘bxc5 ♗xc5 25 ♘xc5 bxc5 ½-½

(630) Csom-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 d5 8 e3 c5 9 ♘c3 dxc4 10 bxc4 ♘c6 11 ♕e2 ♖c8 12 ♖fd1 ♘a5 13 ♖ab1 ♘d7 14 d3 a6 15 ♗a1 ♕c7 16 ♗h3 ♕c6 17 ♗g2 ♕c7 18 ♗h3 ♕c6 19 ♗g2 ½-½

(631) Petrosian-Geller
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♗d2 d6 9 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 10 ♗c3 ♗f6 11 ♕d2 c6 12 b3 ♘d7 13 ♖fd1 ♖c8 14 ♘e1 ♗xg2 15 ♔xg2 ♕c7 16 ♘f3 c5 ½-½

(632) Smyslov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 d5 3 c4 dxc4 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 dxc5 ♕xd1 8 ♖xd1 ♗xc5 9 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 10 b3 b6 11 ♗b2 ♗b7 12 ♖ac1 ♔e7 13 ♗e2 ♖hc8 14 ♘e5 ♘xe5 15 ♗xe5 ♘d7 16 ♗b2 ½-½

(633) R.Byrne-Petrosian
Philidor's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 ♘f6 4 dxe5 ♘xe4 5 ♕d5 ♘c5 6 ♗g5 ♕d7 7 exd6 ♗xd6 8 ♘c3 0-0 9 0-0-0 ♘c6 10 ♗e3 ♘e7 11 ♕c4 b6 12 ♘e4 ♘xe4 13 ♕xe4 ♕c6 14 ♗d3 ♕xe4 15 ♗xe4 ♖b8 16 ♘d4 ♗d7 17 ♖he1 ½-½

(634) Petrosian-Larsen
Queen's Gambit
(notes by Kholmov)

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 d4 d5 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 0-0 6 ♘c3 ♘bd7 7 ♗d3

This continuation is considered by theory to be insufficient for gaining an advantage. 7 ♖c1 or 7 ♕c2 is usually played. Nevertheless, as we will see, Black encounters difficulties.

7 ... dxc4 8 ♗xc4 c5 9 0-0 a6 10 a4 b6

Bondarevsky-Ravinsky (Moscow, 1940) went 10 ... cxd4 11 exd4 ♘b6 12 ♗b3 ♘bd5, but after 13 ♖e1 ♕a5 14 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 15 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 16 ♘e5 b5 17 d5! exd5 18 ♘xf7 White gained the advantage.

Litvinov-Balashov (Moscow, 1972) took a different course, with Black following the move recommended by theory – 12 ... ♗d7. After 13 a5 ♘bd5 14 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 15 ♗xd5 exd5 16 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 17 ♕b3 ♕d6 the game was level.

11 ♕e2 ♗b7
12 ♖fd1 cxd4

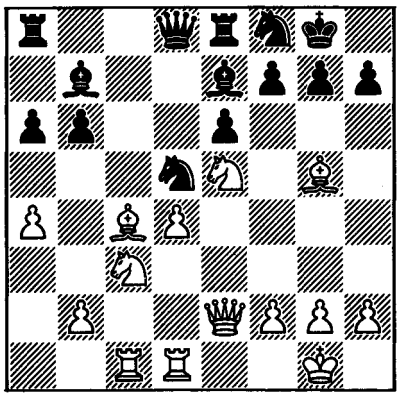
12 ... ♕c7 is more flexible, not determining the central pawn formation (Johner-Rubinstein, Berlin, 1928).

13 exd4 ♖e8
14 ♖ac1 ♘f8

In the event of 14 ... ♘d5 15 ♗xd5 exd5 the rook at e8 would have come in useful, but by 16 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 17 ♕c2 White would have retained the advantage.

15 ♘e5 ♘d5 *(247)*

247



16 ♗xd5

An unusual handling of the position by the Ex-World Champion. Usually White aims to retain this bishop, which is one of his main attacking pieces.

16 ... ♗xd5

16 ... exd5 came into consideration, exploiting the opposition of rook and queen. After the move played the c-file is seriously weakened, and the a6 pawn will begin to cause Black considerable trouble.

17 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 18 ♘xd5 ♕xd5 19 ♖c3 f6

19 ... ♘g6 fails to solve Black's defensive problems. If 20 ♖dc1 ♘xe5, then:

(a) 21 dxe5 ♖d7! 22 ♖c8+ ♖xc8 23 ♖xc8+ ♖d8! with an equal game; on 24 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 25 ♕xa6 there follows 25 ... ♕d1+ and 26 ... ♕xa4.

(b) 21 ♕xe5 ♕xe5 22 ♖c8+ ♖e8 23 ♖xe8+ ♖xe8 24 dxe5 ♖d8! 25 g3 g6 26 ♖c6 ♖d4!, and Black maintains the balance.

But White would have continued 20 ♘c4!, when it is not easy for Black to regroup his forces.

20 ♘c4 ♕d8

20 ... ♖b8 is interesting, and if 21 ♘e3 then 21 ... ♕b7 22 d5 (or *22 ♕c4 b5* with equal chances) 22 ... exd5 23 ♖cd3 ♖d8 24 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 25 ♕c4 b5! 26 ♕a2 bxa4 27 ♘xd5 ♖f7, when White does not have anything. But 21 ♕c2 is stronger, retaining the advantage.

21 g3 ♖d7
22 ♖cd3 ♔h8

Is this prophylaxis really necessary? Black should have played 22 ... ♕c7 23 ♕e4 (*23 ♘e3 ♕c6! 24 b3 ♖ad8*, and Black stands no worse; the pawn sacrifice *24 d5!?* is unclear – *24 ... ♕xa4 25 dxe6 ♖xd3 26 ♕xd3 ♘xe6* or *26 ... ♖e8*), and now:

(a) 23 ... ♕b7? 24 d5 exd5 25 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 (*25 ... ♖ad8? 26 ♘xb6!*) 26 ♕xd5+ ♕xd5 27 ♖xd5 ♖b8 28 ♖d6, and White's advantage is obvious.

(b) 23 ... ♖ad8 is stronger, e.g. 24 ♘e3 b5! 25 axb5 axb5 26 d5 exd5 27 ♘xd5 ♕c4! and Black maintains the balance. But 24 d5 leaves White with the better chances.

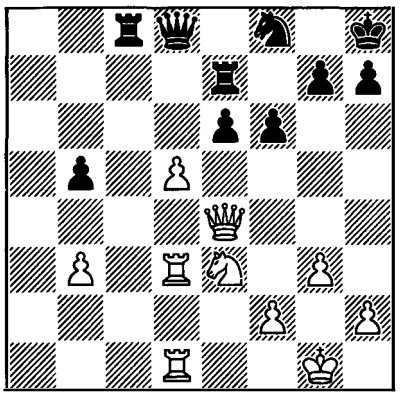
23 ♕e4 ♖c8
24 b3 b5

This pawn later becomes a target for attack, but after 24 ... h6 Black would have had to advance his b-pawn in less favourable circumstances: 25 d5! exd5 26 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 27 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 28 ♖xd5 ♖b8 29 ♖d6 b5 30 ♘e3 bxa4 31 bxa4 ♖a8 32 a5 ♘g6 33 f4, and White's king quickly comes to the aid of his pieces.

25 axb5 axb5
26 ♘e3 ♖e7
27 d5! *(248)*

The culmination of White's previous strategy. By opening up the position, he aims to exploit the activity of his pieces, and at the same time to approach the b5 pawn.

248



27 ... exd5
28 ♕xd5

28 ♕b4 was evidently stronger, but being short of time Petrosian chooses a simpler continuation.

28 ... ♕e8!

After the exchange of queens Black has serious difficulties over the defence of his b-pawn.

29 ♔g2 ♖e5
30 ♕b7 h6

30 ... ♖b8 is more tenacious, when 31 ♕xb8 ♕xb8 32 ♖d8 fails to 32 ... ♕b7+. The queen would have had to return – 31 ♕f3, when after 31 ... ♘e6 32 h4 White's position remains better.

31 b4 ♘e6
32 h4 ♖b8

32 ... ♖d8 came into consideration. After the capture on d8 the knight could have transferred to c6, attacking the b-pawn, while after 33 ♘g4 ♖xd3 34 ♖xd3 ♖e1 White's advantage is not so significant.

33 ♕f3 ♘f8

It was not yet too late to weaken White's pressure by 33 ... ♖d8, e.g. 34 ♘g4 ♖xd3 35 ♕xd3 ♖e2! 36 ♔f1 ♖a2.

34 ♘f5 ♕g6 35 ♘d6 h5 36 ♖d5 ♘d7 37 ♘f7+ ♕xf7 38 ♖xd7 ♕g6 39 ♖1d4 ♖be8?

39 ... ♕b1! was essential, and if 40 ♕d3 ♕xd3 41 ♖xd3 ♖e4!, while if 40 ♖7d5 only then 40 ... ♖be8!. After the move played White successfully completes his operation to surround the b5 pawn.

40 ♖b7 ♕b1

After 40 ... ♖8e7 41 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 42 ♖d5 ♖e5 43 ♖xe5 fxe5 44 ♕d5 White has the advantage, although he is still a long way from a win.

41 ♕d3!

41 ♖dd7 was tempting, but after 41 ... ♖f5! 42 ♕d3 ♕xd3! (*42 ... ♖xf2+? 43 ♔xf2 ♕e1+ 44 ♔f3 ♕h1+ 45 ♔f4 ♕c1+ 46 ♔f5* and the king hides safely) 43 ♖xd3 ♖e2 44 ♖f3 ♖fe5! the game should end in a draw.

41 ... ♕xd3

The exchange cannot be avoided: 41 ... ♕a1 42 ♕g6! ♖g8 43 ♖d8!, or 41 ... ♕c1 42 ♖dd7 ♕c6+ (*42 ... ♖e1 43 ♕f3!* etc) 43 ♔h2! (*43 ♕f3? ♕xf3+ 44 ♔xf3 ♖f5+ 45 ♔g2 ♖e2!*) 43 ... ♖e2 (*43 ... ♖e1* does not help in view of *44 ♕d5!*) 44 ♕f5 ♖2e5 45 ♕g6.

42 ♖xd3 ♖c8
43 f4 ♖e2+

The pawn can no longer be held. After 43 ... ♖f5 the rook would have been trapped.

44 ♔f3 ♖b2
45 ♖xb5 ♖c4

White would have had more difficult problems to solve after 45 ... g6!, e.g. 46 ♖b7 f5!. Now White has to sacrifice his kingside pawns by 47 ♔e3!, since he

achieves nothing by 47 b5 ♖e8! 48 b6 ♔g8 49 ♖e3 (neither *49 ♖dd7* nor *49 ♖d6* works because of *49... ♖be2!*) 49 ... ♖d8! 50 ♖e2 ♖xe2 51 ♔xe2 ♖d6!, when he cannot strengthen his position.

46 ♖xh5+ ♔g8
47 ♔g4

After 47 b5 ♖cb4 48 ♖dd5 ♖4b3+ 49 ♔g4 ♖g2 things would have been not at all bad for Black.

47 ... ♖cxb4 48 ♖d8+ ♔f7 49 ♖hh8 ♖b7 50 ♖hf8+ ♔e7

If 50 ... ♔e6 then 51 f5+ ♔e7 52 ♔h5 ♖g2 53 ♖de8+! (*53 g4? ♖b4! 54 g5 fxg5 55 hxg5 ♖bg4!* with a draw) 53 ... ♔d6 54 ♖e3!, after which nothing can prevent the penetration of the king to g6.

51 ♔f5 ♖2b3 52 g4 ♖g3 53 ♖de8+ ♔d6 54 g5 fxg5 55 hxg5 ♖b5+ 56 ♔g6 Black lost on time

(635) Matanović-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘g3 e6 7 ♗d3 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 b3 b6 10 ♗b2 ♗b7 11 ♕e2 c5 12 ♖ad1 ♕c7 13 c4 ♖fe8 14 ♗b1 ♖ad8 15 dxc5 ♕xc5 16 ♘e4 ♕c7 17 h3 ♘xe4 18 ♗xe4 ½-½

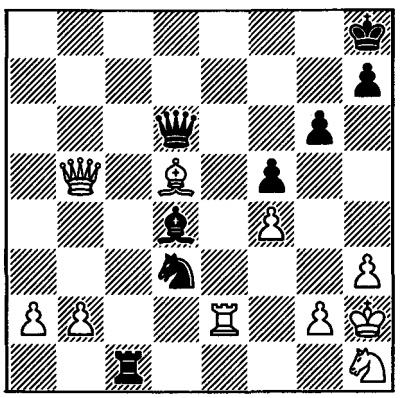
(636) Petrosian-Smejkal
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♘c6 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♗g7 6 0-0 0-0 7 d4 d6 8 dxc5 dxc5 9 ♗f4 ♘h5 10 ♗d2 ♗e6 11 b3 ♕c8 12 ♕c1 ♗h3 13 ♗h6 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 ♕e6 15 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 16 ♖d1 ♖ad8 17 ♖d5 b6 18 ♕b2 ♘f6 19 ♖ad1 ♔g8 20 e4 ♕c8 21 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 22 e5 ♘e8 23 ♖xd8 ½-½

(637) Hübner-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♗c4 e6 5 ♗b3 ♘e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 c3 b6 8 ♘bd2 ♘bc6 9 ♖e1 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 ♘f1 ♘ac6 12 ♗e3 ♕c7 13 ♖c1 e5 14 h3 ♘d8 15 ♘3h2 ♗b7 16 ♘g3 exd4 17 cxd4 ♘e6 18 ♗b3 d5 19 e5 ♘c6 20 ♘g4 ♖fd8 21 dxc5 bxc5 22 ♗xc5 ♘xc5 23 ♖xc5 ♕e7 24 ♕c1 ♖ac8 25 ♘f6+ ♔h8 26 ♘xd5 ♕f8 27 ♕e3 ♘xe5 28 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 29 ♕xa7 ♗xd5 30 ♗xd5 ♕b4 31 ♖e2 f5 32 ♕b7 ♖c1+ 33 ♔h2 ♕f8 34 f4 ♘d3 35 ♕b5 ♗d4 36 ♘h1 ♕d6 *(249)*

249

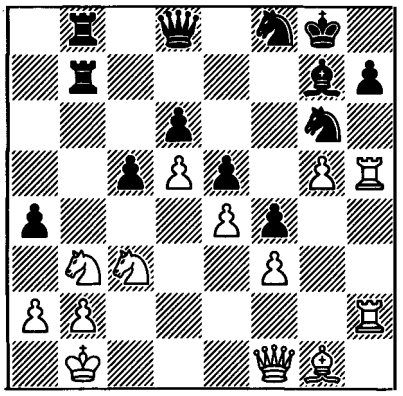


37 g3 ♘xf4 38 ♕e8+ ♔g7 39 ♖e7+ ♔h6 40 ♘f2 ♗xf2 41 ♖xh7+ ♔g5 0-1

(638) Petrosian-Diaz
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 f3 0-0 6 ♘ge2 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 e5 8 ♕d2 ♘d7 9 d5 ♘e7 10 g4 f5 11 g5 a6 12 h4 ♖b8 13 ♘c1 c6 14 ♘b3 c5 15 ♕h2 ♖f7 16 h5 gxh5 17 ♕xh5 ♘f8 18 0-0-0 f4 19 ♗f2 ♗d7 20 ♗h3 ♗xh3 21 ♕xh3 b5 22 ♕f1 ♕b6 23 ♖d2 ♘eg6 24 ♖c2 ♖fb7 25 ♖h5 ♕d8 26 ♗g1 ♘e7 27 ♖ch2 ♘eg6 28 ♔b1 bxc4 29 ♕xc4 a5 30 ♕f1 a4 *(250)*

250



31 ♘xa4 c4 32 ♘bc5 dxc5 33 ♘xc5 ♖b5 34 ♕xc4 ♕b6 35 b3 ♖b4 36 ♕a6 ♕c7 37 ♖c2 ♕f7 38 ♗f2 ♘e7 39 ♖h1 ♘xd5 40 exd5 ♕xd5 41 ♕d3 ♕f7 42 ♔c1 e4 43 ♘xe4 ♔h8 44 ♘d6 ♕d7 45 ♗c5 ♖4b7 46 ♖d1 ♘e6 47 ♘xb7 ♕xb7 48 ♕d5 ♘xc5 49 ♖xc5 ♕a6 50 ♔b1 ♕a3 51 ♖c2 ♖e8 52 ♖h2 1-0

Candidates Play-Off Match-Tournament
Varese, October 1976

1 **Petrosian** (+1 –0 =7) 4½; 2 Portisch 4; 3 Tal 3½.

(639) Tal-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 ♗g2 d6 8 0-0 ♗xc3 (to weaken White's control of d5) **9 ♗xc3 e5 10 ♕c2 a5** (10 ... e4 11 ♘g5 ♗f5 [*11 ... ♖e8*] 12 d5) **11 ♖ad1 ♖e8 12 dxe5** (12 d5!) **12 ...dxe5 13 ♘g5 h6 14 ♘e4 ♘d7** (14 ... ♗f5 15 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 16 ♕b3 with initiative) **15 ♘d2 ♘c5 16 ♘b3 ♘b4 17 ♕b1** (17 ♗xb4 axb4 18 ♘c1 ♖a6 =) **17 ... ♘xb3 18 axb3 ½-½** (I.Zaitsev)

∫(640) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Pawn Opening
(notes by I.Zaitsev)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b5

Black displays a certain 'lack of compliancy' in the opening. It turns out that neither the Catalan Opening nor the Queen's Indian Defence suits him.

4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 c5 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 c3 ♘a6 8 e3

White plays to restrict the knight, so as to be able to answer 8 ... cxd4 with 9 exd4. But if the position as a whole is assessed, it can be concluded that Black has obtained a perfectly satisfactory game.

8 ... ♖b8 9 ♘bd2 0-0 10 a3

White intends to advance b2-b4, after which his position will be preferable. With his next few moves Portisch forestalls this plan.

10 ... ♘e4 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 ♕e2 ♘c7 13 ♖fd1

Threatening to win a pawn by 14 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 15 dxc5 ♕xc5 16 ♖xd7, and so for the moment Black is forced to defend his 2nd rank.

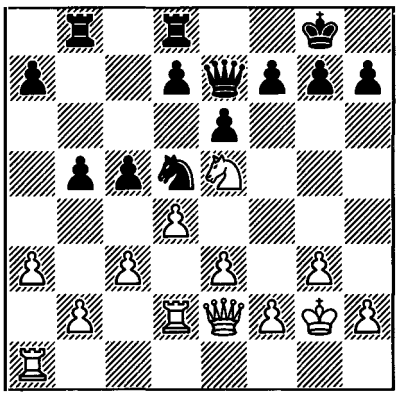
13 ... ♖fd8 14 ♘e5 ♘xd2 15 ♖xd2

15 ♗xb7 would be a blunder in view of 15 ... ♘b3, winning the exchange.

15 ... ♗xg2
16 ♔xg2 ♘d5 *(251)*

The Hungarian grandmaster made this move very quickly, almost without thinking. Nevertheless, it is this knight manoeuvre which is the cause of Black's subsequent difficulties. At c7 the knight was no worse placed than at f6, and the loss of two tempi associated with this plan soon tells.

251



In general, it seems to me that Portisch plays very easily and confidently as long as he has the possibility of strengthening the placing of his pieces. But this tendency all the time to improve his pieces sometimes serves him badly. Those who recall the decisive game from the 1974 match between Petrosian and Portisch will probably be aware that all Portisch's misadventures began with a similar knight manoeuvre.

17 e4 ♘f6
18 ♘g4

White decides to take play into a heavy piece ending. Another plan also came into consideration: 18 b4 c4 19 a4 a5. As Petrosian stated after the game, it was because of this counterblow that he rejected the plan with b2-b4, but it would appear that by 20 ♖b2! White would have retained the better chances. And after 18 b4 cxd4 (*18 ... cxb4 19 axb4* undoubtedly favours White) 19 cxd4 ♕d6!? (*19... ♖dc8 20 ♖c2 ♕d6 21 ♖ac1 ♖xc2 22 ♕xc2* again gives White the better ending) 20 ♖c1 ♕a6 21 ♕d3 the advantage is again with White. Therefore by 18 b4! White could have gained a definite advantage.

The following continuation was also possible: 18 ♖e1 (preparing d4-d5; the immediate *18 d5* is not good because of *18 ... exd5 19 exd5 ♖e8*) 18 ... cxd4 19 cxd4 ♖dc8 (or *19 ... b4 20 d5 exd5 21 exd5 bxa3 22 d6 ♕e6 23 bxa3*, and the d6 pawn ensures White the advantage) 20 d5 exd5 21 exd5 with a double-edged position.

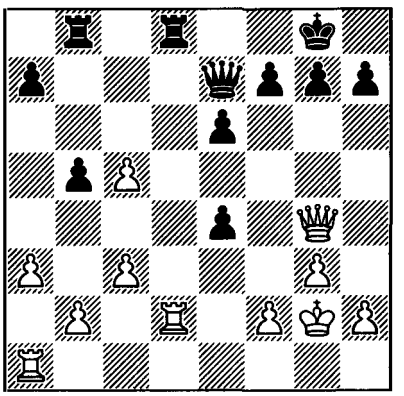
18 ... ♘xg4
19 ♕xg4 d5

Black overestimates his resources. More in the spirit of the position was 19 ... d6, creating a solid pawn front. In this case the game would have been level, whereas now things become difficult for Black.

20 dxc5 dxe4 *(252)*

If 20 ... ♕xc5 then 21 ♖ad1, and the pressure on the d-file is very unpleasant.

252



21 ♖ad1!

Black clearly underestimated this little tactical blow. Now, to save the game, he has to work very hard.

21 ... ♖xd2

Or 21 ... f5 22 ♕f4, and the rook at b8 is under attack.

22 ♖xd2 ♕xc5

The lesser evil. The plausible 22 ... e3 is dubious in view of 23 ♖d6!, when White obtains a very strong position.

23 ♕xe4

23 ♕f4 ♕c8! 24 ♕xe4 ♕c7 would have come to the same thing. Thus White has seized control of the only open file, which is always of primary importance in a heavy piece ending.

23 ... ♕c7 24 ♕d3 h6 25 ♕d7 ♕c5

Transposing into the rook ending was extremely risky for Black – the white king would have very quickly reached the queenside.

26 ♖d3 a5

Now White constantly has to reckon with ... b4.

27 ♖f3 ♖f8 28 ♖f4 e5 29 ♖e4 ♔h8 30 ♖e3

The rook moves about tortoise-like, trying to provoke a weakening of the opponent's position. But, despite all White's efforts, Black's position remains perfectly defensible.

30 ... f6

Of course, not 30 ... f5? 31 b4!, when Black loses material.

31 ♖d3 ♖b8

31 ... ♕c4 was the most solid, when Black no longer has to fear the exchange of queens.

32 ♕d6 ♕a7

Again the rook ending would have been unpleasant for Black.

33 ♕c6 ♕f7
34 ♖d5 ♕g6?

Unexpectedly White acquires a valuable ally – the opponent's time trouble. Short of time on the clock, Portisch commits an irreparable error, and loses a highly important pawn. To be fair, it should be said that Black's defence would also have been difficult after 34 ... ♕b7 35 ♕xb7 ♖xb7 36 ♔f3. But after 34 ... b4 35 ♖xa5 bxc3 36 ♕xc3 ♕b7+ the win would still have remained problematic.

35 ♖xe5 ♕d3
36 ♖c5

36 ♖e7 was also good, combining action against the queenside pawns with an attack on the king.

36 ... b4 37 cxb4 axb4 38 a4 ♕b3 39 ♖c2

39 a5 ♕xb2 40 a6 ♕a2 41 ♕b7 was the most energetic, but by this point White too had only seconds left on his clock, and so he preferred not to take any risks.

39 ... ♕a2 40 ♖e2 ♔h7 41 h4

41 ♕c2+ ♔h8 42 b3 was slightly simpler, but in the time scramble White makes one more move just in case. Of course, all the same Black's position remains lost.

In this position the game was adjourned, and Portisch sealed his next move. In our adjournment analysis it was established that after 41 ... f5 42 ♕f3 ♕xa4 43 ♕xf5+ ♔h8 44 ♖e6 ♕a8+ 45 ♕e4 the ending is hopeless for Black. Therefore all our attention was switched to 41 ... b3. Soon we came to the unanimous decision to answer this with 42 ♕d7!, and one of the main variations occurred on the resumption.

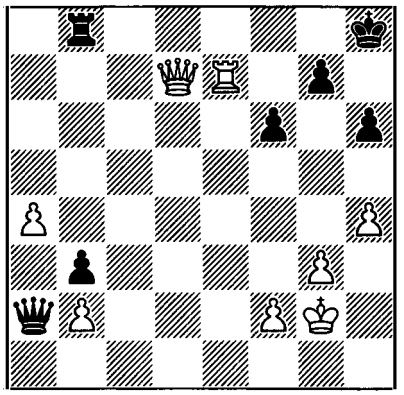
41 ... b3
42 ♕d7! ♔h8!

The best chance.

43 ♖e7 *(253)*

Now on 43 ... ♕xb2 there would have followed 44 ♖xg7 ♕c2 45 ♕f7! (this 'quiet' move, weaving a mating net around the black king, is the point of White's plan) 45 ... ♕e4+ (there is no other defence against *46* ♖*g6*) 46 f3! (not *46*

253



♔*g1* ♕*b1+ 47* ♔*h2* ♕*f5,* when Black defends successfully) 46 ... ♕e2+ (or *46... ♕c2+ 47* ♔*h3* ♕*f5+ 48* ♖*g4* with a straightforward win) 47 ♔h3 ♕f1+ 48 ♔g4, and White wins: (a) 48 ... ♖b4+ 49 ♔h5 ♕xf3+ 50 g4; (b) 48 ... f5+ 49 ♔h5 ♕xf3+ 50 g4; (c) 48 ... ♕d3 49 ♕xf6 (but not *49* ♖*g6?? ♕xg6+ 50 ♕xg6* ♖*g8*).

43 ... ♖g8 44 ♕d4 ♖a8 45 ♖b7

The following plan was also possible: 45 ♖c7 ♖g8 (the a4 pawn is immune) 46 ♖c1!, after which the black queen does not have a single move. White then prepares g3-g4-g5 and decides the game by a mating attack.

45 ... ♖e8

Bad, of course, was 45 ... ♕xa4 (*45 ... ♖xa4? 46 ♕d7*, mating) 46 ♖b8+ ♔h7 47 ♕d3+ g6 48 ♖b7+ ♔h8 49 ♖b6 ♔g7 50 h5!, when Black is completely helpless.

46 ♖b5 ♖c8 47 ♖b4 ♖g8 48 ♕c3 ♖a8 49 ♕f3!

Black resigns, since he loses a second pawn.

(641) Petrosian-Tal
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 c4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 d5 10 cxd5 ♗xg2 11 ♘xg2 ♕xd5 12 ♘f4 ♕b7 13 ♗e3 ♘d7 14 ♖c1 ♖fd8 15 ♕c2 c5 16 dxc5 ♘xc5 17 ♖fd1 ♖xd1+ 18 ♖xd1 ½-½

(642) Portisch-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 c3 c6 4 ♗d3 d6 5 f4 d5 6 e5 h5 7 ♘f3 ♘h6 8 ♗e3 ♗f5 9 ♗xf5 ♘xf5 10 ♗f2 ♘a6 11 ♘bd2 ♘c7 12 g3 ♕d7 13 ♕e2 ♘e6 14 0-0-0 0-0-0 15 ♔b1 f6 16 ♘b3 ♗h6 17 ♖he1 ♖de8 18 ♕c2 b6 19 h3 ♗g7 20 ♘c1 ♘c7 21 ♘d3 ♘h6 22 ♖h1 ♘f7 23 ♗e3 f5 24 ♘h4 ♖h6 25 ♘f2 ♖eh8 26 ♘f3 e6 27 ♖hg1 ♗f8 28 g4 hxg4 29 hxg4 ♘d8 30 ♕c1 c5 ½-½

(643) Tal-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 ♗e7 11 b3 0-0 12 ♗b2 ♕f4 13 ♘f3 b6 14 ♗e5 ♕g4 15 ♘d4 ♕xd1 16 ♖axd1 ♗b7 17 ♘b5 ♗c5 18 ♗d6 ♗xd6 19 ♖xd6 ♖fc8 20 ♖fd1 ♔f8 ½-½

(644) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 g3 ♗a6 5 b3 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 d5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♘c3 ♗b7 11 ♖c1 ♘bd7 ½-½

(645) Petrosian-Tal
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 d6 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 d3 ♘c6 6 e4 ♘ge7 7 ♘ge2 0-0 8 0-0 ♗e6 9 ♘d5 ♕d7 10 ♗e3 f5 11 ♕d2 ♖ae8 12 ♖ae1 ♘c8 13 b3 ♘d8 14 exf5 ♗xf5 15 ♘dc3 c6 16 d4 e4 17 ♘f4 ½-½

(646) Portisch-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 d4 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘h4 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d6 11 e4 ♘c6 12 ♖b1 ♘a5 13 b3 c5 ½-½

44th USSR Championship
Moscow, November-December 1976

1 Karpov 12; 2 Balashov 11; 3-4 **Petrosian** (+6 –2 =9), Polugayevsky 10½; 5 Dorfman 9½; 6-7 Smyslov, Tal 9; 8-10 Geller, Romanishin, Sveshnikov 8½; 11 Gulko 8; 12-13 Grigorian, Vaganian 7½; 14-15 Rashkovsky, Taimanov 7; 16-17 Tseshkovsky, Zakharov 6½; 18 Kupreichik 6.

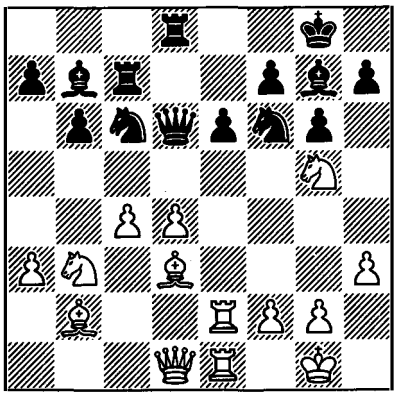
(647) Petrosian-Tal
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 b3 e6 4 ♗b2 ♗e7 5 e3 ♘c6 6 d4 cxd4 7 exd4 d5 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♖e1 ♖c8 11 ♘bd2 0-0 12 ♖c1 ♖e8 13 a3 dxc4 14 bxc4 ♕d6 15 ♘b3 ♖ed8 16 ♖c2 ♗f8 17 ♖ce2 g6 18 ♘g5 ♗g7 19 h3 ♖c7

(diagram 254)

20 ♘xe6 fxe6 21 ♖xe6 ♕f8 22 d5 ♘b8 23 ♗c3 ♘a6 24 ♘d4 ♘xd5 25 cxd5 ♖xc3 26 ♗xa6 ♗xd5 27 ♖e7 ♗f7 28 ♖7e4 ♕c5 0-1

254



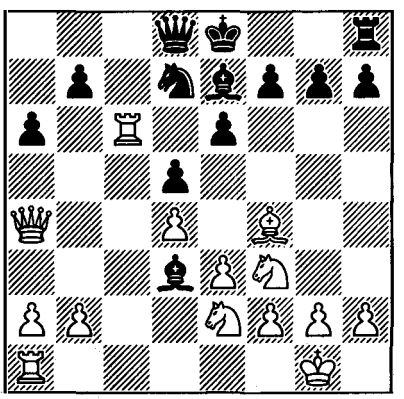
(648) Zakharov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘c6 6 ♗b5 ♗d7 7 ♘xc6 bxc6 8 ♗d3 ♕c7 9 ♕e2 ♘e7 10 0-0 ♘g6 11 ♘f3 ♗d6 12 ♖e1 ♘f4 13 ♗xf4 ♗xf4 14 c4 0-0 15 g3 ♗h6 16 exd5 cxd5 17 ♕c2 g6 18 cxd5 ♕xc2 19 ♗xc2 exd5 20 ♗b3 ♗e6 21 ♘d4 ♖fe8 ½-½

(649) Petrosian-Sveshnikov
Slav Defence

1 ♘f3 d5 2 d4 ♘f6 3 c4 c6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘c3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 ♗f5 7 e3 e6 8 ♗b5 ♘d7 9 ♕a4 ♖c8 10 0-0 a6 11 ♗xc6 ♖xc6 12 ♖fc1 ♗e7 13 ♘e2 ♗d3 14 ♖xc6 *(255)*

255

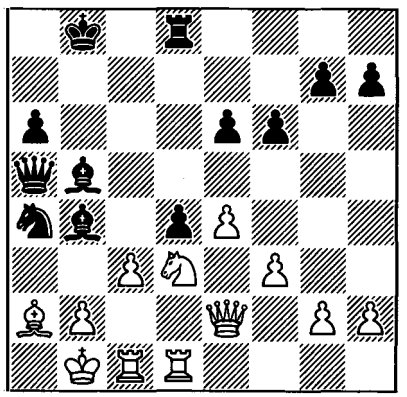


14 ... bxc6 15 ♘c1 ♗b5 16 ♕c2 c5 17 a4 ♗c6 18 dxc5 ♘xc5 19 b4 ♗xa4 20 ♕b2 ♗f6 21 ♗e5 ♗xe5 22 ♕xe5 f6 23 ♕b2 ♕b8 24 ♕a3 ♗b5 25 bxc5 e5 26 ♘a2 0-0 27 ♘c3 ♗c4 28 ♘d2 1-0

(650) Gulko-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♗c4 ♕a5 8 ♕d2 e6 9 0-0-0 b5 10 ♗b3 ♗b7 11 ♖he1 0-0-0 12 a3 ♗e7 13 ♔b1 ♕b6 14 f3 ♔b8 15 ♗e3 ♘c5 16 ♗a2 b4 17 axb4 ♕xb4 18 ♘b3 ♘fd7 19 ♗g5 f6 20 ♗e3 ♘b6 21 ♘xc5 dxc5 22 ♕e2 ♗c8 23 ♗d2 ♖d4 24 ♗e3 ♖hd8 25 ♖c1 ♕a5 26 ♗xd4 cxd4 27 ♘d1 ♗d7 28 ♘f2 ♗b5 29 ♘d3 ♘a4 30 ♖ed1 ♗b4 31 c3 *(256)*

256

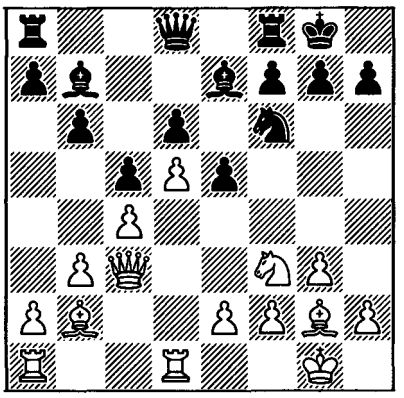


31 ... ♗xc3 32 bxc3 ♘xc3+ 33 ♖xc3 dxc3 34 ♔a1 ♕a4 35 ♖c1 ♖xd3 36 ♕f2 ♕d4 37 ♕xd4 ♖xd4 38 ♗xe6 ♖a4+ 39 ♔b1 ♗d3+ 0-1

(651) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

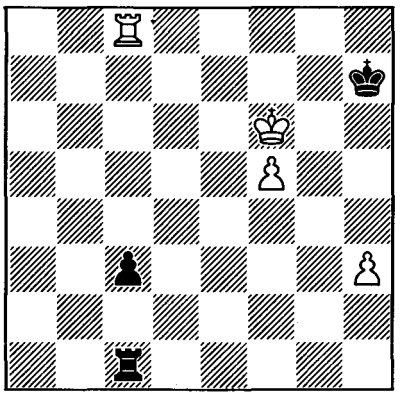
1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 d4 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♘d7 12 ♗b2 ♘f6 13 d5 e5 *(257)*

257



14 ♘xe5 dxe5 15 d6 ♗xg2 16 ♕xe5 ♖e8 17 dxe7 ♕xe7 18 ♕xe7 ♖xe7 19 ♔xg2 ♖xe2 20 ♗xf6 gxf6 21 ♖d7 ♖b2 22 ♖e1 ♖xa2 23 ♖ee7 ♖f8 24 ♖xa7 ♖xa7 25 ♖xa7 ♖d8 26 ♖b7 ♖d6 27 g4 ♔g7 28 f3 ♔g6 29 ♔g3 h5 30 gxh5+ ♔xh5 31 ♖xf7 ♖d3 32 ♖xf6 ♖xb3 33 ♔f4 ♖b4 34 ♔f5 ♖xc4 35 ♖xb6 ♖c1 36 ♖c6 c4 37 ♖c8 ♔h6 38 ♔f6 ♔h7 39 f4 ♖c2 40 f5 c3 41 h3 ♖c1 *(258)*

258



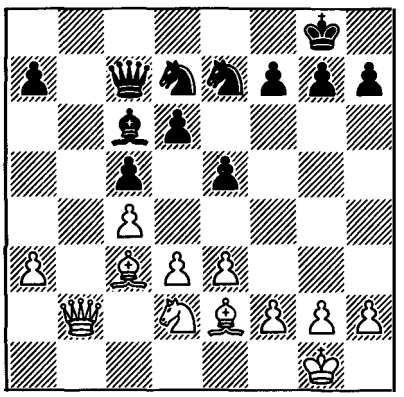
42 h4 ♖c2 43 h5 ♖c1 44 ♔f7 ♖c2 45 f6 ♖c1 46 ♔e7 c2 47 ♔f7 ♔h6 48 ♖c5 ♔h7 49 ♖c6 ♔h6 50 ♔f8 ♔h7 51 ♖c7+ ♔h8 52 f7 ♖a1 53 ♖xc2 ♖a8+ 54 ♔e7 ♖a7+ 55 ♔f6 ♖a6+ 56 ♔g5 ♖a5+ 57 ♔g4 ♖a4+ 58

♔g3 ♖a3+ 59 ♔g2 ♔g7 60 ♖f2 ♔f8 61 ♖f5 ♖a6 62 ♔g3 ♖h6 63 ♔g4 ♖h7 ½-½

(652) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 d3 ♗b4 5 ♗d2 0-0 6 e3 ♖e8 7 ♗e2 d6 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 ♗xc3 ♘e7 10 0-0 c5 11 b4 b6 12 bxc5 bxc5 13 ♖b1 ♗d7 14 ♘d2 ♕c7 15 ♕c2 ♖ab8 16 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 17 ♖b1 ♖xb1+ 18 ♕xb1 ♗c6 19 ♕b2 ♘d7 *(259)*

259

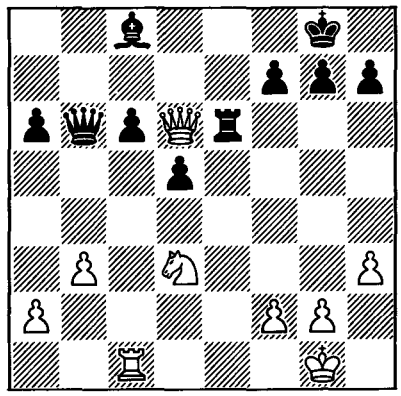


20 d4 ♕b7 21 ♕xb7 ♗xb7 22 ♘b3 cxd4 23 exd4 ♗a6 24 ♔f1 ♘c6 25 d5 ♘d8 26 ♘a5 ♔f8 ½-½

(653) Petrosian-Grigorian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 3 ♘c3 e6 4 e3 d5 5 d4 ♘c6 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 ♗c4 ♗e7 8 ♗xd5 exd5 9 dxc5 ♗e6 10 0-0 ♗xc5 11 b3 0-0 12 ♗b2 a6 13 h3 ♗a7 14 ♘e2 ♕d6 15 ♘f4 ♖ad8 16 ♘d4 ♗d7 17 ♖c1 ♖fe8 18 ♘xc6 bxc6 19 ♕f3 ♖e4 20 ♖fd1 ♖de8 21 ♗d4 ♗xd4 22 ♖xd4 ♖xd4 23 exd4 ♕f6 24 ♘d3 ♕xd4 25 ♘c5 ♗c8 26 ♘d3 ♗d7 27 ♘c5 ♗c8 28 ♘d3 ♕b6 29 ♕f4 ♖e4 30 ♕d6 ♖e6 *(260)*

260

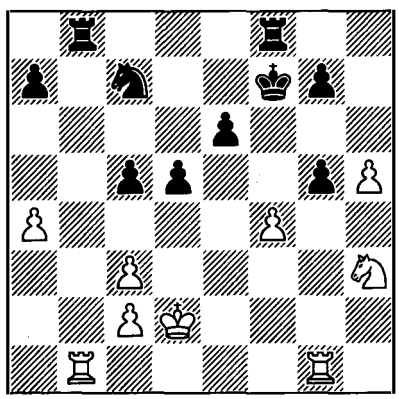


31 ♕c5 ♕xc5 32 ♘xc5 ♖e2 33 ♘d3 ♗d7 34 ♘b4 ♔f8 35 ♘xa6 ♖xa2 36 ♘b8 ½-½

(654) Tseshkovsky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♗d2 ♘e7 6 ♕g4 ♘f5 7 ♘f3 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 ♕f4 c5 10 dxc5 bxc5 11 g4 ♘e7 12 h4 0-0 13 h5 f5 14 exf6 ♖xf6 15 ♕g3 ♘c6 16 0-0-0 ♕c7 17 ♘g5 ♕xg3 18 fxg3 ♘d4 19 ♗f4 ♗xc3 20 bxc3 ♘e2+ 21 ♔d2 ♘xf4 22 gxf4 ♘c7 23 ♘h3 ♖b8 24 ♖b1 ♖ff8 25 a4 h6 26 ♖hg1 ♔f7 27 g5 hxg5 *(261)*

261



28 fxg5 ♖xb1 29 ♖xb1 ♔e7 30 ♔e2 e5 0-1 (time)

∫ (655) Petrosian-Rashkovsky
Modern Benoni
(notes by Kholmov)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘c3 g6 7 e4 ♗g7 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 ♖e8 10 ♘d2 ♘bd7 11 a4

The 3rd game of the Spassky-Fischer match (Reykjavik, 1972) went 11 ♕c2 ♘h5!?. For the time being Petrosian avoids determining the position of his queen, but deploys his pieces in the best way possible and keeps the h5 square under fire.

11 ... ♘e5

11 ... a6 is more often played, but in Petrosian-Quinteros (Lone Pine, 1976) after 12 ♖a3 ♖b8 13 a5 ♕c7 14 h3 b5 15 axb6 ♖xb6 16 ♕c2 ♘e5 17 f4 ♘ed7 18 ♔h1 ♖b4 19 b3 ♘b6 20 ♗b2 ♕e7 21 ♖aa1 ♘g4 22 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 23 ♘a2 ♗e2 24 ♗xg7 ♗xf1 25 ♘xb4 ♗b5 26 ♘c6 ♗xc6 27 dxc6 ♔xg7 28 ♖xa6 White gained a clear advantage.

12 ♖a3

In the event of 12 ♕c2 ♘h5 13 ♗xh5 gxh5 14 ♘d1 ♕h4 15 ♘e3 ♘g4 16 ♘xg4 hxg4 17 ♘c4 ♕f6 18 ♗d2 ♕g6 a position with chances for both sides arose in Gligorić-Kavalek, Skopje, 1972.

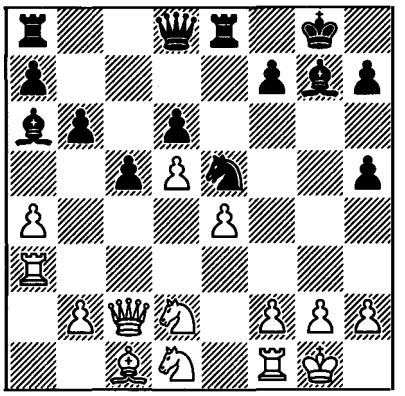
12 ... b6

At the tournament in Milan (1975) Ljubojević chose 12 ... ♗d7 against Petrosian, but after 13 ♕c2 ♖c8 14 f4 ♘eg4 15 ♘c4 ♕e7 16 h3 he ended up in a difficult position.

13 ♕c2 ♘h5 14 ♗xh5 gxh5 15 ♘d1 ♗a6 *(262)*

In Gligorić-Taimanov (Leningrad, 1973) 15 ... f5 was played, with the idea of 'plugging' the hole at f5 with the pawn. Only after 16 exf5 did Black play 16 ... ♗a6.

262



16 ♖h3

16 ♘e3 immediately takes control of f5 (Plachetka-Sikora, Czech Championship, 1974). 16 ♖e1 is bad because of 16 ... f5! 17 exf5? ♘c4! 18 ♖xe8+ ♕xe8 19 ♖g3 ♕e1+ 20 ♘f1 ♘d2! etc.

16 ... ♗xf1
17 ♘xf1 b5

Aiming as quickly as possible to open lines for the rooks on the queenside. 17 ... f5 18 exf5 h4 was also possible, to some extent blocking the approaches to his king. Now the f5 square becomes an important base for the white pieces.

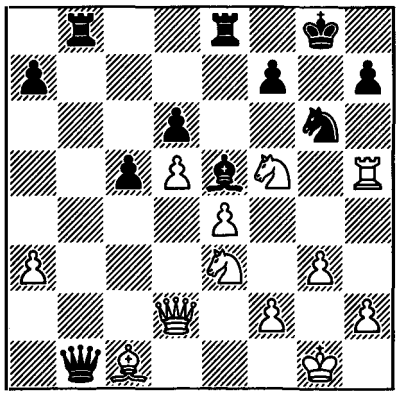
18 ♘de3

Or 18 axb5 ♖b8 19 ♘c3 f5 20 exf5 ♘g4, and Black gains sufficient counterplay after both 21 ♖xh5 ♖e1! and 21 ♘e4 ♕e7 22 ♘fg3 (*22 ♘g5 ♕e2!*) 22 ... ♗d4 23 ♗g5 ♕e5.

18 ... bxa4 19 ♘f5 ♘g6 20 ♖xh5 ♗e5 21 g3 ♖b8 22 ♘1e3 a3 23 bxa3 ♕b6 24 ♕d2 ♕b3

24 ... ♕b1 *(263)* was stronger.
After this White has two possibilities, 25 ♘c4 and 25 ♘g4, which we will consider in turn.

263



(a) 25 ♘c4 ♕xe4, and now:

(a1) 26 ♕h6 is unclear because of 26 ... ♕e1+ 27 ♔g2 ♕e4+ 28 ♔h3 ♘f8 29 ♘cxd6 (*29 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 30 ♘xd6 ♕e1 31 ♘xe8 ♕f1+ 32 ♔g4 ♕e2+ 33 f3 ♖xe8*, and the white king too is dangerously placed) 29 ... ♕xd5 30 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 31 f4 ♕d1! etc.

(a2) 26 ♘cxd6 ♕f3! (*26 ... ♗xd6? 27 ♕h6!*) 27 ♘h6+ (*27 ♕h6 ♕d1+! 28 ♔g2 ♕xd5+ 29 ♔h3 ♘f8 30 ♘xe8 ♖xe8* transposes into variation a1) 27 ... ♔g7 28 ♘g4 ♗xd6 29 ♕h6+ ♔g8 30 ♘f6+ (after *30 ♕xh7+? ♔f8 31 ♗h6+ ♔e7 32 ♗g5+ ♔d7 33 ♘f6+ ♔c8!* it is Black who wins) 30 ... ♕xf6 31 ♕xh7+ ♔f8 32 ♗h6+ ♔e7 33 ♗g5 ♖h8! 34 ♕g7 (after *34 ♗xf6+ ♔xf6 35 ♖f5+ ♔xf5 36 ♕xf7+ ♔g5 37 f4+ ♘xf4* Black has the advantage) 34 ... ♖xh5 35 ♕xf6+ ♔e8 36 ♕xd6 ♖b1+! 37 ♔g2 ♖xg5, with a probable draw.

Apart from all this, in this last variation 28 ... ♘f4 is also a possibility, immediately putting White in an unpleasant position.

It transpires that 26 ♘cxd6 ♕f3 27 ♕h6 is best after all, but then, as already mentioned, 27 ... ♕d1+ 28 ♔g2 ♕xd5+ 29 ♔h3 ♘f8 30 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 leads to a balanced position. It can be concluded that the plausible 25 ♘c4 is not very promising for White.

(b) 25 ♘g4. In this case 25 ... ♕xe4? fails to 26 ♕h6 ♘f8 (checks are of no significance, since the king hides at h3) 27 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 28 ♕xf6, when White wins. But Black has the defensive manoeuvre 25 ... ♗b2!. This is the drawback to White's last move – he has lost control over b2!

(b1) 26 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 27 ♕h6 ♗b2! 28 ♕xh7+ ♔f8 29 ♘xd6 (or *29 ♘h6 ♕xc1+ 30 ♔g2 ♘f4+ 31 gxf4 ♕xf4*, and Black has nothing to fear) 29 ... ♕xc1+ 30 ♔g2, and to gain a draw it is sufficient for Black to play 30 ... ♘f4+ 31 gxf4 ♕xf4 etc.

(b2) 26 ♔g2 ♕xc1 27 ♕xc1 ♗xc1 28 ♘f6+ ♔f8 29 ♘xh7+ ♔g8 30 ♘f6+ ♔f8 31 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 32 ♘xd6 ♖e7, with a probable draw.

These variations show that, despite the threatening concentration of the white pieces, Black can organize sufficient counterplay.

25 ♘g4 ♖b7?

The decisive mistake! 25 ... ♕f3 was no better due to 26 ♘xe5! ♕xh5 27 ♘d7!, but it was not too late for 25 ... ♕c3! 26 ♕h6 ♖b1! 27 ♔g2 ♕xc1 28 ♕xh7+ ♔f8, when White is short of just one tempo (*29 ♘gh6 ♕f1+* etc), while after 26 ♕xc3 ♗xc3 27 ♘xd6 ♖ed8! Black even stands better, since apart from 28 ... ♖xd6 he also threatens 28 ... ♖b1.

26 ♔g2 ♕c4

A blunder, but Black's position was already lost. If 26 ... ♖d8 then 27 ♖xh7!, while 26 ... f6 is met by 27 ♘xd6 ♗xd6 28 ♘xf6+ ♔f8 29 ♕h6+ ♔e7 30 ♕xh7+ etc.

27 ♘xe5 ♕xe4+

Everything else is also hopeless.

28 f3 ♕xe5 29 ♘h6+ ♔f8 30 ♖xe5 ♖xe5 31 ♘g4 ♖5e7 Black resigns

(656) Taimanov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 d5 10 cxd5 ♗xg2 11 ♘xg2 ♕xd5 12 ♗f4 ♕b7 13 ♖c1 ♘a6 14 ♕c2 ♖ac8 15 a3 c5 16 dxc5 ♖xc5 ½-½

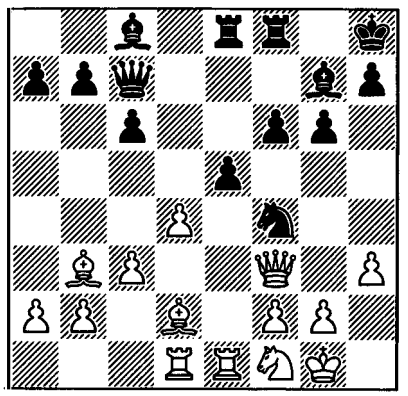
(657) Petrosian-Geller
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 e5 7 ♘ge2 c6 8 ♕d2 (8 ♕b3 ♕e7 9 0-0-0 ♘bd7 10 ♕a3?! ♘b6!) **8 ... ♘bd7 9 d5** (9 0-0-0!?) **9 ... cxd5 10 cxd5 a6 11 g4?!** (11 0-0-0 b5 12 ♔b1 intending ♘c1-b3 ±) **11 ... h5 12 g5 ♘e8 13 h4 b5 14 ♖c1 ♖b8 15 ♘g3 ♘c5 16 ♘ce2 f6! ∓ 17 ♗g2 fxg5 18 hxg5 ♗d7 19 b3 ♖c8 20 ♖h4!? b4 21 ♔f2 a5 22 ♔g1 ♖c7 23 ♖f1 ♗c8 24 ♗h3 ♗xh3 25 ♖xh3 ♕c8 26 ♔g2 ♖cf7 ∞ 27 ♖h4 ♕a6 ½-½** (Suetin)

(658) Balashov-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 c6 4 ♘f3 d5 5 h3 dxe4 6 ♘xe4 ♘d7 7 ♗c4 ♘gf6 8 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♖e1 ♗f5 11 ♗b3 ♕d6 12 ♕e2 ♖ae8 13 c3 ♘d5 14 ♘e5 ♕d8 15 ♗d2 ♔h8 16 ♖ad1 f6 17 ♘g4 ♕c7 18 ♘e3 ♘f4 19 ♕f3 ♗c8 20 ♘f1 e5 *(264)*

264

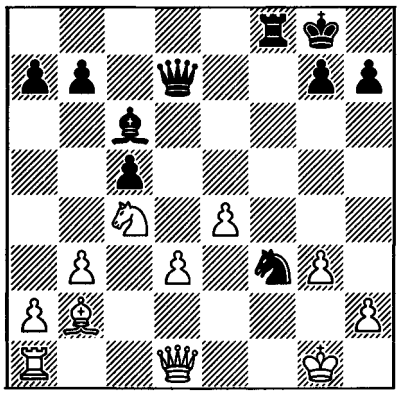


21 ♗xf4 exf4 22 ♘d2 ♗f5 23 ♖e2 ♖xe2 24 ♕xe2 ♖d8 25 ♖e1 ♗f8 26 ♘f3 ♔g7 27 ♕d2 g5 28 ♕e2 ♗d6 29 ♗c2 ♕d7 30 ♗xf5 ♕xf5 31 ♘d2 ♗f8 32 ♕e4 ♕xe4 33 ♘xe4 ♔g6 34 ♔f1 h5 35 f3 f5 36 ♘d2 c5 37 ♘b3 cxd4 38 ♘xd4 ♗g7 39 ♘e6 ♖d7 40 h4 ♖d2 41 ♖e2 ½-½

(659) Petrosian-Vaganian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♗g2 ♘c7 6 d3 e5 7 ♘f3 ♘c6 8 ♘d2 ♗d7 9 0-0 ♗e7 10 ♘c4 0-0 11 ♗xc6 ♗xc6 12 ♘xe5 ♗e8 13 e4 ♗f6 14 ♘g4 ♗d4 15 ♘e3 ♗c6 16 ♘f5 ♘e6 17 ♘d5 ♖e8 18 ♘xd4 ♘xd4 19 ♘e3 ♕d7 20 f3 ♖ad8 21 b3 f5 22 ♗b2 ♖f8 23 ♘c4 fxe4 24 fxe4 ♖xf1+ 25 ♕xf1 ♖f8 26 ♕d1 ♘f3+ *(265)*

265



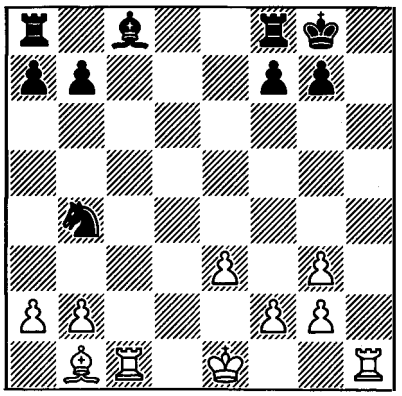
27 ♔h1 b5 28 ♘e5 ♘xe5 29 ♗xe5 ♕e6 30 ♗b2 ♖f2 0-1

(660) Petrosian-Kupreichik
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 cxd5 cxd5 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 e6 7 e3 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 ♘e4 9 ♘xe4 dxe4 10 ♘d2 ♗xg3 11 hxg3 e5 12 dxe5 ♕a5 13 ♕b3 ♕xe5 14 ♗e2 ♕e7 15

♖c1 0-0 16 ♘xe4 ♕xe4 17 ♗d3 ♕b4+ 18 ♕xb4 ♘xb4 19 ♗xh7+ ♔h8 20 ♗b1+ ♔g8 *(266)*

266

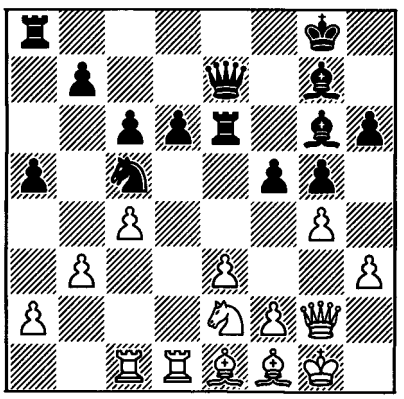


21 ♖c4 a5 22 ♗h7+ ♔h8 23 ♗f5+ 1-0

(661) Romanishin-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 ♘f3 d6 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 ♗f4 ♘g4 8 h3 e5 9 ♗g5 ♘f6 10 ♘c3 ♘xd4 11 ♘xd4 exd4 12 ♕xd4 h6 13 ♗d2 ♗f5 14 ♕f4 c6 15 ♖ad1 ♗c2 16 ♖c1 g5 17 ♕f3 ♗g6 18 ♖fd1 ♖e8 19 g4 ♘e4 20 ♗e1 ♖e6 21 e3 ♘c5 22 ♗f1 a5 23 b3 ♕e7 24 ♕g2 f5 25 ♘e2 *(267)*

267



25 ... fxg4 26 hxg4 ♗b2 27 ♖b1 ♗xb1 28 ♖xb1 ♗e5 29 ♖d1 ♖f8 30 ♘d4 ♗xd4 31 ♖xd4 ♖e5 32 ♕h3 ♖f6 33 ♖d1 ♕f8 34 ♗g2 ♘e4 35 f3 ♘c5 36 e4 ♘e6 37 ♕g3 ♘f4 38 ♗f1 ♘g6 39 ♗e2 ♖e7 40 ♗c3 ♘f4 41 ♗f1 b6 42 c5 bxc5 43 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 44 ♕e1 ♕e5 45 ♕d2 d5 46 ♕xa5 ♘e6 47 ♗g2 d4 48 ♕a8+ ♔g7 49 ♕xc6 ♕g3 50 ♕b5 ♘f4 51 ♕f1 h5 52 gxh5 g4 53 ♖d2 ♖f7 54 ♔h1 ♘xh5 55 ♕f2 gxf3 56 ♗f1 ♕xf2 57 ♖xf2 ♘g3+ 58 ♔h2 ♘xe4 59 ♖c2 ♘c3 60 ♔g3 f2 61 a4 ♖b7 62 ♔f4 ♖xb3 63 ♖xf2 ♔f6 64 ♖h2 ♘xa4 65 ♖h6+ ♔g7 66 ♖c6 ♖c3 67 ♔e4 ♖c1 68 ♗d3 ♘b2 69 ♗b5 d3 70 ♖d6 c4 71 ♔e3 c3 72 ♖d7+ ♔f6 73 ♗xd3 ♘xd3 74 ♔d4 0-1

(662) Petrosian-Dorfman
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 h6 5 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 6 ♘c3 c6 7 e3 ♘d7 8 ♗d3 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 ♗d6 10 0-0 ♕e7 11 ♖c1 0-0 12 ♘e4 ♗c7 13 ♗b3 ♖d8 14 ♕c2 ♘f8 15 ♖fd1 ♖b8 16 a3 ♗d7 17 ♘c5 ♗e8 18 ♕e4 ♘h7 19 ♘d3 ♘g5 20 ♘xg5 ♕xg5 21 f4 ♕f6 22 ♕f3 ♔h8 23 ♖c3 ♖bc8 24 ♗a2 ♕e7 25 ♗b3 ♗a5 26 ♖c2 ♗c7 27 ♕e4 ♕f6 28 ♘e5 ♕e7 29 ♘d3 ♕f6 30 ♗a4 ♕f5 31 ♕xf5 exf5 32 ♘c5 ♖b8 33 ♔f2 ♗d6 34 ♖dc1 g6 35 b4 ♖dc8 36 ♗b3 ♖c7 37 ♗c4 ♖e7 38 a4 ♔g8 39 ♗e2 ♖c8 40 a5 ♖b8 41 ♗f3 ♔g7 42 ♘d3 a6 43 ♘c5 ♗d7 44 ♖d1 ♗e6 ½-½

(663) Smyslov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 d5 10 cxd5 ♗xg2 11 ♘xg2 ♕xd5 12 ♗f4 ♕b7 13 ♖c1 ♘a6 14 ♕c2 ♖ac8 15 ♖fd1 c5 16 dxc5 ½-½

1977

Candidates Quarter-Final Match
Il Ciocco, February-April 1977

Korchnoi	½	½	½	½	1	0	½	1	½	½	½	6½
Petrosian	½	½	½	½	0	1	½	0	½	½	½	5½

Game 1
(664) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 dxc4 7 ♘e5 ♘c6 8 ♗xc6 bxc6 9 ♘c3 c5 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♕a4 ♘d5 12 ♘e4 ♘b6 13 ♕c2 ♗e7 14 ♘xc4 ♘xc4 15 ♕xc4 ♕d5 16 ♕c2 ♗b7 17 f3 ♕d4+ 18 ♔g2 ♗xe4 19 ♕xe4 ♕xe4 20 fxe4 ♖fb8 21 b3 ♗d6 22 ♗f4 ½-½

Game 2
(665) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♘c6 9 ♗c4 b5 10 ♗e2 ♗b4+ 11 ♗d2 ♕a5 12 ♖b1 ♗xd2+ 13 ♕xd2 a6 14 ♕xa5 ♘xa5 15 ♗d3 ♔e7 16 ♖c1 ♗d7 17 ♔d2 ½-½

Game 3
(666) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 d4 dxc4 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 ♘e5 c5 8 dxc5 ♕xd1+ 9 ♘xd1 ♘bd7 10 ♘xc4 ♘xc5 11 ♘c3 ♗d7 12 ♘a5 ♘d5 13 ♘xd5 exd5 14 ♗xd5 ♖ac8 15 0-0 b6 16 ♘c4 ♗e6 17 ♘e3 ♖fd8 18 ♖d1 h5 19 b3 ♗g5 20 f4 ♗f6 21 ♖b1 ♗h3 22 ♗b2 ♖e8 23 ♔f2 ♗xb2 24 ♖xb2 g6 25 ♖bd2 ♖c7 26 ♘c4 ♘e4+ 27 ♗xe4 ♖xe4 28 ♖d8+ ♔h7 29 ♖b8 ♖ee7 30 ♘e3 ♔g7 31 ♖dd8 ♗e6 32 ♖g8+ ♔f6 33 h3 ♖c3 34 ♖be8 ♖xe8 35 ♖xe8 ♖c5 36 g4 ♖a5 37 f5 gxf5 38 gxf5 ♗xf5 39 ♘xf5 ½-½

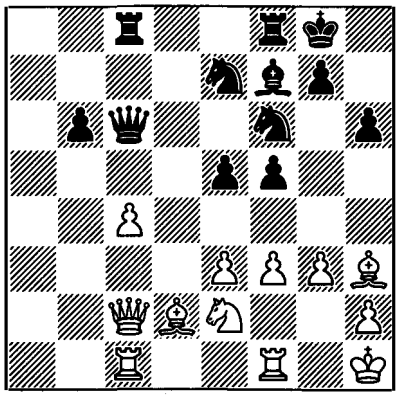
Game 4
(667) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 d5 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗c4 ♘c6 12 0-0 ♕d6 13 ♖fd1 ♖d8 14 ♖ac1 ♗d7 15 e5 ♕e7 16 ♕f4 ♗e8 17 h4 ♖ac8 18 d5 exd5 19 ♖xd5 h6 20 ♖cd1 ♖xd5 21 ♖xd5 ♖d8 22 ♕e4 ½-½

Game 5
(668) Korchnoi-Petrosian
English Opening

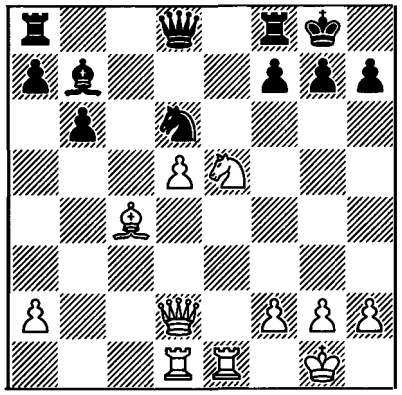
1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 ♗c5 6 d3 h6 7 ♗g2 d6 8 0-0 0-0 9 e3 a5 10 ♘c3 ♗a7 11 a3 ♘h7 12 ♔h1 ♗g4 13 ♕c2 f5 14 ♘b5 ♕d7 15 ♘xa7 ♖xa7 16 b3 ♖aa8 17 ♘g1 ♖ae8 18 ♗d2 ♘f6 19 f3 ♗h5 20 b4 b6 21 ♗h3 ♗f7 22 ♘e2 axb4 23 axb4 ♘e7 24 b5 ♖d8 25 d4 c6 26 bxc6 ♕xc6 27 ♖ac1 ♖c8 28 dxe5 dxe5 *(268)*

268



29 ♗b4 ♘ed5 30 ♗xf8 ♘xe3 31 ♕c3 ♘xf1 32 ♗b4 ♗h5 33 ♖xf1 e4 34 ♗g2 ♕xc4 35 ♕xc4 ♖xc4 36 ♗e7 ♘d5 37 ♘f4 ♘xf4 38 gxf4 e3 39 ♖e1 e2 40 ♔g1 ♖xf4 41 ♔f2 g5 42 ♗d6 ♖d4 43 ♗c7 b5 44 ♖xe2 ♗f7 45 ♖b2 ♗c4 46 ♗e5 ♖d1 47 f4 ♔f7 48 ♗f3 ♖d8 49 h4 g4 50 ♗c6 ♔g6 51 ♗xb5 ♗xb5 52 ♖xb5 ♖d2+ 53 ♔e3 ♖h2 54 ♖b6+ ♔h5 55 ♖f6 ♖h3+ 56 ♔f2 ♖h2+ 57 ♔e3 ♖h3+ 58 ♔d4 ♖h1 59 ♖xf5+ ♔xh4 60 ♖f6 h5 61 ♖g6 ♖f1 62 ♔e4 ♖e1+ 63 ♔d5 ♔h3 64 f5 h4 65 f6 ♖f1 66 ♔e6 g3 67 f7 g2 68 ♗f6 ♖e1+ 69 ♔d5 ♖d1+ 70 ♔e4 ♖e1+ 71 ♔d3 1-0

269



Game 7
(670) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 ♕c2 h6 8 ♗h4 c5 9 ♖d1 cxd4 10 ♘xd4 ♘b6 11 ♗e2 ♗d7 12 cxd5 ♘fxd5 13 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 14 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 15 0-0 ♖ac8 16 ♕b3 ♖c7 17 ♗f3 ♘f6 18 ♘b5 ♗xb5 19 ♕xb5 b6 20 ♖d2 ♖fc8 21 ♖fd1 g6 22 g3 ♔g7 23 a3 ♖c5 24 ♕d3 ♖c1 25 ♗g2 ½-½

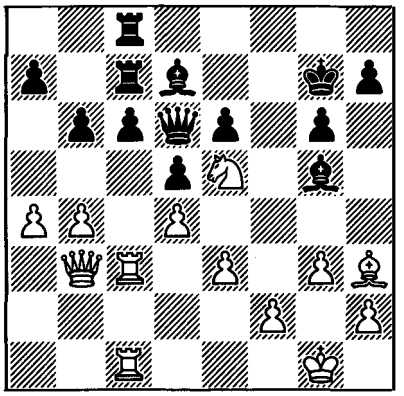
Game 6
(669) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗c4 ♘c6 12 0-0 b6 13 ♖fe1 ♗b7 14 ♖ad1 ♘e7 15 d5 exd5 16 exd5 ♘f5 17 ♘e5 ♘d6
(diagram 269)
18 ♘c6 ♗xc6 19 dxc6 ♘xc4 20 ♕f4 ♘d6 21 ♖xd6 ♕c7 22 g3 h6 23 ♕e5 ♖ac8 24 ♕d5 ♔h7 25 ♖e4 ♔g8 26 ♔g2 a6 27 h4 b5 28 g4 ♔h7 29 ♖e2 ♔h8 30 g5 h5 31 ♖d2 ♖fe8 32 ♕f3 g6 33 ♖2d5 ♖f8 34 ♖f6 ♕e7 35 ♖d7 ♕e8 36 ♖xg6 ♕e5 37 ♕xh5 mate

Game 8
(671) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗a6 5 b3 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♘c3 d5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 ♗g2 0-0 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♘e5 ♗b7 12 ♗f4 ♖e8 13 ♖c1 ♘f8 14 ♗g5 ♘e6 15 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 16 e3 c6 17 ♘d3 ♕d6 18 ♖e1 ♖ad8 19 b4 ♖e7 20 a4 ♖de8 21 ♕b3 ♖d8 22 ♖ed1 ♖ed7 23 ♘e2 g6 24 ♘ef4 ♖c7 25 ♖d2 ♗g5 26 ♘xe6 fxe6 27 ♖dc2 ♖dc8 28 ♗h3 ♔g7 29 ♘f4 ♖e8 30 ♖c3 ♗c8 31 ♘d3 ♗d7 32 ♘e5 ♖ec8 *(270)*

270



33 e4 ♗xc1 34 ♖xc1 dxe4 35 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 36 ♗xe6 ♕xd4 37 ♖c4 ♕a1+ 38 ♔g2 ♖f8 39 ♖xe4 ♖e7 40 ♗d5 ♖xe4 41 ♗xe4 ♕f6 42 ♕c2 ♖c8 43 a5 bxa5 44 bxa5 c5 45 ♕c4 ♖e8 46 ♗d5 ♕d4 47 ♕b3 ♖e2 48 ♕b7+ ♔h6 49 ♕f7 ♖xf2+ 50 ♕xf2 ♕xd5+ 51 ♕f3 ♕xf3+ 52 ♔xf3 ♔g5 53 ♔e4 ♔g4 54 ♔d5 ♔h3 55 g4 ♔xh2 56 ♔xc5 ♔g3 57 g5 ♔f4 0-1

Game 9
(672) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 d4 0-0 6 ♘c3 dxc4 7 ♘e5 c5 8 dxc5 ♕xd1+ 9 ♘xd1 ♗xc5 10 ♘xc4 ♘c6 11 ♗e3 ♗b4+ 12 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 13 ♘xd2 ♗d7 14 ♘c4 ♖fd8 15 ♘c3 ♔f8 16 ♘d6 ♖ab8 17 0-0-0 ♘e8 18 ♘de4 ♔e7 19 ♘c5 ♘f6 20 ♘xd7 ♖xd7 21 ♖xd7+ ♘xd7 22 ♖d1 ♖c8 23 b3 ♘de5 24 ♔b2 ♖d8 25 ♖xd8 ♔xd8 26 ♘b5 ♔d7 27 ♔c3 a6 28 ♘d4 b6 29 ♘f3 h6 30 ♘d2 ♔c7 31 f4 ♘d7 32 ♗f3 b5 33 b4 ♘b6 34 a3 ♘a4+ 35 ♔d3 ♘e7 36 ♗h5 f6 37 ♗g4 ♔d7 38 ♗h3 ♘c8 39 e4 ♘e7 40 ♘f3 ♘c6 41 e5 ♘b2+ 42 ♔c3 ♘a4+ 43 ♔d3 ½-½

Game 10
(673) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗e4 10 ♗f4 ♘c6 11 ♖fd1 d5 12 ♘e5 ♘xe5 13 ♗xe5 ♗xg2 14 ♔xg2 c6 15 ♖ac1 ½-½

Game 11
(674) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 d4 0-0 6 ♘bd2 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7 8 b3 ♘bd7 9 ♗b2 c5 10 ♖c1 ♖c8 11 e3 dxc4 12 ♘xc4 ♖c7 13 ♕e2 cxd4 14 ♘xd4 ♗xg2 15 ♔xg2 a6 16 e4 ♕b8 17 ♘d2 ♖xc1 18 ♖xc1 ♕b7 19 f3 ♘c5 20 ♘c4 ♖c8 21 ♘e5 ♗f8 22 ♕c2 a5 23 a3 ♖a8 24 ♘ec6 ♘fd7 25 e5 ♘b8 26 ♘xb8 ♖xb8 27 b4 ½-½

Game 12
(675) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 ♗b4+ 6 ♘bd2 c5 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 0-0 ♘c6 9 a3 ♕c7 10 b3 ♘e5 11 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 12 ♖a2 ♗d6 13 g3 ♕c5 14 e4 h5 15 b4 ♕c7 16 ♖e1 h4 17 ♘f1 hxg3 18 hxg3 a5 19 ♖b2 axb4 20 axb4 ♗e5 21 ♖c2 ♖a1 22 ♕e2 ♕b8 23 ♔g2 ♕a8 24 ♘d2 ♖a4 25 b5 ♔f8 26 ♘f3 ♗d6 27 ♘g5 ♗c5 28 ♗b2 ♔e7 29 ♖cc1 ♗a3 30 ♖a1 ♗xb2 31 ♕xb2 ♖xa1 32 ♖xa1 ♕b8 33 ♕d4 e5 34 ♕c3 ♖h5 35 ♕b4+ d6 36 ♕d2 g6 37 ♗e2 ♘xe4 38 ♘xe4 ♗xe4+ 39 f3 ♗b7 40 g4 ♖h7 41 ♕g5+ ½-½

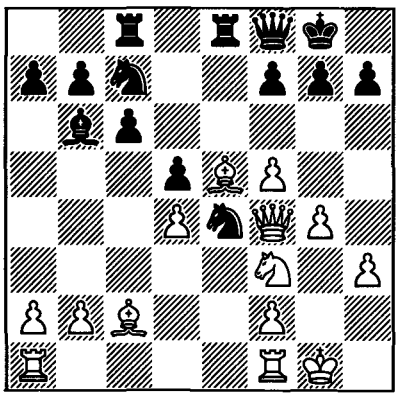
6th European Team Championship
Moscow, April 1977

Board 2, +1 -0 =5.

(676) Hartston-Petrosian
Bishop's Opening

1 e4 e5 2 ♗c4 ♘f6 3 d3 (3 ♘c3 ♘xe4! =) **3 ... c6! 4 ♗b3!?** (4 ♘f3 d5 5 ♗b3 ♘bd7 6 0-0 ♗d6 7 ♘c3 dxe4 8 ♘g5 0-0 9 ♘cxe4 ♘c5 10 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 11 f4 ♘xb3 =, Olafsson-Kurajica, 1977) **4 ... ♗c5** (4 ... d5?! 5 ♘f3! dxe4 6 ♘g5 ±; 5 ... ♗d6 6 ♘c3 ±; 4 ... ♗e7! =) **5 ♘f3 d6 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 0-0** (7 ♘e2!? intending ♘g3, c2-c3) **7 ... ♘bd7 8 ♘e2 ♗b6 9 c3 ♘c5 10 ♗c2 ♗g4 = 11 ♘g3 ♘h5! 12 d4!? exd4 13 cxd4 ♘e6 14 ♘f5!** (only move) **14 ... d5 15 h3?** (15 e5 ♗xf5 16 ♗xf5 g6) **15 ... ♗xf5 16 exf5 ♘c7 ∓ 17 ♗g5?!** (17 g4 ♘f6 18 ♗f4 ∓) **17 ... ♕d6 18 ♕d2 ♖fe8 19 g4 ♘f6 20 ♗f4 ♕f8! ∓ 21 ♗e5 ♘e4 22 ♕f4 ♖ac8** *(271)*

271



23 f6 (23 ♗xe4 dxe4 24 ♗d6 ♘d5! 25 ♕g3 ♗c7! ∓∓) **23 ... gxf6 24 ♗xf6 ♘e6 25 ♕f5 ♕h6!** (25 ... ♘xf6 26 ♕xf6 ♕g7 27 ♕xg7+ ♔xg7 28 ♖ad1 ∓) **26 g5 ♕g6 27 ♘h4! ♕h5** (27 ... ♕xf5 28 ♘xf5 ♘xf6 29 gxf6 ♘xd4 30 ♘h6+ ♔f8 31 ♔h1! intending ♖g1) **28 ♘f3 ♘xf6 29 ♕xf6 ♗d8 30 ♕f5 ♘xg5 31 ♕xc8! ♕xf3?** (31 ... ♘xf3+ 32 ♔h1 ♕h4 ∓) **32 ♖ae1!** = **♘xh3+** (32 ... ♖f8 33 ♖e3 ±) **33 ♔h2 ♖xe1! 34 ♕xd8+ ♔g7 35 ♖xe1 ♕xf2+ 36 ♔xh3 ♕f3+ 37 ♔h2 ♕f2+ 38 ♔h3 ♕f3+ ½-½** (Hartston)

(677) Radulov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 exd5 ♕xd5 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 ♗d7 11 c3 ♕c7 12 ♗b3 ♗d6 13 h3 0-0 14 ♕e2 ♗h2+ 15 ♔h1 ♗f4 16 ♗xf4 ♕xf4 17 ♖fe1 ♖fe8 18 ♕f3 ♕xf3 19 ♘xf3 ♖ed8 20 ♘e5 ♗e8 21 ♖ad1 ♔f8 ½-½

(678) Ciocaltea-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 ♕e2 ♕e7 6 d3 ♘f6 7 ♗g5 ♕xe2+ 8 ♗xe2 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 c6 10 0-0-0 ♘a6 11 ♖de1 ♘c7 12 ♘d4 ♘e6 ½-½

(679) Petrosian-Ribli
English Opening

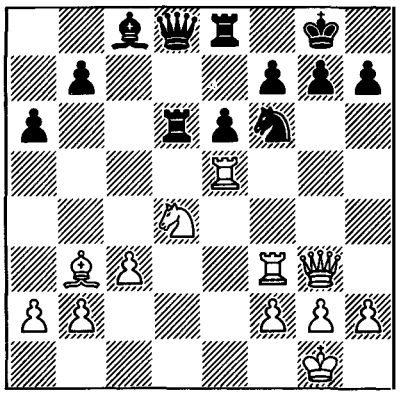
1 c4 c5 2 ♘c3 g6 3 b3 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 e5 6 g3 ♘ge7 7 ♗g2 d6 8 d3 h6 9 0-0 ♗e6 10 e4 0-0 11 ♘h4 ♘d4 12 ♔h1 ♘ec6 13 ♖b1 a6 14 ♕e1 ♘c2 15 ♕d2 ♘2d4 16 ♘f3 ♕a5 17 ♘g1 ♖ae8 18 ♖bd1 b5 19 ♗a1 ♔h7 20 ♘ge2 ♘xe2 21 ♕xe2 ♘d4 22 ♕d2 ♗g4 23 ♖b1 ♗d7 24 ♖be1 ♗c6 25 ♖d1 ♗a8 ½-½

(680) Jansa-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 exd5 ♕xd5 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 (10 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 11 ♘xd4 a6 12 ♗f4 ±) **10 ... a6 11 ♗b3** (11 b3; 11 ♖e1) **11 ... ♗e7** (11 ... ♕c7 12 ♕f3 ♗d6 13 h3 0-0 14 ♗g5 ±) **12 c3 0-0** (12 ... e5? 13 ♘f3 ♕xd1 14 ♖xd1 ♗g4 15 ♖e1 ♗xf3 16 gxf3 ±) **13 ♕f3 ± ♕c7**

14 ♗g5 (14 ♖e1 – intending ♗f4 – 14 ... ♗d6 15 h3 e5!? ∞) **14 ... ♗d7 15 ♖fe1 ♖fe8 16 ♖ad1 ♖ad8 17 ♗f4! ♕b6 18 ♗e5 ± ♗c8 19 ♕g3** (19 ♕h3!? ♘d7!?) **19 ... ♗d6 20 ♖d3! ♗xe5 21 ♖xe5 ♖d6?!** (21 ... ♕c7; 21 ... ♘d7 ±) **22 ♖f3 ♕d8** (22 ... ♘d7? 23 ♘f5 ±±) *(272)*

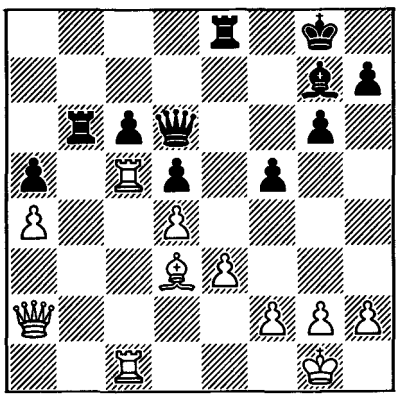
272



23 ♖g5 g6 24 ♕f4 ♔g7 25 h4! (25 ♕e5? ♖d5!) **25 ... h5** (25 ... h6 26 ♖c5 ♕e7 27 ♕e5 b6 28 ♘c6 ±±) **26 ♕e5** (26 ♖xh5? ♘xh5 27 ♕xf7+ ♔h6 28 g4 ♕xh4 29 ♕xe8 ♖d8! ∞) **26 ... ♖d5 27 ♗xd5 exd5 28 ♕xf6+** (28 ♕f4?! ♖e1+ 29 ♔h2 ♖e4 ∞) **28 ... ♕xf6 29 ♖xf6 ♖e1+ 30 ♔h2 ♔xf6 31 ♖xd5 ±± ♖b1 32 ♖d6+ ♔e5 33 ♖b6** (time trouble; 33 ... ♔d5 34 a4 ♔c5 35 a5 ±±; 33 ... f6 34 ♔g3 g5 35 ♘f3+ ♔f5 36 ♖d6 ♖xb2 37 ♖d8 ♗e6 38 ♘d4+ ±±) **½-½** (Jansa)

23 ♖fc1 ♖b6 24 ♘d2 ♘xd2 25 ♖xd2 ♗f5 26 ♖dc2 ♕d6 27 ♖c5 ♗xd3 28 ♗xd3 f5 *(273)*

273



29 g3 f4 30 gxf4 ♗xd4 31 exd4 ♕xf4 32 ♗f1 ♕xd4 33 ♖5c3 ♖e4 34 ♕c2 ♖e6 35 ♖d1 ♕f6 36 ♗g2 ♖e5 37 h3 ♕e6 38 ♔f1 ♔g7 39 ♖c5 ♕f6 40 ♕c3 ♖f5 41 ♕xf6+ ♖xf6 42 ♔g1 ♖b2 43 ♖f1 ♖a2 44 ♖xa5 ♔h6 45 ♖a8 ♖f4 46 a5 ♔g5 47 a6 ♖fa4 48 ♖c1 ♖xa6 49 ♖c8 ♖d2 50 ♖8xc6 ♖aa2 51 ♖f1 ♖a7 52 ♖d6 d4 53 ♖d5+ ♔h6 54 ♗f3 ♖d3 55 ♔g2 ♖f7 56 ♗e4 ♖d2 57 ♔g3 ♖a7 58 h4 ♖a3+ 59 f3 ♖aa2 60 ♖h1 ♖g2+ 61 ♔f4 ♖a7 62 ♖xd4 ♔g7 63 ♖d5 ♖f7+ 64 ♔e3 ♔f6 65 ♖d6+ ♔g7 66 h5 ♖a7 67 hxg6 hxg6 68 ♖h4 1-0

♘ (681) Petrosian-Gligorić
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♗g5 ♘e4 6 cxd5 ♘xg5 7 ♘xg5 e6 8 ♘f3 exd5 9 e3 0-0 10 b4 ♘c6 11 b5 ♘e7 12 ♗e2 a6 13 a4 c5 14 bxc6 bxc6 15 ♕d2 a5 16 0-0 ♘f5 17 ♖ac1 ♖e8 18 ♘d1 ♗d7 19 ♘b2 ♘d6 20 ♘d3 ♘e4 21 ♕a2 ♖b8 22 ♖c2 f6

12th International Chigorin Memorial Tournament
Sochi, October-November 1977

1 Tal 11; 2-3 Geller, Suetin 10; 4 Krogius 9½; 5-9 Adorjan, Panchenko, **Petrosian** (+3 –0 =12), Rashkovsky, Zhuravlyev 9; 10 I.Zaitsev 7; 11-12 Ftacnik, Spasov 6; 13 Suba 5½; 14-15 Durao, Kjarner 3½; 16 Klarić 3.

(682) Petrosian-Suba
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 ♘c3 0-0 6 ♕c2 ♘bd7 7 e3 c6 8 a3 a6 9 ♖d1 ♖e8 10 h3 ♘h5 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 b4 ♘hf6 13 ♕b3 b5 14 cxd5 exd5 15 ♗d3 a5 16 0-0 axb4 17 axb4 ♗b7 18 ♖fe1 ♘e4 19 ♗xe4 dxe4 20 ♘d2 ♘f6 21 ♖a1 g6 22 ♖ec1 h5 23 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 24 ♕b1 ♖e8 25 ♘e2 ♕d6 26 ♘g3 ♕e6 27 ♖c5 h4 28 ♖e5 hxg3 29 ♖xe6 gxf2+ 30 ♔xf2 ♖xe6 31 ♕a2 ♔g7 32 ♕a7 ♗c8 33 ♕c7 ♗d7 34 ♘b3 ♖e8 35 ♘c5 ♗e6 36 ♕xc6 ♗c4 37 g4 ♖e7 38 g5 ♘d5 39 ♕d6 ♖e8 40 ♘d7 ♔g8 1-0

(683) Rashkovsky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♘d5 12 ♕e4 ♘db4 13 ♕g4 g6 14 ♗h6 ½-½

(684) Petrosian-Geller
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 ♘f3 e5 7 d5 a5 8 ♗e3 ♘g4 9 ♗g5 f6 10 ♗h4 ♘a6 11 ♘d2 h5 12 a3 ♗d7 13 0-0 ♕e8 14 h3 ♘h6 15 b3 f5 16 f3 ♔h8 17 ♖b1 ♖g8 18 g4 ♘f7 ½-½

(685) Spasov-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 ♗e2 c6 7 0-0 a6 8 ♖e1 b5 9 e5 ♘e8 10 ♗f4 ♘d7 11 ♖c1 ♗b7 12 ♗f1 dxe5 ½-½

(686) Petrosian-Tal
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 d5 8 ♘e5 ♘a6 9 ♗g5 c5 10 ♖c1 ♘e4 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 dxc5 ♘axc5 13 ♘xe4 dxe4 14 b4 ♖ad8 15 ♕c2 ♕g5 16 bxc5 ♕xe5 17 cxb6 axb6 18 ♖b1 ♕a5 19 ♖b5 ♖d2 20 ♕b1 ♕xa2 21 ♖xb6 ♗a8 22 e3 ♕xc4 23 ♖b4 ½-½

(687) Zhuravlyev-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♗e3 c6 5 ♕d2 b5 6 f3 ♘d7 7 ♘h3 ♘b6 8 ♘f2 ♖b8 9 ♖d1 ♕c7 10 ♗e2 ♘f6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♗h6 e5 13 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 14 b3 ♗b7 15 a3 a6 16 ♕e3 c5 17 dxe5 dxe5 18 ♖d2 ♖fd8 19 ♖fd1 ♖d4 20 ♘b1 ♗c8 21 c3 ♖xd2 22 ♘xd2 c4 23 b4 ♖a8 24 ♘f1 a5 25 ♕d2 axb4 26 axb4 ♖a3 27 ♘e3 ♗e6 28 ♗f1 ♘a4 29 ♖c1 ♕d7 30 ♕e1 ♕a7 31 ♕d2 ♕d7 32 ♕e1 ♖a2 33 ♖c2 ½-½

(688) Petrosian-Suetin
King's Indian Attack

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 e5 5 d3 ♘e7 6 e4 0-0 7 ♘bd2 ♘bc6 8 ♖e1 h6 9 c3 a5 10 a4 ♗e6 11 ♕e2 ♖e8 12 h4 d4 13 ♘f1 ♕d7 14 ♘1h2 ♖ad8 15 ♗f1 f5 16 ♕c2 ♖f8 17 exf5 ♘xf5 18 ♘d2 ♗d5 19 ♘e4 ♘d6 20 ♘c5 ♕f7 21 f3 b6 22 ♘e4 ♘xe4 23 fxe4 ♗e6 24 ♕g2 ♕d7 25 c4 ♖f7 26 b3 ♘b4 27 ♗a3 ♖df8 28 ♗xb4 axb4 29 ♕d2 ♕e7 30 ♗g2 h5 31 ♖f1 ♖xf1+ 32 ♖xf1 ♖xf1+ 33 ♗xf1 ♔h7 34 ♘f3 ♗h6 35 ♘g5+ ♗xg5 36 hxg5 ♗g4 37 ♗g2 ♔g7 38 ♔f2 c5 39 ♔e1 ♕f7 40 ♗h1 ♔g8 41 ♗g2 ♔g7 42 ♗h1 ♔g8 43 ♗g2 ♔g7 ½-½

(689) Ftacnik-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 ♘c6 5 a3 b6 6 b4 ♖b8 7 ♖b1 cxb4 8 axb4 ♗b7 9 ♘a2 ♘xb4 10 ♗xb7 ♘xa2 11 ♗g2 ♘xc1 12 ♕xc1 ♕c7 13 ♘f3 ♘h6 14 0-0 ♘f5 15 ♕a3 0-0 16 ♖fc1 ♖fc8 17 ♕a6 e6 18 d3 d6 19 e3 ♘e7 20 ♘e1 d5 21 ♘c2 ♕d7 22 ♘a3 d4 23 exd4 ♗xd4 24 ♘b5 ♗f6 25 ♖d1 ♘f5 26 ♕xa7 ♕d8 27 ♕a2 ♘d4 28 ♔h1 ♕e7 29 ♘xd4 ♗xd4 30 ♕e2 ♖d8 31 ♖d2 ♔g7 32 ♗f3 ♕f6 33 ♔g2 ♗c5 34 ♖a2 ♖d7 35 ♖d1 ♖bd8 36 ♖a8 ♖xa8 37 ♗xa8 ♖a7 38 ♗f3 ♕d4 39 ♕c2 ♖a3 40 ♖d2 ♕f6 41 ♖d1 h5 42 h4 ♗d4 43 ♕e2 ♖b3 44 ♖d2 ♗c3 45 ♖a2 ♗b4 46 ♕c2 ♖c3 47 ♕e2 ♕d4 48 ♗e4 ♗a3 49 ♖d2 ♗c5 50 ♗c6 ♖a3 51 ♕f3 ♔f8 52 ♗e4 f5 53 ♗b7 ♔f7 54 ♗c8 ♖a7 55 ♖e2 ♖e7 56 ♕e3 ♕xe3 57 fxe3 ♖c7 58 ♗a6 e5 59 e4 ♖a7 60 ♗b5 ♗d4 61 exf5 gxf5 62 ♗c6 ♖a3 63 ♖d2 ♗e3 64 ♖d1 ♖a2+ 65 ♔h3 ♖f2 66 ♖a1 ♗d4 67 ♖a7+ ♔f6 68 ♗e8 ♖d2 69 ♗xh5 ♖xd3 70 ♖f7+ ♔e6 71 ♗g6 ♖f3 72 ♔g2 e4 73 ♖f8 ♖f2+ 74 ♔h3 e3 75 ♖e8+ ♔f6 76 ♗h5 ♗e5 77 ♖f8+ ♔g7 78 ♖e8 ♗d4 79 g4 fxg4+ 80 ♗xg4 ♖c2 81 ♖e4 ♖xc4 82 ♔g3 ♖b4 83 ♔f3 ♗c5 ½-½

(690) Petrosian-Panchenko
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 ♘bd7 5 0-0 b5 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 ♘bd2 ♗b7 8 c3 c5 9 ♘e5 ♘xe5 10 dxe5 ♘d7 11 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 12 e4 0-0 13 exd5 ♗xd5 14 ♗xd5 exd5 15 ♖e1 ♘b6 16 ♘f3 a6 17 ♕d3 h6 18 ♖e2 ♖fd8 19 ♘h4 ♕e6 20 ♘g2 d4 21 ♘f4 dxc3 22 ♕xc3 ½-½

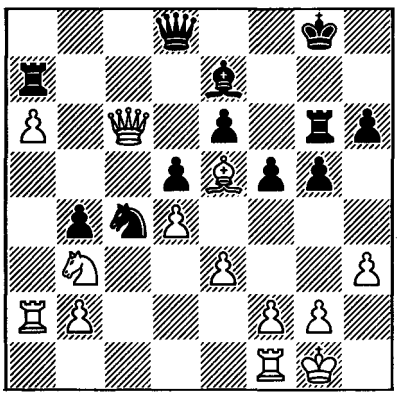
(691) I.Zaitsev-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c3 d5 4 e5 ♘c6 5 d4 ♕b6 6 a3 c4 7 ♘bd2 ♗d7 8 g3 ♘a5 9 ♗h3 ♘e7 10 0-0 g6 11 ♖b1 h6 12 ♘h4 0-0-0 13 ♘g2 ♔b8 14 ♘e3 ♖e8 15 ♘g4 ♗g7 16 ♗g2 ½-½

(692) Petrosian-Klarić
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 d4 d5 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♗f4 e6 6 e3 a6 7 ♗d3 ♘bd7 8 ♘f3 ♗e7 9 h3 b5 10 0-0 ♗b7 11 a4 b4 12 ♘a2 ♖c8 13 ♘c1 ♘b6 14 ♕e2 ♘c4 15 ♘b3 ♘a5 16 ♘fd2 0-0 17 ♗xa6 ♗xa6 18 ♕xa6 ♘c4 19 ♖a2 ♘d7 20 ♘f3 g5 21 ♗g3 h6 22 a5 ♖a8 23 ♕b5 f5 24 ♕c6 ♖f6 25 ♘e5 ♘dxe5 26 ♗xe5 ♖g6 27 a6 ♖a7 *(274)*

274



28 ♘a5 ♘xa5 29 ♖xa5 ♔f7 30 ♖b5 ♖g8 31 ♖b7 ♕a8 32 ♕d7 ♖xb7 33 axb7 ♕a7 34 ♕c8 1-0

(693) Petrosian-Adorjan
Modern Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 e5 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 d4 exd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 ♗d3 d5 8 cxd5 c6 9 0-0 cxd5 10 exd5 ♘xd5 11 ♗e4 ♘xc3 12 bxc3 ♕a5 13 ♕b3 ♘d7 14 ♕a3 ♕xa3 15 ♗xa3 ♖e8 16 ♖fe1 ♗f8 17 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 18

♗f3 ♖xe1 19 ♖xe1 ♘c5 20 ♖e5 ♘e6 21 h4 ♖b8 22 ♘b5 a6 23 ♘d6 b6 24 ♗e2 ½-½

(694) Kjarner-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 e4 e5 5 dxe5 dxe5 6 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 7 f4 ♗e6 8 ♘f3 ♘d7 9 g3 h6 10 ♗e3 c6 11 ♗d3 ♗h3 12 ♗f1 ♗g4 13 ♗e2 exf4 14 gxf4 ♗xc3+ 15 bxc3 ♘gf6 16 ♘d2 ♖e8 17 e5 g5 18 ♘e4 ♗xe2 19 ♘xf6 ♘xf6 20 ♔xe2 ♘g4 21 ♖hg1 ♘xe3 22 ♔xe3 gxf4+ 23 ♔xf4 ♔e7 24 ♖ad1 ♖g8 25 ♖g3 ♖xg3 26 hxg3 h5 27 ♖b1 ♔e6 28 ♖xb7 ♖g8 29 ♖b4 ♖g4+ 30 ♔f3 c5 31 ♖a4 a5 32 ♖xa5 ♖xc4 33 ♖a3 ♔xe5 34 ♖b3 ♖a4 35 ♖b7 ♖xa2 36 ♖xf7 ♖c2 37 ♖h7 ♖xc3+ 38 ♔g2 ♖c2+ 39 ♔h3 c4 40 ♖xh5+ ♔d4 41 ♖h8 ♖e2 42 ♖d8+ ♔e3 43 ♖e8+ ♔d2 44 ♖d8+ ♔c2 45 g4 c3 46 ♔h4 ♖e4 47 ♔h5 ♔b3 48 ♖d1 c2 49 ♖c1 ♔b2 50 ♖xc2+ ♔xc2 51 g5 ♖e1 52 g6 ♖g1 53 ♔h6 ♔d3 54 g7 ♔e4 55 ♔h7 ♔f5 56 g8=♕ ♖xg8 57 ♔xg8 ½-½

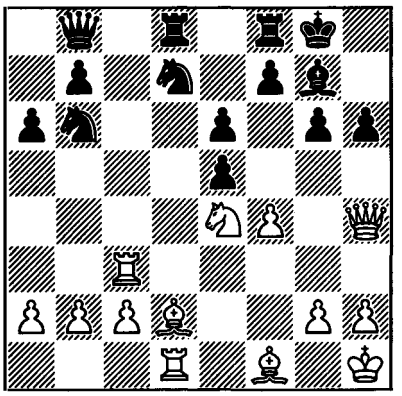
(695) Petrosian-Krogius
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 ♘bd7 7 0-0 c6 8 ♕d3 b6 9 e4 ♗a6 10 b3 ♖c8 11 ♖d1 b5 12 cxd5 cxd5 13 e5 ♘e8 14 ♘xb5 ♘c7 15 a4 ♖b8 16 ♕e3 ♗xb5 17 axb5 ♘xb5 18 ♗f1 a5 19 ♖a4 ♘a7 20 ♗d2 ♘c6 21 ♖da1 ♕b6 22 ♗xa5 ♕xb3 23 ♗d2 ♕xe3 24 ♗xe3 ♘b6 25 ♖a6 ♘b4 26 ♖a7 ♘c6 27 ♖c7 ♖fc8 28 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 29 ♗b5 ♘c4 30 ♗xc6 ♖xc6 31 ♖a8+ ♗f8 32 ♗g5 ♖c7 33 ♔g2 h6 34 ♗d8 ♖b7 35 g4 ♔h7 ½-½

(696) Durao-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 f4 ♕c7 7 ♗d3 g6 8 0-0 ♗g7 9 ♘f3 ♗g4 10 ♕e1 ♗xf3 11 ♖xf3 ♘bd7 12 ♔h1 e6 13 ♗d2 ♘b6 14 ♖d1 ♘fd7 15 ♗f1 ♖d8 16 ♕h4 h6 17 e5 dxe5 18 ♘e4 0-0 19 ♖c3 ♕b8 *(275)*

275



20 f5 exf5 21 ♗xh6 fxe4 22 ♖h3 ♘f6 23 ♗xg7 ♘h5 24 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 25 ♗f6 ♖d1 26 ♕f2 ♘d5 27 ♗g5 ♘hf4 28 ♗xf4 exf4 29 ♔g1 ♘e3 30 ♖xe3 fxe3 31 ♕xe3 ♕e5 32 ♔f2 ♕f5+ 0-1

45th USSR Championship
Leningrad, November-December 1977

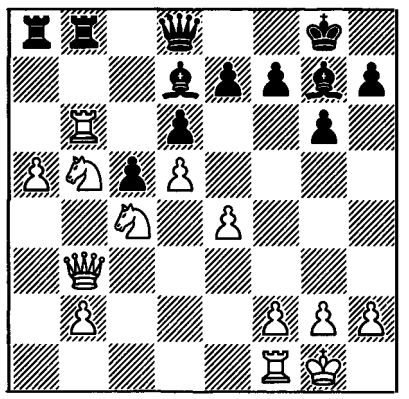
1-2 Dorfman, Gulko 9½; 3-4 **Petrosian** (+4 –1 =10), Polugayevsky 9; 5-7 Bagirov, Geller, Tal 8; 8-9 Kuzmin, Romanishin 7½; 10-11 Balashov, Sveshnikov 7; 12-14 Kochiev, Smyslov, [illegible] 6½; 15 Grigorian 5½; 16 Alburt 5.

(697) Petrosian-Alburt
Benko Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 ♘f3 g6 5 cxb5 a6 6 e3 ♗g7 7 ♘c3 0-0 8 a4 axb5 9 ♗xb5 d6 10 0-0 ♘a6 11 ♖a3 ♘c7 12 ♘d2 ♘d7 13 ♗xd7 ♗xd7 14 ♘c4 ♖a6 15 e4 ♕b8 16

♕c2 ♕b4 17 ♘a2 ♕b7 18 ♗d2 ♖fa8 19 a5 ♘b5 20 ♖b3 ♕c7 21 ♗c3 ♘d4 22 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 23 ♘c3 ♖b8 24 ♖b6 ♖aa8 25 ♕b3 ♕d8 26 ♘b5 ♗g7 *(276)*

276

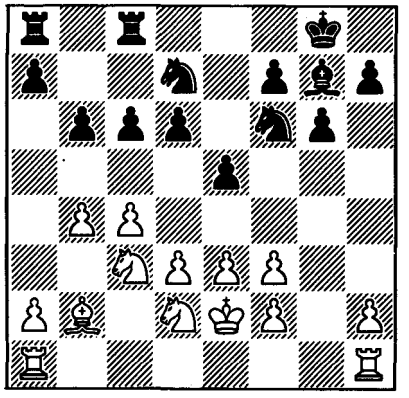


27 ♘a7 ♕e8 28 ♖a1 ♗f8 29 ♘c6 ♖c8 30 a6 ♖c7 31 ♖b7 ♖xc6 32 dxc6 ♗xc6 33 a7 ♗xe4 34 ♖b8 ♕d7 35 ♖xa8 ♗xa8 36 ♘b6 ♕b7 37 ♕f3 1-0

(698) Romanishin-Petrosian
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 b4 ♗g7 4 ♗b2 0-0 5 e3 d6 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d3 b6 8 ♘fd2 ♗b7 9 ♗f3 ♕c8 10 ♘c3 ♘bd7 11 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 12 ♕f3 ♕xf3 13 gxf3 ♖fc8 14 ♔e2 c6 *(277)*

277

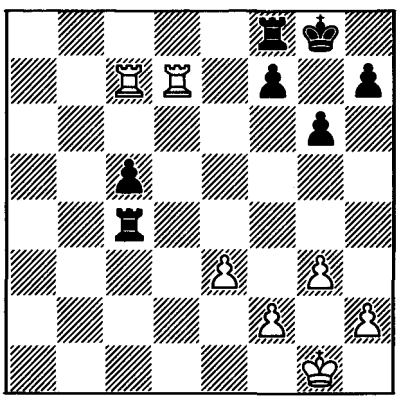


15 ♖hc1 d5 16 ♖ab1 d4 17 ♘ce4 a5 18 b5 c5 19 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 20 ♖g1 ♖e8 21 ♘f1 ♘d7 22 e4 ♘f8 23 ♗c1 ♘e6 24 ♘g3 h5 25 ♔d1 ♔h7 26 ♘e2 ♗h6 27 ♔c2 ♖g8 28 ♖g2 ♖af8 29 ♗xh6 ♔xh6 30 ♖e1 ♖g7 31 h4 f5 32 exf5 ♖xf5 33 f4 ♖gf7 34 ♖eg1 ♘f8 35 fxe5 ♖xf2 36 ♔d2 ♖7f5 37 ♖g5 ♖xg5 38 hxg5+ ♔g7 39 ♔e1 ♖f5 40 ♖f1 ♘e6 41 ♖xf5 0-1

(699) Petrosian-Balashov
English Opening
(notes by Tukmakov)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 0-0 5 b3 c5 6 ♗b2 ♕e7 7 e3 ♘c6 8 ♗e2 d6 9 0-0 ♗xc3 10 ♗xc3 e5 11 a3 ♗g4 12 ♖fe1 a5 13 d4 ♗h5 14 dxe5 dxe5 15 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 16 ♗xh5 ♘xh5 17 ♕f5 ♖fe8 18 ♕xh5 a4 19 ♖ab1 axb3 20 ♕xe5 ♕xe5 21 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 22 ♖xb3 ♖e4 23 ♖c1 ♖a4 24 ♖xb7 g6 25 ♖d1 ♖xa3 26 g3 ♖a8 27 ♖dd7 ♖f8 28 ♖bc7 ♖xc4 *(278)*

278



It is hard to believe that White managed to win this position. After all, with the fall of the c5 pawn, one pair of rooks will be exchanged, when the position becomes a theoretical draw.

29 ♔g2 h5 30 h3 ♔g7 31 ♔f3 ♔f6

Perhaps Black should have played 31 ... ♖a4 32 ♖xc5 ♖a6, followed by ... ♖f6 and the freeing of his passive rook at f8?

32 h4 ♔g7 33 ♖d5 ♖e8 34 ♖dd7 ♖f8 35 ♖e7

It turns out that White has a plan, involving the advance of his e-pawn.

35 ... ♔f6 36 e4 ♖d4 37 e5+ ♔f5 38 ♖xc5 ♖d3+ 39 ♔g2 ♖a3 40 ♖c6 ♔e4

The position is now difficult to save.

41 ♖f6 ♖aa8 42 e6 ♔e5 43 ♖fxf7 ♖g8 44 ♖b7 ♔xe6 45 ♖be7+ ♔d6 46 ♖e2 ♖af8 47 ♖a7 ♖a8 48 ♖ae7 ♖ac8

48 ... g5 was also bad: 49 ♖2e6+ ♔d5 50 ♖e5+ ♔d6 51 hxg5.

49	**♖2e6+**	**♔d5**
50	**♔h3**	**♖c7?**

An oversight in a difficult position.

51 ♖xg6! Resigns

(700) Kochiev-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 d5 3 d4 c6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗d3 dxc4 6 ♗xc4 c5 7 0-0 a6 8 dxc5 ♕xd1 9 ♖xd1 ♗xc5 10 a3 b5 11 ♗e2 ♗b7 12 b4 ♗e7 13 ♗b2 ½-½

(701) Petrosian-Smyslov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 c4 e6 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕e7 13 ♕e3 ♘c6 14 ♖d2 ♖fd8 15 ♖ad1 ♘b4 16 a3 ♘a6 17 dxc5 ♗xb2 18 ♖xb2 ♘xc5 19 ♖bd2 ♖ac8 20 ♘d4 ♗xg2 21 ♔xg2 ♕b7+ 22 f3 a6 23 ♘c2 ♕b8 ½-½

(702) Dorfman-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♘bd2 b6 5 a3 ♗xd2+ 6 ♗xd2 ♗b7 7 ♗g5 d6 8 e3 ♘bd7 9 ♗e2 h6 10 ♗h4 ♕e7 11 ♘d2 0-0 12 0-0 c5 13 ♗f3 ♗xf3 14 ♕xf3 d5 15 cxd5 exd5 16 dxc5 bxc5 17 ♖ac1 ♖ab8 18 ♖c2 ♕e6 19 ♗g3 ♖b7 20 ♖fc1 a5 21 h3 a4 22 ♘b1 ♘e4 23 ♘c3 ♘xc3 24 ♖xc3 ♖b5 25 ♕d1 ♖a8 26 ♕c2 ♖a7 27 ♔h2 ♕c6 28 ♖d3 ♕e6 29 ♖c3 ♕b6 30 ♕d1 ♕e6 ½-½

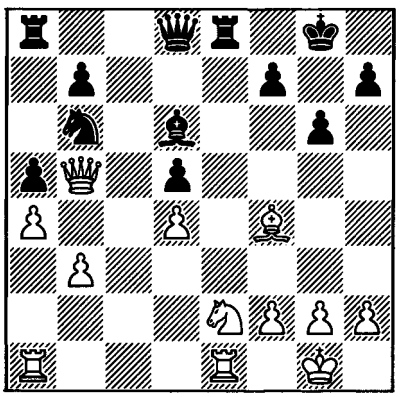
(703) Petrosian-Grigorian
Grünfeld Defence
(notes by Tukmakov)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♗f4 ♗g7 5 e3 0-0 6 ♕b3 c5 7 cxd5 cxd4 8 exd4 ♘bd7 9 ♗e2 ♘b6 10 ♗f3 e6?!

The usual move in this position is 10 ... ♗g4, after which White has a slight advantage. Now, however, the Ex-World Champion succeeds in holding his extra pawn, and to regain it Black is forced to make positional concessions.

11 d6 ♘fd5 12 ♗xd5! exd5 13 ♘ge2 ♖e8 14 0-0 ♗f5 15 a4 ♗d3 16 ♖fe1 ♗c4 17 ♕b4 ♗f8 18 b3 ♗a6 19 ♘b5 ♗xb5 20 ♕xb5 a6 21 ♕b4 a5 22 ♕b5 ♗xd6 *(279)*

279



The pawn has been regained, but now Black has a new weakness – the a5 pawn.

23 ♗d2! ♘d7 24 ♕xd5 ♘f6 25 ♕f3 ♘e4 26 ♗f4 ♗xf4 27 ♕xf4 ♖c8 28 ♖ac1 ♘d6 29 ♘g3 ♖xe1+ 30 ♖xe1 ♖c3 31 h4! h5

31 ... ♖xb3 32 h5 is dangerous.

32 ♖e5! f5

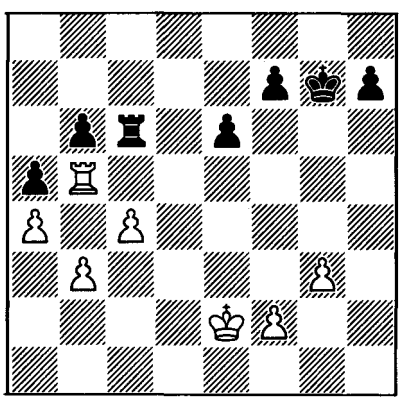
The threat was 33 ♖d5 and 34 ♘e4.

33 ♖e6 ♘f7 34 ♖xg6+ ♔h7 35 ♕xf5 ♖c1+ 36 ♘f1 Black resigns

(704) Kuzmin-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 ♘gf6 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♗d3 c5 8 0-0 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 ♗e7 10 ♗f4 0-0 11 c3 ♘d5 12 ♗g3 ♗f6 13 ♘f3 ♗d7 14 ♕e2 ♕a5 15 a4 ♗c6 16 ♘d2 ♕d8 17 ♘c4 g6 18 ♖fd1 ♗h4 19 ♘e5 ♗xg3 20 hxg3 ♕c7 21 ♗c2 ♖ad8 22 ♖d4 ♘f6 23 ♖ad1 ♖d5 24 ♖xd5 ♗xd5 25 ♕e3 ♗e4 26 ♘d7 ♘xd7 27 ♗xe4 ♘f6 28 ♗f3 b6 29 ♕d4 ♔g7 30 c4 ♖c8 31 b3 ♕e7 32 ♕c3 a5 33 ♕e5 ♕b4 34 ♖d4 ♖c5 35 ♕e3 ♖c8 36 ♖h4 ♕c5 37 ♕h6+ ♔g8 38 g4 g5 39 ♖h3 ♕e5 40 ♗e2 ♖d8 41 ♖e3 ♕f4 42 g3 ♘xg4 43 ♗xg4 ♕xg4 44 ♖e5 ♕d4 45 ♖xg5+ ♔h8 46 ♖h5 ♕g7 47 ♕e3 ♕d4 48 ♕xd4+ ♖xd4 49 ♖b5 ♖d6 50 ♔f1 ♔g7 51 ♔e2 ♖c6 *(280)*

280



52 c5 ♖xc5 53 ♖xc5 bxc5 54 ♔d3 e5 55 ♔c4 f5 56 ♔xc5 h5 57 b4 axb4 58 ♔xb4 f4 59 a5 e4 60 ♔c3 e3 61 ♔d3 1-0

(705) Petrosian-Bagirov
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♗g5 c6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗d3 ♗d6 8 ♕f3 h6 9 ♗h4 ♗e7 10 h3 ♘f8 11 ♕e2 ♘e6 12 ♘f3 b6 13 ♖d1 0-0 14 0-0 ♖e8 15 ♘e5 ♗b7 16 ♗f5 ♘f8 17 ♕f3 ♗d6 18 ♘g4 ♗e7 19 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 20 a3 ♗g5 21 b4 ♕d6 22 ♖b1 g6 ½-½

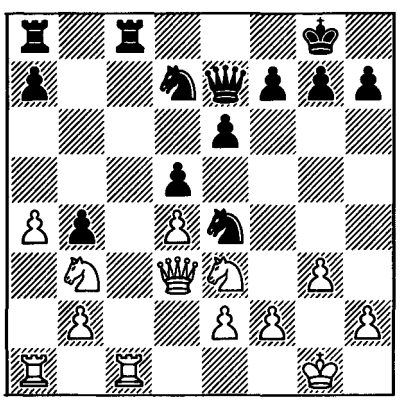
(706) Sveshnikov-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 c3 ♘f6 3 e5 ♘d5 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 cxd4 d6 7 ♗c4 ♘b6 8 ♗b5 dxe5 9 ♘xe5 ♗d7 10 ♘c3 e6 11 ♕g4 h5 12 ♕e4 ♘xe5 13 dxe5 ♗xb5 14 ♘xb5 ♘d5 15 0-0 ♗e7 16 ♗d2 0-0 17 ♘c3 ♘xc3 18 ♗xc3 ♕b6 19 ♖ad1 ½-½

(707) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b5 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 c5 6 c3 ♗e7 7 a4 b4 8 cxb4 cxb4 9 ♘bd2 0-0 10 ♘b3 d6 11 ♘e1 ♗xg2 12 ♘xg2 ♘bd7 13 ♕d3 d5 14 ♗g5 ♘e4 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 ♖fc1 ♖fc8 17 ♘e3 *(281)*

281



17 ... h5 18 a5 h4 19 ♘f1 hxg3 20 hxg3 ♘d6 21 ♘fd2 ♘f6 22 ♘c5 e5 23 dxe5 ♕xe5 24 ♘cb3 ♕xb2 25 ♖xc8+ ♖xc8 26 ♕a6 ♖c2 27 ♖b1 ♕e5 28 ♕xa7 ♘c4 29 ♘xc4 dxc4 30 ♘d4 ♖a2 31 ♖xb4 ♖a1+ 32 ♔g2 ♕h5 33 ♕b8+ ♔h7 34 ♖b1 ♕xa5 35 ♖xa1 ♕xa1 36 ♕e5 ½-½

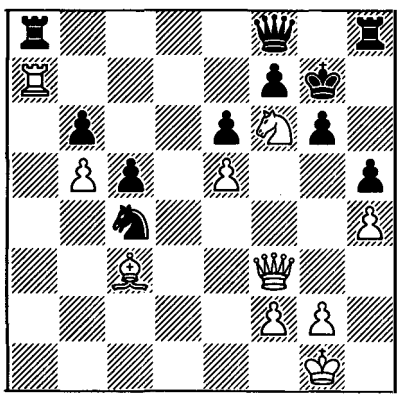
(708) Petrosian-Tukmakov
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 c3 ♗g7 4 ♗g5 d6 5 ♘bd2 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 ♕c2 ♗g7 8 e3 ♘d7 9 ♖d1 e5 10 ♗e2 ♕e7 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖fe1 f5 13 dxe5 dxe5 14 ♘c4 e4 15 ♘d4 ♘e5 16 ♖d2 ♘f7 17 b4 b6 18 b5 a6 19 a4 axb5 20 axb5 ½-½

(709) Tal-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♕g4 ♗f8 6 ♘f3 ♕d7 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♗d2 ♘ge7 9 ♗e2 ♘f5 10 0-0 h5 11 ♕f4 g6 12 ♗b5 ♗h6 13 ♘g5 ♘fxd4 14 ♖ad1 ♔f8 15 ♗xc6 ♘xc6 16 ♘ce4 ♗xg5 17 ♘xg5 ♗a6 18 ♖fe1 ♔g8 19 b4 ♗c4 20 b5 ♘d8 21 ♗b4 ♕e8 22 ♖e4 ♗xb5 23 axb5 dxe4 24 c4 c5 25 ♘xe4 ♕f8 26 ♘f6+ ♔g7 27 ♗c3 ♘b7 28 ♕f3 ♘a5 29 ♖d7 ♖d8 30 ♖xa7 ♘xc4 31 h4 ♖a8 *(282)*

282



32 ♘xh5+ gxh5 33 ♕f6+ ♔g8 34 ♕g5+ ♔h7 35 ♕xh5+ ♔g8 36 ♕g5+ ♔h7 37 ♕h5+ ♔g8 38 ♕g4+ ♔h7 39 ♕e4+ ♔g7 40 ♕g4+ ♔h7 41 ♕e4+ ½-½

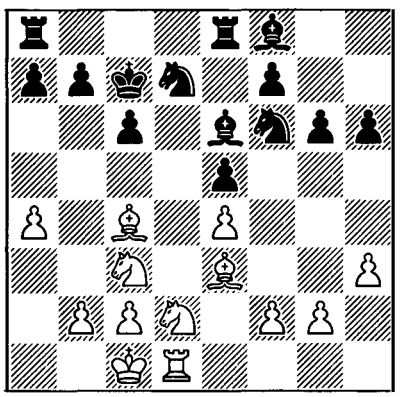
(710) Petrosian-Geller
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 ♗d3 ♗b7 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 ♕e2 c5 11 ♖fd1 ♘e4 12 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♗a6 ♗xa6 15 ♕xa6 ♘df6 16 dxc5 ♘xc3 17 bxc3 ♕xc5 18 ♘d4 ♖fc8 19 ♘e2 ½-½

(711) Gulko-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘ge2 c6 5 a4 e5 6 ♗e3 ♘f6 7 dxe5 dxe5 8 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 9 h3 ♗e6 10 ♘g1 ♘bd7 11 ♘f3 h6 12 ♘d2 ♔c7 13 ♗c4 ♖he8 14 0-0-0 ♗f8 *(283)*

283



15 f4 ♗c5 16 ♗xc5 ♘xc5 17 fxe5 ♘fd7 18 ♗xe6 ♖xe6 19 ♘f3 ♘xe5 20 ♖hf1 ♖f8 21 ♘d4 ♖e7 22 b3 ♘ed7 23 ♖f4 a5 24 ♖df1 h5 25 ♖d1 ♘b6 26 ♖df1 ♘cd7 27 ♘f3 f6 28 g4 hxg4 29 ♖xg4 g5 30 h4 gxh4 31 ♖xh4 ½-½

1978

International Tournament
Hastings, December 1977-January 1978

1 Djindjihashvili 10½; 2-3 **Petrosian** (+5 –0 =9), Sax 9½; 4 Hort 9; 5 Mestel 8½; 6 Tarjan 8; 7 Sveshnikov 7½; 8 Speelman 7; 9-10 Nunn, Shamkovich 6½; 11-12 Fedorowicz, Webb 5½; 13 Tisdall 4½; 14-15 Botterill, Kagan 3½.

(712) Tisdall-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗e3 a6 7 f4 b5 8 ♕f3 ♗b7 9 ♗d3 ♘bd7 10 0-0 ♖c8 11 a3 ♗e7 12 ♖ae1 0-0 13 ♕h3 ♔h8 14 ♘f3 e5 15 ♘h4 g6 16 fxe5 ♘xe5 17 ♗d4 ♘fd7 18 ♘f3 ♗f6 19 ♗e3 ♔g8 20 ♘d4 ♗g7 21 ♖d1 ♘b6 22 ♘f3 ♘bc4 23 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 24 ♘d4 h5 25 ♔h1 ♘g4 26 ♗g1 ♖e8 27 ♕f3 f5 0-1

(713) Petrosian-Sveshnikov
English Opening

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 b3 ♘f6 4 ♗b2 ♗d6 5 g3 b6 6 ♗g2 ♗b7 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♘c3 a6 9 ♖c1 ♘bd7 10 ♕c2 ♕e7 11 cxd5 exd5 12 e3 ♖fe8 13 ♖fe1 ♘e5 14 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 15 ♘e2 ♗xb2 16 ♕xb2 a5 17 a3 c5 18 d4 ♘e4 19 ♘f4 ♕f6 20 ♖c2 cxd4 21 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 22 exd4 ♘f6 23 ♖ec1 g5 24 ♘d3 ♖ac8 25 ♖c7 ♗a6 26 ♘e5 ♖xc7 27 ♖xc7 ♖c8 28 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 29 ♔f1 ♗e6 30 ♔e2 ♘e8 31 ♘f3 f6 32 ♘d2 ♔f7 33 ♘b1 ♔e7 34 ♘c3 ♔d6 35 ♔d2 ♘g7 36 ♘d1 ½-½

(714) Botterill-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♘e2 d5 6 a3 ♗e7 7 ♘f4 a5 8 b3 c6 9 ♗e2 ♘bd7 10 cxd5 ♘xd5 11 ♘cxd5 exd5 12 0-0 ♗d6 13 ♘d3 ♕h4 14 g3 ♕e7 15 ♗b2 ♖e8 16 ♖e1 ♘f6 17 ♗f1 ♗f5 18 ♗g2 ♕c7 19 ♖c1 ♖e7 20 f3 ♖ae8 21 ♕d2 h5 22 ♘e5 ♕b6 23 ♔h1 ♕xb3 24 e4 ♗h7 25 ♗c3 dxe4 26 fxe4 ♗xe5 27 dxe5 ♘g4 28 ♗xa5 ♘xe5 29 ♗b4 ♖d7 30 ♕g5 ♗g6 31 ♖c3 ♕a2 32 ♖ce3 ♘d3 33 ♖xd3 ♖xd3 34 e5 ♕b3 35 ♕c1 0-1

(715) Petrosian-Kagan
Modern Defence

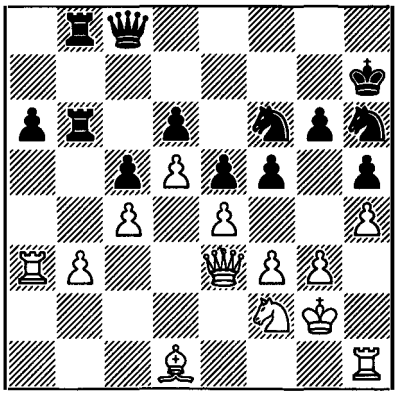
1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 g3 c6 5 ♗g2 ♗g4 6 ♘c3 ♕b6 7 e3 ♘f6 8 0-0 0-0 9 h3 ♗xf3 10 ♗xf3 e5 11 d5 c5 12 e4 ♘bd7 13 h4 a6 14 a4 ♕d8 15 ♗g5 h6 16 ♗d2 ♖b8 17 ♔g2 h5 18 a5 ♔h7 19 ♗g5 ♕c8 20 ♖h1 ♖h8 21 ♕d2 b5 22 axb6 ♖xb6 23 ♗d1 ♕b7 24 b3 ♖b8 25 ♖a3 ♕c8 26 ♖e1 ♘g8 27 ♘a4 ♖b4 28 ♘b2 ♗h6 29 ♘d3 ♖4b6 30 ♖h1 f6 31 ♗e3 ♗xe3 32 ♕xe3 ♘h6 33 f3 f5 34 ♘f2 ♘f6

(diagram 284)

35 ♘h3 fxe4 36 ♘g5+ ♔h8 37 ♘xe4 ♘fg8 38 ♕g5 ♕f5 39 ♗c2 ♕xg5 40 ♘xg5 ♘f5 41 ♔f2 ♘ge7 42 ♘e6 ♖8b7 43 g4 hxg4 44 fxg4 ♘d4 45 ♘xd4 cxd4 46 ♖ha1 ♖a7 47 ♖a5 ♔g7 48 ♖e1 ♘g8 49 ♔g3 ♘f6 50 c5 dxc5 51 ♖xe5 d3 52 ♗d1 ♖b4 53

d6 ♘e4+ 54 ♔g2 ♘xd6 55 ♖axc5 ♘e4 56 ♖c6 ♖f7 57 h5 g5 ½-½

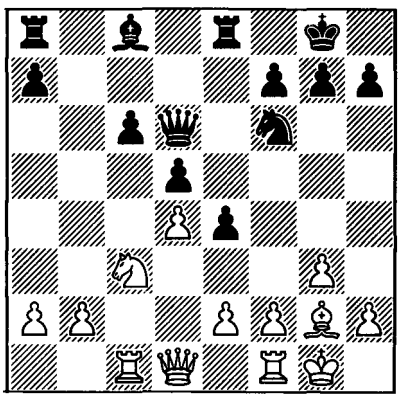
284



(716) Webb-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 c6 3 ♗g2 d5 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 0-0 e5 7 d4 e4 8 ♘e5 ♗d6 9 ♗f4 0-0 10 ♘c3 ♖e8 11 ♘xc6 bxc6 12 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 13 ♖c1 *(285)*

285



13 ... h5 14 ♕d2 h4 15 ♕g5 h3 16 ♗h1 ♕b4 17 ♕d2 ♖b8 18 b3 ♘g4 19 ♕f4 ♖b7 20 ♘xe4 dxe4 21 ♗xe4 ♗d7 22 ♖c5 ♖b5 23 ♗xc6 ♖xc5 24 ♗xd7 ♕b7 25 f3 ♕xd7 26 dxc5 ♘e3 0-1

'(717) Petrosian-Speelman
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 g3 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘d7 5 ♘f3 e5 6 ♗g2 c6 7 0-0 ♘gf6 8 e4 0-0 9 h3 ♖e8 10 ♖e1 a6 11 d5 cxd5 12 cxd5 b5 13 ♗f1 ♘b6 14 a3 ♗d7 15 ♔h2 ♕c7 16 ♗d3 ♖ec8 17 ♕e2 ♕b7 18 ♘d2 ♖c7 19 ♘f1 ♕c8 20 g4 ♗e8 21 ♗e3 ♘fd7 22 ♘d2 ♘c5 23 ♖ec1 ♖b8 24 b4 ♘xd3 25 ♕xd3 ♘a4 26 ♘e2 ½-½

(718) Sax-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♘e7 4 ♘f3 b6 5 c3 ♕d7 6 a4 a5 7 b3 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 0-0 c5 10 ♘a3 ♘c6 11 ♘b5 ♗e7 12 ♘g5 h6 13 ♕h5 g6 14 ♕h3 cxd4 15 cxd4 ♘c7 16 ♘xc7+ ♕xc7 ½-½

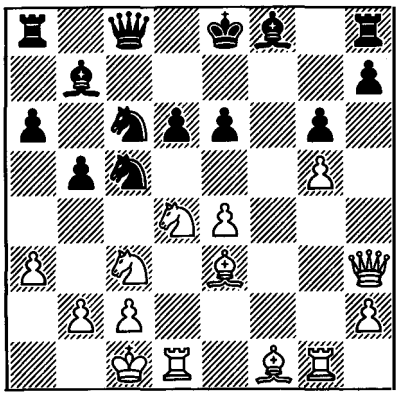
(719) Petrosian-Djindjihashvili
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗f6 10 ♖d1 ♗e4 11 ♗e3 ♘c6 12 ♖ac1 ♘e7 13 ♗g5 ♗xf3 14 ♗xf6 ♗xg2 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 ♔xg2 c6 17 ♕f3 ♖ac8 18 ♖c3 d6 19 e4 ♖fd8 20 a3 ♕d7 21 b4 h6 22 ♖e3 d5 23 exd5 cxd5 24 c5 bxc5 25 dxc5 a5 26 h4 ♖b8 ½-½

(720) Fedorowicz-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 a6 7 g5 ♘fd7 8 ♗e3 b5 9 a3 ♗b7 10 ♕g4 ♘c6 11 0-0-0 ♘ce5 12 ♕h3 g6 13 f4 ♘c6 14 ♖g1 ♕c8 15 f5 ♘c5 16 fxe6 fxe6 *(286)*

286



17 ♗xb5 axb5 18 ♘dxb5 ♘d8 19 ♖gf1 ♗e7 20 ♕h6 ♘f7 21 ♕g7 ♖f8 22 ♕xh7 ♘xe4 23 ♖xf7 ♖xf7 24 ♕g8+ ♖f8 25 ♕xg6+ ♔d7 26 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 27 ♕xe4 ♕c6 28 ♕xc6+ ♔xc6 29 ♘d4+ ♔d7 30 h4 d5 31 h5 e5 32 ♘b3 ♖f3 33 ♗d2 ♖h3 34 h6 ♖g8 35 ♔h1 ♔e6 36 ♖e1 ♗xg5 37 ♘d4+ ♔d7 38 h7 ½-½

(721) Petrosian-Tarjan
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♕a4+ ♗d7 5 ♕b3 dxc4 6 ♕xc4 ♗g7 7 g3 0-0 8 ♗g2 ♘c6 9 0-0 ♗g4 10 ♕a4 ♕d7 11 ♘g5 ♖ab8 12 d3 ♘d4 13 ♕xd7 ♗xd7 14 ♗f4 ♖fc8 15 ♘f3 ♘h5 16 ♗g5 e5 17 ♖fc1 ♔f8 18 ♘d2 ♘f6 19 h3 ♘e8 20 ♘b3 c5 21 ♘xd4 cxd4 22 ♘d5 f6 23 ♗d2 ♔f7 24 e3 ♗f8 25 exd4 exd4 26 ♘f4 f5 27 ♘e2 ♗b5 28 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 29 ♘xd4 ♗xd3 30 ♗xb7 ♖d8 31 ♘c6 ♖d5 32 ♘b4 ♖b5 33 ♗d5+ ♔g7 34 ♗c6 ♖b6 35 ♗c3+ ♔h6 36 ♘xd3 ♖xc6 37 ♖e1 ♘f6 38 ♖c1 ♖a6 39 ♗d2+ g5 40 h4 ♘e4 41 hxg5+ ♔h5 42 ♗e3 ♖xa2 43 ♔g2 ♔g6 44 ♖c7 ♗d6 45 ♖c6 1-0

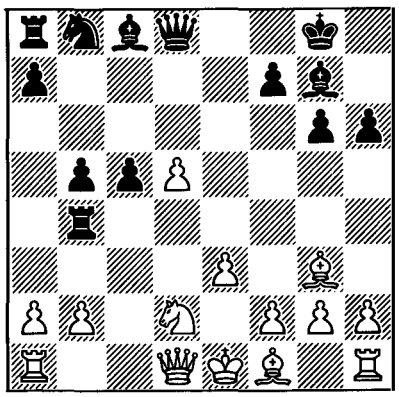
(722) Hort-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 c3 c6 6 ♘e2 ♘e7 7 ♗f4 0-0 8 0-0 ♗f5 9 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 10 ♘g3 ♗xd3 11 ♕xd3 ♘d7 12 ♘d2 ½-½

(723) Petrosian-Nunn
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♗g7 8 ♘c4 0-0 9 ♗g5 h6 10 ♗f4 b6 11 ♗xd6 ♖e8 12 ♗g3 ♘e4 13 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 14 e3 b5 15 ♘d2 ♖b4 *(287)*

287



16 b3 ♗xa1 17 ♕xa1 ♕xd5 18 a3 ♖g4 19 ♗e2 ♘c6 20 ♗f3 ♕e6 21 ♗xg4 ♕xg4 22 0-0 ♗b7 23 f3 ♕e6 24 ♘e4 ♖d8 25 ♘xc5 ♕xe3+ 26 ♗f2 ♕e7 27 ♖e1 ♕c7 28 h4 h5 29 ♘e4 ♘e7 30 ♘f6+ ♔f8 31 b4 ♗c8 32 ♘xh5 gxh5 33 ♕h8+ ♘g8 34 ♗c5+ ♖d6 35 ♕e5 1-0

(724) Mestel-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 c3 c6 6 ♘f3 ♕c7 7 ♗g5 ♘e7 8 ♗h4 ♘g6 9 ♕e2+ ♔f8 10 ♗g3 ♗g4 11 ♘bd2 ♘d7 12 0-0-0 ♘f4 13 ♕f1 ♖e8 14 ♖e1 ♖xe1+ 15 ♘xe1 g6 16 ♗xf4 ♗xf4 17 f3 ♗e6 18 g3 ½-½

(725) Petrosian-Shamkovich
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 d4 d5 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 ♗f5 7 e3 e6 8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 ♗d6 10 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 13 h3 ♖fd8 14 ♖fd1 h6 ½-½

International Tournament
Lone Pine, April 1978

1 Larsen 7½; 2 Polugayevsky 7; 3-5 Lein, Peters, Portisch 6½; 6-10 Evans, **Petrosian** (+3 –0 =6), Ree, Rogoff, Zaltsman 6 . . . (68 competitors).

§ (726) Portisch-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

The problem of the difficult opponent is not new in chess. A kind of unpleasantness of one player to another suddenly appears, and if it disappears, then this happens just as mysteriously. How does one explain the chess incompatibility of two individuals who often meet at opposite sides of the chess board? This is something of an enigma. And, when he encounters this phenomenon, which resembles a natural disaster, each player attempts in his own way to solve this problem.

For many years in my chess career, my most difficult opponent was the Hungarian grandmaster Lajos Portisch. The years passed, we met each other in tournaments, successful for one and less so for the other, we moved about in the tournament tables, sometimes up, sometimes down . . . But one thing remained constant. Each game with Portisch became a trial for me. Numerous draws were interspersed with defeats. True, there were not so many defeats – only four in 13 years, but several times I was on the verge of defeat, and I did not manage to win a single game.

When in our 1974 Candidates Match I managed to win against Portisch for the first time in my life, all the events in this game seemed to me to be especially highly coloured. I thought that I had played a very subtle game, employing a valuable innovation, and that Portisch had displayed tenacity and resourcefulness in defence . . . But later, when the excitement had died down, I came to the conclusion that the game had been a very ordinary one, and that there had essentially been no struggle in it. And it is very probable that I thereby solved for myself the problem of the 'difficult' Portisch, since now, when I examine our previous meetings, I sometimes wonder whether the names of the players have not been mixed up.

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7

Whenever I meet Portisch, especially when I am Black, in the opening I always feel uncomfortable. At the board he radiates an all-knowing air. Decisions which I come to by trial and tribulation have undoubtedly – at any rate, this is what his appearance says – been on his board at home. I seem to have no opening loophole which Portisch has not anticipated and locked beforehand, leaving me the minimum of choice. I am obliged to fall into step with him, and frequently against my will.

True, once in a while Portisch is forced to solve comparatively unfamiliar problems at the board. The choice of opening in this game was induced by the success of Spassky, who in the 14th game of his match with Portisch in 1977 employed a new move, caught his opponent unawares, gained a pleasant position and won.

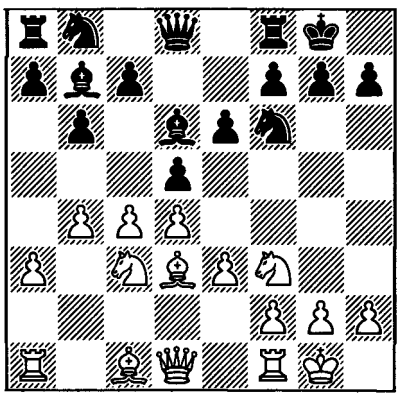
I had hardly ever employed before the line which I chose here, and it could have been hoped that it would at least to some extent have come as a surprise to Portisch. But, as the course of the game shows, this was not the case.

8 a3 ♗d6

After 8 ... ♗e7 9 cxd5 exd5 10 b4 Black has to waste a tempo on placing his bishop at d6 and achieving the required set-up. True, in this situation the gain or loss of a tempo does not play any particular role, but strong players differ from weak ones in that, in particular, they not only do not like losing tempi, but they also strive to win them, even if in the visible future this does not give any obvious advantage.

9 b4 *(288)*

288



9 ... dxc4

"The only way!" Mark Taimanov exclaims in his book *Nimzowitsch-Indisch bis Katalanisch*, published in Berlin, promising White an advantage after Black's natural reaction – 9 ... a5 10 c5! (the book's exclamation mark) 10 ... axb4 11 ♘a4 ♗e7 12 axb4 – and citing only a single game, played in the rather distant 1958 in a USSR Championship Semi-Final. In fact, after 11 ... bxc5 12 dxc5 ♗e7 13 axb4 c6 followed by 14 ... ♘bd7 Black has a solid centre and a reasonable position.

I think that there is no real point in wasting time on discussing the merits of 9 ... a5, if only because after 10 b5 Black cannot get by without exchanging on c4, transposing into positions which have already occurred in practice.

10 ♗xc4 a5

An essential part of Black's plan, which involves the preparation and carrying out of ... e5. Since neither 11 ♖b1 nor 11 bxa5 promises White anything, it is with even greater pleasure that he advances his pawn to b5, where it will block two black pawns, b- and c-. And if Black tries to get rid of it by ... c6, then after exchanging on c6 White plays a3-a4, handing over the functions of the b5 pawn to the a4 pawn, which will now be restraining another black pawn pair, a- and b-.

If one adds that White has an extra pawn in the centre, on the basis of general reasoning it may seem that he has a fairly obvious advantage.

A few years ago I examined this position, since in the games played with it White had not been successful. Not believing the logic of this, I tried to improve White's play, and a strange thing happened... As a rule, during the analysis White had a fine-looking position, and his advantage seemed quite obvious. But as soon as things came down to 'White moves here, Black moves there' it transpired that Black, with his well-placed forces, could by piece play reduce to nought all the attractions of White's position.

11 b5 ♘bd7
12 ♗b2 e5

In a game with Tal from the 1975

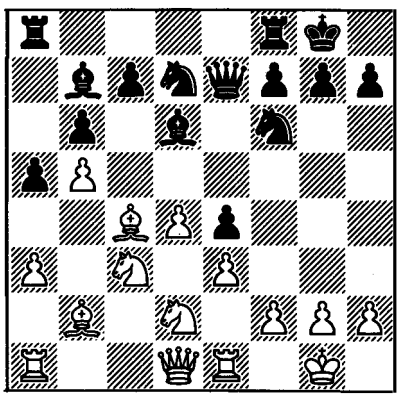
Alekhine Memorial Tournament, Spassky continued here 13 a4. Tal adhered to a fundamentally different line of play and stubbornly refrained from the obvious advance of his e-pawn. After 13 ... ♕e7 14 h3 ♖ad8 15 ♕e2 ♖fe8 16 ♖ad1 exd4 17 ♘xd4, when 17 ... ♕e5 turned out to be an ephemeral threat in view of the simple 18 f4 ♕xe3+ 19 ♕xe3 ♖xe3 20 ♘f5, he played the cool, although probably forced, 17 ... g6, and fairly easily held the position.

13 ♖e1

Portisch made this move fairly quickly, and from his appearance it was clear that I had not succeeded in catching him unawares.

13 ... e4
14 ♘d2 ♕e7 *(289)*

289



15 ♗e2!

This move is Portisch's invention. Of course, for any competent player the undermining of Black's outpost e-pawn is no strategic revelation. But how is this goal to be achieved? If White plays the direct 15 f3 then after 15 ... exf3 16 ♘xf3 ♘e4, irrespective of how White continues, Black, having seized control of e4, need fear nothing and no one! By recapturing on f3 with the pawn, White would sharpen the position to the maximum, but that is all. Because of the opponent's active pieces, the seemingly flexible white pawns have little mobility, and must carefully consider their every step. If he advances his f-pawn, White will strengthen the bishop at b7. But e3-e4 increases the power of the bishop at d6, and then the prospect of the black knight going to h5 and possibly f4, in combination with the inevitable ... ♕h4, would dissuade many players from taking on f3 with the pawn.

Portisch's idea is quite a dangerous one.He intends to play f2-f3, and after the exchange to recapture on f3 with his bishop. After the exchange of bishops the queen will appear at f3. White will all the time keep control of the e4 square, thus ensuring the safe advance of his e-pawn. In this case it transpires that Black's knights and remaining bishop are badly placed. Therefore Black must meet f2-f3 in the positionally least damaging way. It is simplest, of course, to support the e-pawn with its neighbour by playing simply 15 ... ♘e8. But, alas, this merely turns out to be a blunder: 16 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 17 ♘xe4 ♕xe4 18 ♗f3, and although 17 ... ♗xh2+ enables Black to avoid loss of material, 18 ♔xh2 ♕xe4 19 ♗f3 ♕h4+ 20 ♔g1 leaves him at an equally obvious positional disadvantage.

Black's minor pieces are occupying, as it is fashionable to say, their optimum positions, and he only has to think about how to deploy his rooks. The arrangement of the rooks at e8 and f8 did not appeal to me. Therefore there was no real choice; the rooks should stand at d8 and e8. In which order should this be done? I preferred 15 ... ♖ad8, for the following two reasons:

1) It will still be possible to play ... ♘e8 followed by ... f5.

2) On 16 f3 Black has the rather amusing tactical possibility of 16 ... ♘c5. Now, if White makes the obvious moves 17 dxc5 ♗xc5 18 ♗f1 exf3 19 gxf3 ♕xe3+ 20 ♖xe3 ♗xe3+ 21 ♔h1 ♖xd2, then Black wins.

True, the variation 16 ... ♘c5 17 ♕c2 exf3 18 ♗xf3 ♗xf3 19 dxc5! (*19 ♘xf3 ♘ce4* or *19 gxf3 ♘e6* is not dangerous for Black) 19 ... ♗xh2+ 20 ♔xh2 ♘g4+ 21 ♔g1 or 21 ♔g3 refutes Black's venture, but then it is not at all obligatory for him.

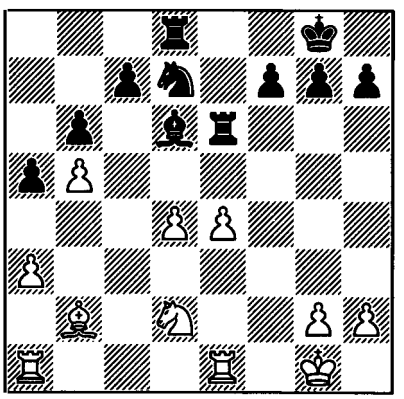
The most amusing thing was that at that moment I did not even imagine that I had come up with a winning move.

15 ... ♖ad8
16 ♕c2

In our joint post-mortem it transpired that Portisch had not delved into the above tactical possibilities, since he assumed that 16 f3 ♖fe8 17 fxe4 ♘xe4 18 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 19 ♘xe4 ♕xe4 20 ♗f3 ♕h4 21 g3 ♕g5 did not promise White any advantage. And he was right!

16 ... ♖fe8 17 f3 exf3 18 ♗xf3 ♗xf3 19 ♘xf3 ♘e4 20 ♘xe4 ♕xe4 21 ♕xe4 ♖xe4 22 ♘d2 ♖e6 23 e4 *(290)*

290



The entire series of moves from 17 to 25 was made by both players almost without any hesitation. This is a clear sign that their assessments of the resulting position were diametrically opposed.

White's dynamic central pawns, ready to advance, together with his seemingly soundly-placed pieces, appear to promise him a persistent initiative. Even so, an experienced player such as Portisch should have been put on his guard, if only by the fact that Black happily went in for this position. He should have been, but he was not, probably because he was playing an 'easy' opponent.

23 ... ♘c5

A little trick – 24 dxc5 fails to 24 ... ♗xc5+ followed by 25 ... ♖xd2, winning a pawn with an overwhelming position – which places White in a critical position in view of the threats of ... ♘a4, ... ♘d3 and ... ♗f4. He has not only to go onto the defensive, but has also to do this in the especially unpleasant atmosphere of a sudden surprise, switching sharply from playing for a win to seeking drawing chances.

In the first instance it should be seen that the plausible 24 d5 ♖ee8 (of course, not *24 ... ♖e7 25 e5 ♘d3 26 exd6* or *25 ... ♖de8 26 ♘f3*) with the threats of ... ♘d3 or ... ♗f4 leads to the loss of, at least, the e4 pawn. 24 e5 is a direct blunder in view of 24 ... ♗xe5, while on 24 ♖e2 ♘a4 25 ♘c4 there follows 25 ... ♘xb2 26 ♘xb2 ♗f8! with a winning position.

After 24 ♖e2 ♘a4 White's best chance was probably to play 25 d5. Then Black would have been faced with a choice: whether to exploit the chance which has presented itself to play for an attack – 25 ... ♗c5+ 26 ♔f1 (*26 ♔h1 ♖xd5*) 26 ... ♖h6 27 ♗e5 ♖e8 28 ♗xc7 ♘c3 29 ♖ee1 ♖f6+ 30 ♘f3 ♘xe4 (threatening mate at d2) 31 ♖ad1, switching now to the prosaic 31 ... ♗xa3; whether to be

satisfied in this variation with 29 ... ♘xb5 30 ♗g3 ♘xa3, agreeing to the disuniting of his pieces; or whether to seek a clear advantage in the position after 25 ... ♖e7 26 ♗d4 ♗f4. But here after the natural 27 ♖ae1 ♗xd2 28 ♖xd2 ♖xd5 29 exd5 ♖xe1+ 30 ♔f2 ♖c1 31 d6 cxd6 32 ♗xb6 ♘xb6 33 ♖xd6 White should be able to draw without great difficulty.

At any event, in all these lines Black would have faced one of the most difficult problems in chess – that of choosing the best continuation. Whereas after the move in the game Black had no choice. He was forced to make a move which was essentially dictated by his opponent – to take the pawn, and not wonder about the consequences.

24 ♘c4 ♘xe4

The game is decided. Black has picked up a very important pawn, without giving up anything. The rest, as they say, is a matter of technique.

25 ♖ac1 ♗f8!

An essential move! The opponent must be prevented from exploiting the c-file after exchanging on d6.

26 ♘e5 ♘d6 27 a4 f6 28 ♘f3

No better was 28 ♘c6, where the knight would merely have been prettily placed.

28 ... ♖xe1+ 29 ♘xe1 ♖d7 30 ♘f3 ♘f5

Black gradually finds an ideal arrangement of his forces.

From d6 the bishop will not only free the rook from the duty of guarding the c-file, but will also attack the kingside, where Black has an extra pawn. The knight at f5 is splendidly placed, and within a few moves it will switch to an equally good post at d5. By advancing his kingside pawns Black will severely cramp his opponent, and then, depending on the situation, he will break with one or other of his pieces into the opponent's position and steal up on the defenceless pawns. In the game this honoured role is fulfilled by the black king.

31 ♔f2 h5 32 ♖c2 g5 33 ♖c4 ♗d6 34 g3 ♔f7 35 ♘g1 ♘e7 36 ♘e2 ♘d5 37 ♗c1 ♔e6 38 ♖c2 ♔f5 39 ♔f3 g4+ 40 ♔f2 ♖h7 41 ♖d2 h4 42 ♔g2 ♔e4 43 ♖d1 ♘e3+ 44 ♗xe3 ♔xe3 45 ♘c3 h3+

White resigns. After the king moves, 46 ... ♖h5 will complete the paralysis of his position.

(727) Petrosian-Polugayevsky
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♘c3 0-0 8 0-0 ♘a6 9 ♕a4 ♕c8 10 ♖fe1 c5 11 e4 cxd4 12 ♘xd4 d6 13 ♖ad1 ♖e8 14 h3 ♘c5 15 ♕c2 ♘cd7 16 b3 a6 17 ♗c1 ♗f8 18 ♗b2 ♕c7 19 ♕d2 ♖ad8 20 ♖e2 ♕b8 21 ♖de1 g6 22 ♖d1 ♗g7 23 ♔h2 ♘c5 24 ♖de1 ♗a8 25 ♔g1 h5 26 h4 ♘g4 27 ♗a1 ♘f6 28 ♕d1 ♗b7 29 ♗b2 ♗a8 30 ♗c1 b5 31 cxb5 axb5 32 b4 ♘a6 33 ♘dxb5 d5 34 ♕a4 ♘c7 35 ♕a5 ♘xb5 36 ♘xb5 ♘xe4 37 ♗xe4 dxe4 38 ♘c7 e3 39 ♗xe3 ♗c3 40 ♖c1 ♗xb4 41 ♕a4 ♕b7 42 ♘xa8 ♖xa8 ½-½

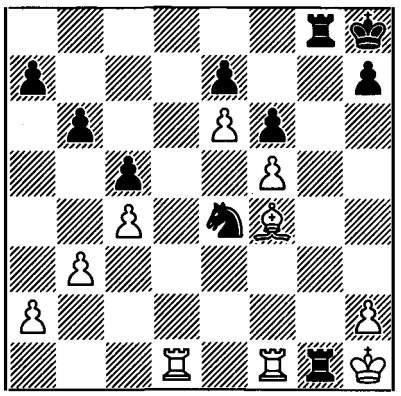
(728) Benko-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c3 d5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 d4 ♘f6 6 ♘a3 ♗e7 7 ♘b5 ♘a6 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 cxd4 10 ♕xd4 ♗d7 11 ♘e5 ♗xb5 12 ♕xd5 ♘xd5 13 ♗xb5 ♘c5 14 ♗d2 ♘e4 15 ♖ad1 ½-½

(729) Janošević-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 f4 c6 5 ♘f3 ♗g4 6 ♗e3 d5 7 ♗e2 dxe4 8 ♘xe4 ♘f6 9 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 10 ♘e5 ♗e6 11 0-0 ♘d7 12 c4 ♘b6 13 b3 ♘c8 14 ♗g4 ♗xg4 15 ♕xg4 ♘d6 16 ♖ad1 ♕c8 17 ♕f3 0-0 18 g4 ♗g7 19 d5 c5 20 ♘d3 b6 21 f5 ♔h8 22 ♔h1 ♕d7 23 ♗g5 gxf5 24 gxf5 ♗f6 25 ♗h6 ♖g8 26 ♕f4 ♗d4 27 ♘e5 ♗xe5 28 ♕xe5+ f6 29 ♕e6 ♕xe6 30 dxe6 ♖g4 31 ♖d5 ♖ag8 32 ♗f4 ♘e4 33 ♖dd1 ♖g1+ *(291)* **0-1**

291



(730) Petrosian-Peters
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘c3 ♗e7 7 0-0 cxd4 8 exd4 d5 9 b3 0-0 10 ♗b2 ♘c6 11 ♖c1 ♖c8 12 ♖e1 ♖e8 13 cxd5 ♘xd5 14 ♘xd5 ♕xd5 15 ♗e4 ♕h5 16 ♘e5 ♕xd1 17 ♖exd1 ♘xe5 18 ♗xb7 ♖xc1 19 ♗xc1 ♖d8 20 ♔f1 ♖d7 21 ♗c8 ♖d8 22 ♗b7 ♖d7 23 ♗c8 ♖d8 24 ♗b7 ½-½

(731) Stean-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 g3 e5 5 ♗g2 ♘c6 6 dxe5 dxe5 7 ♕xd8+ ♘xd8 8 ♘c3 c6 9 ♘e4 f6 10 ♘d6+ ♔e7 11 ♘xc8+ ♖xc8 12 ♗h3 ♘e6 13 b3 e4 14 ♗a3+ c5 15 ♘d2 f5 16 0-0-0 ♘f6 17 f3 ♖hd8 18 fxe4 ♗h6 19 e3 ♘g5 20 ♗g2 ♘gxe4 21 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 22 ♗xe4 ♖xd1+ 23 ♔xd1 fxe4 24 ♔e2 ♗g7 25 ♖b1 ♔e6 26 ♗b2 ♗xb2 27 ♖xb2 ♔f5 28 h3 ♖f8 29 ♖b1 ♔e5 30 ♖f1 ♖xf1 31 ♔xf1 ♔d6 32 ♔e2 ♔c6 33 ♔d2 ½-½

(732) Petrosian-Böhm
English Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 b6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♘e2 f5 6 a3 ♗e7 7 d5 e5 8 e4 f4 9 g3 fxg3 10 hxg3 d6 11 ♗e3 ♗g5 12 f4 ♗h6 13 ♗h3 ♗c8 14 ♗e6 ♘d7 15 ♕a4 ♔f8 16 0-0-0 ♘c5 17 ♗xc5 bxc5 18 ♔b1 exf4 19 gxf4 ♘f6 20 e5 ♘d7 21 ♖h5 ♔e7 22 ♕c2 ♔e8 23 ♖dh1 ♘f8 24 ♗xc8 ♕xc8 25 ♕e4 ♔d8 26 e6 ♔e8 27 ♕f5 ♘g6 28 ♕f7+ ♔d8 29 ♖xh6 gxh6 30 f5 1-0

(733) Balinas-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♘b3 ♗d6 9 ♘fd4 ♘e7 10 ♗g5 ♗d7 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♕h5 f6 13 ♗d2 ♕e8 14 ♕xe8 ♖fxe8 15 ♖ad1 a6 16 ♗e2 ♘e5 17 a3 ♘c4 18 ♗c1 ♖ac8 19 f4 ♗b8 20 ♗f3 ♗a7 21 ♔h1 ♔f8 22 g4 a5 23 c3 ♗b6 24 f5 ♘e5 25 ♗e2 ½-½

(734) Petrosian-Bisguier
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♘e2 ♘e4 6 ♗d2 ♘xd2 7 ♕xd2 ♗a6 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 ♕xc3 0-0 10 d5 exd5 11 cxd5 c5 12

dxc6 ♘xc6 13 ♘f4 ♗xf1 14 ♔xf1 ♖c8 15 ♖d1 ♖e8 16 h4 ♖e5 17 ♕d2 ½-½

USSR Cup (Premier League)
Ordzhonikidze, May 1978

+2 –1 =4.

(735) Petrosian-Lukin
Modern Benoni

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 c5 4 d5 d6 5 ♘c3 ♘f6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e6 8 0-0 ♖e8 9 ♘d2 exd5 10 cxd5 ♘bd7 11 a4 g5 12 ♖a3 ♘e5 13 ♕c2 a6 14 a5 g4 15 b3 ♘h5 16 ♘c4 ♘xc4 17 bxc4 ♗e5 18 g3 ♘g7 19 ♘d1 f5 20 ♘e3 fxe4 21 ♘xg4 ♗xg4 22 ♗xg4 ♗d4 23 ♗h6 b5 24 axb6 ♕xb6 25 ♖b1 ♕c7 26 ♗e3 ♖a7 27 ♖e1 ♕e7 28 ♕a2 ♖ea8 29 ♗xd4 cxd4 30 ♕d2 ♕e5 31 ♗f3 e3 32 fxe3 ♘f5 33 exd4 ♕xd4+ 34 ♕xd4 ♘xd4 35 ♗d1 a5 36 ♖e4 ♘f5 37 ♗a4 ♖e7 38 ♖xe7 ♘xe7 39 ♔f2 ♘g6 40 ♔e3 ♘e5 41 ♔d4 ♖f8 42 ♖a2 ♖f1 43 c5 ♘f3+ 44 ♔e3 dxc5 45 d6 ♘g5 46 d7 ♖f3+ 47 ♔e2 ♖f8 48 ♔d3 ♖d8 1-0

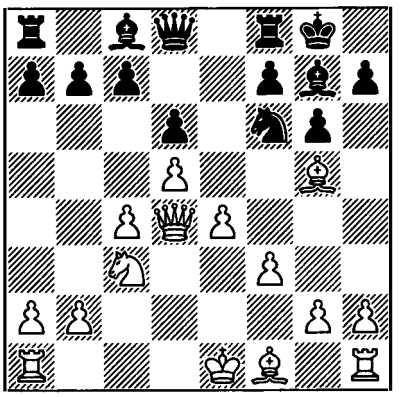
(736) Bronstein-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♘e2 dxe4 5 a3 ♗e7 6 ♘xe4 ♘f6 7 ♘2g3 0-0 8 ♗e2 ♘bd7 9 0-0 b6 10 ♗f3 ♖b8 11 c4 ♘xe4 12 ♗xe4 ♘f6 13 ♗f3 ♗b7 14 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 15 ♕f3 c6 16 ♘e2 ♕c8 17 b4 ♖d8 18 ♗f4 ♖bd7 19 ♖fc1 h6 20 h3 c5 21 dxc5 bxc5 22 b5 ♖d3 23 ♗e3 ♕c7 24 a4 ♕a5 25 ♕c6 ♘d7 26 ♗f4 e5 27 ♕e4 ♖d6 28 ♗e3 ♗f8 29 ♘c3 ♖d4 30 ♗xd4 cxd4 31 ♘d5 ♖e8 32 ♕g4 ♖e6 33 ♖d1 g6 34 f4 f5 35 ♕e2 ♗c5 36 ♔h2 e4 37 g4 ♕d8 38 gxf5 gxf5 39 ♕h5 ♕f8 40 ♖a2 d3 41 ♖g2+ 1-0

(737) Petrosian-Kochiev
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 e4 e5 5 ♘ge2 ♘f6 6 f3 0-0 7 ♗g5 ♘c6 8 d5 ♘d4 9 ♘xd4 exd4 10 ♕xd4 *(292)*

292



10 ... h6 11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 ♕d2 c6 13 ♗d3 ♕b6 14 0-0-0 a5 15 ♔b1 a4 16 a3 ♗g7 17 h4 ♕d4 18 ♕c2 cxd5 19 ♗f1 ♕c5 20 ♖xd5 ♕c6 21 ♖b5 ♗d7 22 h5 g5 23 ♘d5 ♔h8 24 ♘b6 ♖a6 25 ♘xd7 ♕xd7 26 ♗e2 ♕c7 27 ♖d1 ♖fa8 28 ♖dd5 ♗e5 29 ♖b4 ♖8a7 30 ♕d2 ♔g7 31 ♗d3 ♖c6 32 ♖bb5 ♖c5 33 ♕b4 ♖xb5 34 ♖xb5 ♗d4 35 ♖d5 ♗e5 36 ♗c2 ♕c6 37 ♖b5 ♗d4 38 ♗xa4 ♗e5 39 ♖a5 1-0

(738) Petrosian-Romanishin
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e4 e5 4 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 5 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 6 ♕xd2 exd4 7 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗e6 9 f4 ♘e7 10 ♘xe6 fxe6 11 ♗xc4 e5 12 ♘c3 ♘d7 13 0-0 exf4 ½-½

(739) Tseshkovsky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5

♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 11 ♘xd4 ♗d7 12 ♗b5 ♗c5 13 ♗xd7+ ♔xd7 14 ♖d1 ♔e7 15 ♘b3 ♗b6 16 ♗g5 ♖hd8 ½-½

(740) Petrosian-Geller
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♖c1 ♗b7 11 ♗e2 ♖c8 12 0-0 c5 13 dxc5 ♖xc5 14 ♘xd5 ♖xd5 15 ♕a4 ♘d7 16 ♖c7 ♕d8 17 ♖c3 ½-½

(741) Kholmov-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 0-0 5 e4 d6 6 ♗d3 ♘c6 7 0-0 h6 8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 c3 e5 10 dxe5 ♘xe5 11 ♘xe5 dxe5 12 ♕e2 ♕e7 13 ♖ad1 ♖d8 14 ♗c4 ♔g7 15 ♘f3 ♗d7 16 ♖d2 ♗g4 17 ♖fd1 ♖xd2 18 ♖xd2 ♖d8 19 ♖xd8 ♕xd8 20 h3 ♗xf3 21 ♕xf3 ♕d2 22 ♕e2 ♕c1+ 23 ♔h2 ♗e7 ½-½

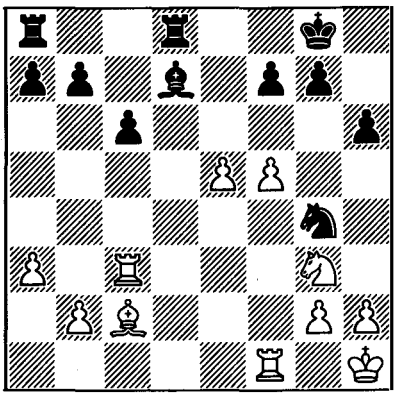
International Tournament
Vilnius, July-August 1978

1 Tukmakov 10½; 2 **Petrosian** (+6 –1 =8) 10; 3 Gulko 9½; 4-5 Belyavsky, Lechtinsky 9; 6-8 Csom, Dorfman, Espig 8; 9 Reshevsky 7½; 10 Dvoretsky 7; 11 Lebredo 6½; 12-13 Kaiszauri, Peshina 6; 14 Mikenas 5½; 15 Damjanović 5; 16 Chiburdanidze 4½.

(742) Petrosian-Dvoretsky
Ragozin Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 ♗b4+ 5 ♘c3 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♖c1 c6 9 a3 ♗a5 10 ♗d3 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 ♘d7 12 0-0 ♕e7 13 ♗a2 e5 14 d5 ♗xc3 15 ♖xc3 e4 16 d6 ♕f6 17 ♘d2 ♕xd6 18 ♘xe4 ♕e7 19 ♘g3 ♘f6 20 e4 ♖d8 21 ♕c2 ♗e6 22 ♗b1 ♕d6 23 f4 ♕d4+ 24 ♔h1 ♕d2 25 f5 ♕xc2 26 ♗xc2 ♗d7 27 e5 ♘g4 *(293)*

293



28 ♘h5 ♘xe5 29 ♖g3 ♔h8 30 ♖xg7 ♗e8 31 ♖g3 ♖d2 32 ♘f6 ♗d7 33 ♖e3 ♘c4 34 ♖e7 ♖xc2 35 ♖xd7 ♔g7 36 ♘h5+ ♔f8 37 ♖xb7 ♖xb2 38 ♖c7 ♘xa3 ½-½

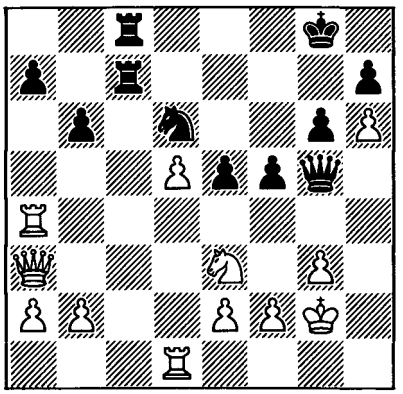
(743) Belyavsky-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♕c2 ♘xc3 8 ♕xc3 0-0 9 0-0 ♗e4 10 ♗f4 ♗f6 11 ♖fd1 ♘c6 12 ♘e5 ♗xg2 13 ♔xg2 ♖c8 14 h4 ♕e8 15 ♘g4 ♗e7 16 d5 ♘d8 17 h5 f6 18 h6 g6 19 ♗xc7 ♖xc7 20 d6 ♗xd6 21 ♖xd6 ♕e7 22 ♖ad1 ♘b7 23 ♖6d4 d5 24 ♕d3 ♘d6 25 cxd5 e5 26 ♖b4 f5 27 ♘e3 ♖fc8 28 ♖a4 ♕g5 29 ♕a3

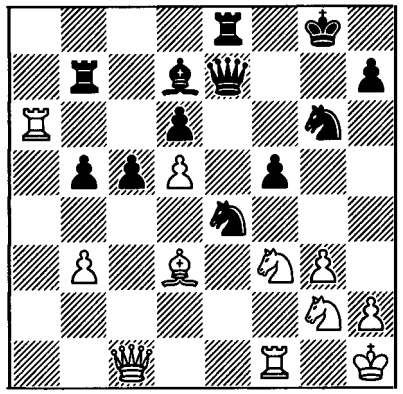
(diagram 294)

29 ... ♕e7 30 b3 ♔f8 31 ♕b2 ♖c5 32 ♘c4 ♘f7 33 ♕a3 b5 34 ♖xa7 ♕f6 35 ♖a6 ♕e7 36 ♖a7 ♕d8 37 ♘a5 ♕b6 38 ♘b7 b4 39 ♘xc5 1-0

294



295



(744) Petrosian-Csom
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗f4 b6 4 ♘bd2 ♗b7 5 e3 ♗e7 6 h3 0-0 7 c3 c5 8 ♗d3 cxd4 9 exd4 d6 10 0-0 ♖e8 11 ♖e1 ♘bd7 12 ♗g3 a6 13 a4 ♗f8 14 ♕c2 h6 15 b4 ♗c6 16 b5 ½-½

(745) Peshina-Petrosian
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 ♘c3 d6 5 ♘f3 ♗g7 6 e4 0-0 7 ♗e2 e6 8 0-0 exd5 9 cxd5 ♖e8 10 ♘d2 ♘bd7 11 a4 ♘e5 12 ♔h1 g5 13 ♖a3 a6 14 ♕c2 b6 15 f4 gxf4 16 ♖xf4 ♖b8 17 ♘d1 ♘g6 18 ♖f2 ♕e7 19 ♗f3 b5 20 axb5 axb5 21 b3 ♗d7 22 ♕a2 ♘e5 23 ♗e2 ♗h6 24 ♖f1 ♖b7 25 ♕b1 ♘g6 26 ♗d3 ♗g4 27 ♘f3 ♗xc1 28 ♕xc1 ♘xe4 29 ♖a2 ♕d8 30 ♘e3 ♗d7 31 ♖a6 f5 32 g3 ♕e7 33 ♘g2

(diagram 295)

33 ... c4 34 ♗xe4 fxe4 35 ♘d4 ♕e5 36 ♕e3 ♗h3 37 ♖c1 ♗xg2+ 38 ♔xg2 cxb3 39 ♘xb3 ♘e7 40 ♖f1 ♘xd5 41 ♕h6 e3 42 ♖xd6 e2 43 ♖e1 0-1

(746) Petrosian-Mikenas
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 d4 ♘c6 6 ♘f3 c4 7 0-0 ♗b4 8 b3 cxb3 9 ♕xb3 ♘ge7 10 ♗a3 a5 11 ♘c3 0-0 12 ♖fc1 ♗f5 13 e3 a4 14 ♕b2 ♕a5 15 ♘e1 ♖fd8 16 ♗f1 ♗xa3 17 ♕xa3 ♘b4 18 ♗b5 ♖dc8 19 ♕xa4 ♕xa4 20 ♘xa4 ♖a5 21 ♖xc8+ ♘xc8 22 ♘c3 ♖a3 23 ♖c1 ♘d6 24 ♗f1 ♘xa2 25 ♘xa2 ♖xa2 26 ♘d3 ♖a5 27 h3 g5 28 g4 ♗d7 29 ♗g2 ♗b5 30 ♘e5 ♗c4 31 e4 ♗a2 32 exd5 ♗xd5 33 ♖c7 ♗xg2 34 ♔xg2 ♔g7 35 ♖d7 ♖a6 36 d5 h6 37 ♘c6 ♘e4 38 ♖xb7 ♖a2 39 ♔f3 ♘f6 40 d6 ♖d2 41 ♘e7 ♘d5 42 ♘f5+ ♔g6 43 ♖b8 ♖d3+ 44 ♔e4 ♖d1 45 ♖b3 ♘f6+ 46 ♔e3 h5 47 f3 hxg4 48 hxg4 ♘d7 49 ♖b7 ♘c5 50 ♖b6 ♘d7 51 ♖b5 ♔f6 52 ♔e4 ♔e6 53 ♘d4+ ♔f6 54 ♔d5 ♘e5 55 ♖b3 ♖d2 56 ♖e3 ♘d7 57 ♖e4 ♖a2 58 ♘b3 ♖c2 59 ♖b4 ♖c3 60 ♖b7 ♖d3+ 61 ♘d4 ♘f8 62 ♔c4 ♖d1 63 ♖b5 ♘d7 64 ♖f5+ ♔g6 65 ♔c3 ♖c1+ 66 ♔d2 ♖c4 67 ♔d3 ♖c1 68 ♘b5 f6 69 ♔d2 ♖c8 70 ♖d5 ♔f7 71 ♔e3 ♖e8+ 72 ♔d4 ♖e1 73 ♖f5 ♔e6 74 ♔d3 ♖f1 75 ♔d2 ♖a1 ½-½

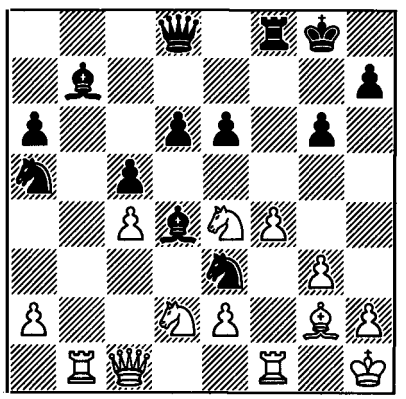
(747) Lebredo-Petrosian
Nimzowitsch/Larsen Opening

1 b3 d5 2 ♗b2 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 e6 4 e3 ♗e7 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 0-0 c5 7 c4 ♘c6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♘a3 b6 10 ♘c4 ♗b7 11 ♘fe5 ♘xe5 12 ♘xe5 ♖c8 13 ♖c1 f6 14 ♘f3 e5 15 a3 e4 16 ♘e1 f5 17 f3 ♔h8 18 fxe4 fxe4 19 ♖xf8+ ♕xf8 20 ♘c2 ♗f6 21 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 22 b4 ♗c6 23 b5 ♗d5 24 ♘a1 ♖d8 25 ♗c4 ♗xc4 26 ♖xc4 ♕d6 27 ♘b3 ♕d3 28 ♕c2 ♕e2 29 h3 ♖f8 30 ♔h2 h6 31 ♘c1 ♕e1 32 d4 ♘g4+ 33 hxg4 ♖f1 0-1

(748) Petrosian-Chiburdanidze
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 ♘f3 d6 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 ♘c3 a6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 ♖b8 11 b3 b5 12 ♗b2 bxc4 13 bxc4 ♗h6 14 ♘cb1 ♗g7 15 ♘bc3 ♗h6 16 f4 e5 17 dxe6 fxe6 18 ♖ab1 ♗g7 19 ♘ce4 ♖xb2 20 ♖xb2 ♘g4 21 ♖bb1 ♗d4+ 22 ♔h1 ♘e3 23 ♕c1 ♗b7 *(296)*

296



24 ♗f3 ♘xf1 25 ♕xf1 ♗xe4 26 ♘xe4 ♕e7 27 ♘g5 ♔h8 28 ♕h3 e5 29 ♘e6 ♖e8 30 ♗d5 exf4 31 ♘xf4 ♕f6 32 ♕d7 ♕d8 33 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 34 ♖b6 ♗c3 35 ♘e6 1-0

(749) Lechtinsky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♗g7 6 ♗e3 ♘f6 7 ♗c4 ♕a5 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♗b3 d6 10 h3 ♗d7 11 f4 ♘xd4 12 ♗xd4 ♗c6 13 ♕d3 ½-½

(750) Petrosian-Gulko
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♕b3 dxc4

Conceding the centre has long been considered almost obligatory, although there are also good grounds for maintaining the pawn at d5 by 5 ... c6.

6 ♕xc4 0-0
7 e4

But this is indeed obligatory! Otherwise the early development of the queen significantly loses its point.

7 ... a6

This move has a curious history. After occurring at a tournament in Leningrad, it did not attract the attention of our players and theorists. Double fianchetto, 'extended' concession of the centre . . . It does indeed appear that Black is taking too many liberties. Such ideas are usually refuted very rapidly, and that was the case here.

Hungarian players, who were essentially the ones to bring the entire 7 ... a6 variation to the notice of the wider chess public, have frequently tested the possibilities of the two sides after 8 ♕b3 b5 9 e5 ♘fd7 or 9 ... ♘g4, which leads to double-edged play with chances for both sides. The main discovery, making the entire variation viable, was that

after the natural 8 ♗f4, despite the attack on the c7 pawn, Black can continue his plan with 8 ... b5. After 9 ♕xc7 ♕xc7 10 ♗xc7 ♗b7 the few games played have shown that Black gains sufficient compensation for the pawn.

In modern chess there are few willing to seek the truth in sharp variations, and in the end the players with White preferred a slight but definite advantage, without trying to refute Black's idea.

8	**♗e2**	**b5**
9	**♕b3**	**♗b7**

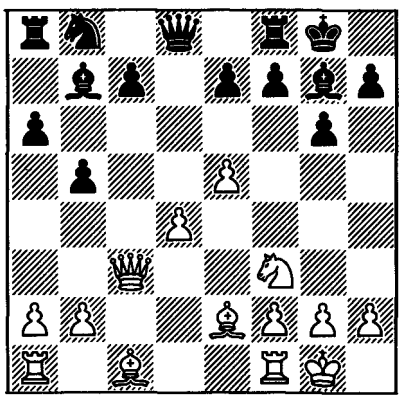
This leads to more restrained play than 9 ... c5.

10	**e5**	**♘d5**
11	**0-0**	

After Moiseyev's recommendation of 11 ♗d2 Black can obtain a good position by the simple 11 ... ♘xc3 12 ♗xc3 (otherwise why ♗d2?) 12 ... ♗d5 followed by ... ♘d7, aiming for ... c5.

11	**...**	**♘xc3**
12	**♕xc3** *(297)*	

297



This position had occurred in previous games, in which after 12 ... ♗d5 White began harassing his opponent's queenside with 13 a4, and gained the advantage.

In the present game Black plays differently.

12	**...**	**♘d7!?**
13	**♗f4?**	

It is hard to explain why White rejected the natural 13 e6 fxe6 14 ♘g5 ♖f6 15 ♕h3 ♘f8 16 ♗e3, with an excellent position. I think it was the effect of the opponent's surprise, after anticipating a slight, 'safe' advantage.

White prepares for ... f6, at the same time inviting the opponent to make the natural move ... ♘b6. Although Black has sufficient control over d5, to his great regret he cannot simultaneously occupy it with more than one piece. By aiming for d5, the black knight would not only block its own bishop, but would also relieve the opponent of having to watch for the advance of the c-pawn.

13	**...**	**♗d5**
14	**♖fc1**	

White is still hoping for a2-a4, and so the queen's rook is left on its initial square.

14	**...**	**c6**
15	**♘d2**	**f6**

Black carries out a complicated and ambitious plan. He attacks the opponent's advanced pawn, assuming that White will cling on to it and will be mainly concerned about how to avoid losing it. The bishop at d5 looks good, supported by the c6 pawn, and if it should ever be exchanged, strategically Black may be very favourably placed. After all, White's central pawns will occupy squares of the colour of his remaining bishop, which will tend to become, if not hopelessly bad, then

indifferent to say the least, and, as always in such cases, a weakness on the opposite-colour squares will be felt.

16 ♗g3 fxe5
17 dxe5 ♕b6

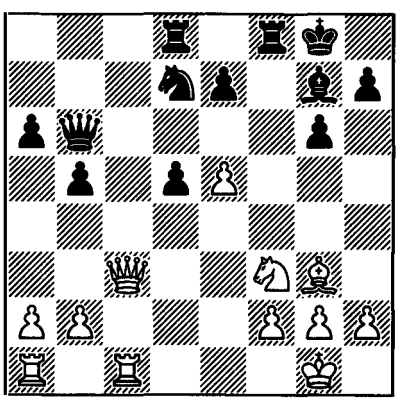
Black appears to be in control of the play, since ... ♘xe5 is now threatened, and therefore White's next move, which is essentially forced, altogether dulled Black's vigilance, and he failed to see through the opponent's plan.

18 ♗f3 ♖ad8?

Essentially the losing move. I thought the normal development of events would have been 18 ... e6 19 ♗xd5 exd5 (this way, since after *19 ... cxd5 20 ♘f3* or *20 ♕c7* White has the advantage). The point of taking with the e-pawn is that the c6 pawn, by sacrificing itself, blocks the way to c7. At the same time, 20 ♘f3 also proves essentially pointless in view of 20 ... c5. And after 18 ... e6 19 ♗xd5 exd5 20 ♕xc6 ♕xc6 21 ♖xc6 ♘xe5 22 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 23 ♖c2 ♖ac8 24 ♖ac1 ♖xc2 25 ♖xc2 d4! 26 ♘f3 d3 27 ♖d2 ♖c8 28 g3 ♖c2 29 ♖xd3 ♗xb2 30 ♖d8+ ♔g7 31 ♖d7+ ♔g8 the normal outcome would be a draw.

19 ♗xd5+ cxd5
20 ♘f3 *(298)*

298



After the opening of the c-file, on which White's heavy pieces are already deployed, his great positional advantage becomes more or less obvious. True, on the file itself there is nothing for them to win, but on the 6th and 7th ranks they will have ample scope.

20 ... ♖f5

As they say, good advice for Black here is at a premium. Even so, it would have been better to play 20 ... ♗h6 21 ♖c2 e6. Now, however, the plausible 21 ♘d4 would have practically forced Black to part with the exchange – 21 ... ♖xe5. Then after 22 ♘c6 White cannot immediately gain an overwhelming advantage – 22 ... ♖f5 23 ♕d2 ♖e8 24 ♗c7 ♕b7 25 g4 ♖f7, and after the prosaic 22 ♗xe5 Black does best to play not 22 ... ♗xe5 23 ♖d1 but 22 ... ♘xe5, after which White's advantage is rather problematic.

At any rate, the move made by White shows that he does not intend to hurry, but is hoping to gain a more tangible advantage. By leaving the back rank, the black rook has allowed White to make a favourable regrouping of his rooks.

21 ♖e1

Since the opponent does not now have ... ♖c8.

21 ... b4
22 ♕d2 ♘b8

Another instant, and ... ♘c6 will give Black a decent-looking position.

23 ♘d4 ♗h6

Realizing that on the retreat of the rook White will without difficulty find the correct continuation (e.g. on *23 ... ♖ff8* he has the rather unpleasant *24*

♗*h4*, if there is nothing else, while if *23*... ♖*f7 24* ♖*ac1*), Black tries by tactics to divert the opponent from his positional course.

24 ♕d1!

Of course, there was little point in exchanging the powerful knight for a sickly bishop.

24 ... ♖f7
25 ♕g4

It is now clear that the e6 square, in the heart of Black's position, has become White's possession.

25 ... ♗d2 26 ♖e2 h5 27 ♕e6!

One does not have to be a very strong tactician in order to part with a piece for a short time. The only thing which required a certain effort was to foresee a way to transform a position with an extra pawn into a completely won ending.

27 ... ♕xd4 28 ♕xg6+ ♖g7 29 ♕e6+ ♔h7 30 ♕f5+ ♔g8 31 ♖d1 ♕g4 32 ♕xg4 ♖xg4

After 32 ... hxg4 33 ♖exd2 e6 34 ♖c1 Black's position is hopeless.

33 ♖exd2 ♖c4

The attempt by 33 ... h4 to exploit the limited mobility of the white bishop does not work. After 34 f3 ♖c4 35 b3 the bishop is saved.

34 b3 ♖c3
35 e6!

This was the point mentioned earlier. After some indifferent move such as 35 h3 Black would have replied 35 ... e6, then occupied the c-file with his second rook and played his knight to c6 or d7, and White would essentially have had to win the game a second time.

35 ... ♘c6 36 ♗c7 ♖c8 37 ♗b6 ♖b8 38 ♗e3

It was this manoeuvre that was discussed in the note to White's 27th move. Now Black will lose a second pawn.

38 ... ♘d8 39 ♖xd5 ♘xe6 40 ♖xh5 Black resigns

(751) Reshevsky-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d6 3 c4 ♗g4 4 ♘c3 g6 5 e3 ♗g7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 c6 8 h3 ♗xf3 9 ♗xf3 ♖e8 10 e4 e5 11 d5 c5 12 ♗g5 ♘bd7 13 ♕d2 a6 14 ♗e2 ♖b8 15 a3 ♕c7 16 a4 ♘f8 17 g3 h5 18 ♗d3 ♘8h7 19 ♗e3 ♕e7 20 ♖ab1 ♘d7 21 h4 ½-½

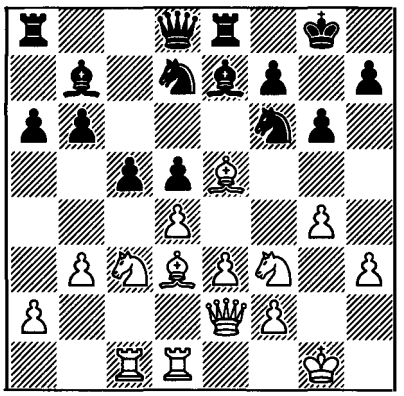
(752) Petrosian-Dorfman
Reti Opening

1 c4 c6 2 b3 d5 3 ♗b2 ♗g4 4 h3 ♗h5 5 g3 ♘d7 6 ♗g2 ♘gf6 7 ♘f3 e6 8 d3 ♕a5+ 9 ♘fd2 dxc4 10 bxc4 ♕b6 11 ♘b3 a5 12 ♗d4 ♗b4+ 13 ♘1d2 ♕c7 14 a3 ♗e7 15 a4 ♗b4 16 0-0 e5 17 ♗e3 0-0 18 ♖c1 ♖fe8 19 ♖c2 ♖ad8 ½-½

(753) Tukmakov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 ♗d3 ♗b7 8 0-0 c5 9 ♕e2 ♘bd7 10 ♖fd1 a6 11 cxd5 exd5 12 b3 ♖e8 13 ♖ac1 ♘h5 14 ♗e5 g6 15 g4 ♘hf6 16 h3 *(299)*

299



16 ... b5 17 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 18 dxc5 d4 19 ♘b1 ♕c7 20 e4 ♘f8 21 ♕c2 ♖ac8 22 b4 ♘e6 23 ♗f1 ♘f4 24 ♘bd2 d3 25 ♕b3 ♖cd8 26 ♖e1 ♗c6 27 ♖e3 ♖e7 28 ♖ce1 ♖de8 29 a3 ♗g7 30 ♕b1 h6 31 ♕b3 ♕b8 32 ♕b1 ♕c7 ½-½

(754) Petrosian-Espig
Old Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 ♘bd7 4 g3 e5 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 e3 0-0 7 ♘ge2 c6 8 0-0 ♖e8 9 b3 ♗f8 10 ♕c2 ♕c7 11 h3 ♖b8 12 a4 a5 13 ♖a2 ♖a8 14 ♕b1 ♘b8 15 e4 ♘a6 16 ♗e3 g6 17 ♖d2 ♗g7 18 ♖fd1 ♘d7 19 ♔h2 ♘f8 20 ♔g1 ♘b4 21 ♘a2 ♘xa2 22 ♕xa2 ♘d7 23 ♕c2 ♘b8 24 c5 exd4 25 cxd6 ♕xd6 26 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 27 ♘xd4 ♕e7 28 ♕c3 ♘d7 29 f4 ♕c5 30 ♕e3 ♘f8 31 g4 ♘e6 32 f5 ♘xd4 33 ♖xd4 b5 34 ♕h6 bxa4 35 bxa4 ♕e5 36 ♖d6 gxf5 37 exf5 ♗b7 38 f6 ♕e3+ 39 ♕xe3 ♖xe3 40 ♖d7 1-0

(755) Petrosian-Kaiszauri
Dutch Defence

1 d4 d6 2 g3 f5 3 ♗g2 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 g6 5 b3 ♗g7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 0-0 ♘e4 8 c4 ♘d7 9 ♕c2 ♘df6 10 ♘bd2 e6 11 ♘e1 ♘xd2 12 ♕xd2 ♕e7 13 ♘d3 ± ♖d8 (13 ... ♘d7!? intending ... e5) **14 ♖ad1 c6** (14 ... e5 15 dxe5 dxe5 16 ♕b4! ♕xb4 17 ♘xb4 ±) **15 ♕c1 ♗d7 16 ♖fe1 ♕f8 17 a4 h5 18 ♕c2 h4?!** (18 ... g5!?) **19 gxh4 ♘h5 20 c5! d5 21 ♘e5 ♗f6 22 ♗f3! ♔h7 23 ♗xh5 gxh5 24 ♘f3 ♕e7 25 ♗c1! ±** (with attack) **25 ... ♗xh4** (25 ... e5!?) **26 ♕d2! ♖g8+ 27 ♔h1 ♖g6 28 ♘e5 ♖g5 29 ♕f4 ±± ♗e8 30 ♖g1 ♖xg1+ 31 ♖xg1 ♕f6 32 ♘f3 1-0** (Kotov)

(756) Damjanović-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 g4 a6 7 g5 ♘fd7 8 f4 b5 9 ♗g2 ♘b6 10 a3 ♗b7 11 0-0 ♕c7 12 ♔h1 g6 13 f5 e5 14 ♘d5 ♘xd5 15 exd5 ♗e7 16 f6 ♗f8 17 ♕e2 ½-½

Match Tournament of Three Capitals
Moscow-Belgrade-Prague
Moscow, September 1978

Board 1, +1 -0 =1.

(757) Prandstetter-Petrosian
French Defence

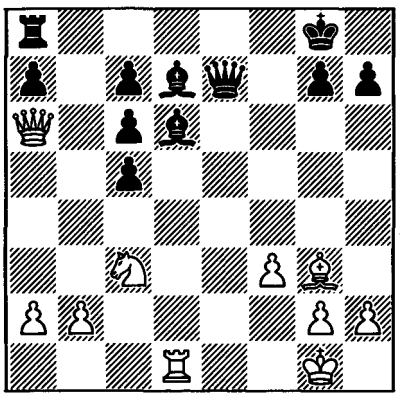
1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘d7 4 ♘gf3 ♗e7 5 ♗d3 c5 6 exd5 exd5 7 c3 ♘gf6 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♘e5 cxd4 10 cxd4 ♕b6 11 ♘df3 ♘e4 12 ♕c2 ♘df6 13 ♗e3 ♗f5 14 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 15 ♕b1 h6 16 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 17 ♖c1 ♖xc1+ ½-½

(758) Petrosian-Ivkov
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 ♘f6 4 0-0

♘xe4 5 d4 ♗e7 6 ♕e2 ♘d6 7 ♗xc6 bxc6 8 dxe5 ♘b7 9 c4 0-0 10 ♘c3 ♘c5 11 ♗e3 ♘e6 12 ♖ad1 f6 13 ♘d4 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 fxe5 15 ♕xe5 ♖f7 16 ♕e4 ♕e8 17 ♖fe1 d6 18 c5 ♗f5 19 ♕e2 ♕f8 20 f3 dxc5 21 ♗e5 ♗d6 22 ♕a6 ♗d7 23 ♗g3 ♖e7 24 ♖xe7 ♕xe7 *(300)*

300



25 ♘e4 ♗xg3 26 hxg3 ♗f5 27 ♘f2 ♕f6 28 b3 h6 29 ♕c4+ ♗e6 30 ♕xc5 ♗d5 31 ♖xd5 1-0

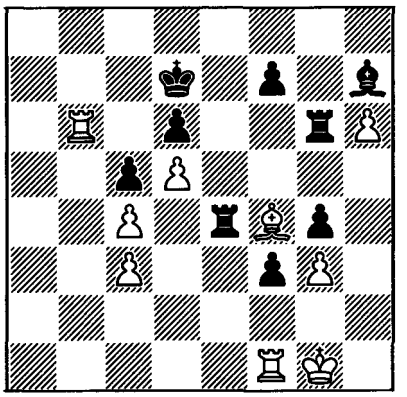
23rd World Chess Olympiad
Buenos Aires, October-November 1978

Board 2, +3 -0 =6.

(759) Cooper-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♗g5 c5 5 d5 d6 6 e3 (6 ♖c1!?) **6 ... ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 e5 8 ♗d3 ♘bd7 9 f4!?** (9 f3 ♘f8 intending ... ♘g6, ... h6 =; 9 ♘e2! ± ♘f8 10 ♘g3 h6 11 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 12 ♘h5 ♕g5 13 h4 ♕xg2 14 ♘g3 ±±) **9 ... h6 10 ♗h4 ♖g8 11 ♘h3!** ± (11 ♘f3? e4 12 ♗xe4 g5) **11 ... ♕a5 12 ♕d2** (12 ♕c2 ♘g4 ∞; 12 ♔d2!?) **12 ... e4 13 ♗e2 ♕a4** (intending ... ♘b6) **14 ♘f2 g5 15 fxg5 hxg5 16 ♗g3 ♘b6 17 ♕d1!** (17 ♗xd6 ♘xc4 18 ♗xc4 ♕xc4 ∓) **17 ... ♕xd1+ 18 ♖xd1 ♔e7 19 h4 ♗f5! 20 0-0 ♘bd7!** = **21 ♖b1! b6 22 h5 ♖g7 23 ♗h2** (intending g2-g4 ±) **23 ... g4! 24 ♘h1 ♗h7** (24 ... ♖g5 25 ♗f4 ♖xh5 26 ♘g3) **25 h6 ♖g6 26 ♗f4 ♘h5 27 ♘g3 ♘xg3 28 ♗xg3 ♖ag8** (28 ... ♖xh6 29 ♗xg4 ♖g8 30 ♗f4 =) **29 ♗f4** (29 ♖f4!? ♘f6 30 ♖bf1 ♖xh6? 31 ♖xf6 ♖xf6 32 ♗h4 ♖g6 33 ♖xf6 ♖xf6 34 ♗xg4 ±) **29 ... ♘e5?!** (29 ... ♘f6 intending ... ♘h5xf4 =; 29 ... g3!? ∞) **30 g3 ♘f3+ 31 ♗xf3 exf3 32 e4!** ± ♔d7 (32 ... f6) **33 a4 ♖e8 34 a5 ♖xe4** (time trouble) **35 axb6 axb6 36 ♖xb6** *(301)*

301



36 ... ♖xf4 37 gxf4?? (time trouble; 37 ♖b7+ ♔d8 38 ♖a1 ♔c8 39 ♖ab1 ♔d8 40 ♖a7 ♔c8 41 ♖a8+ ♔c7 42 ♖ab8 ±±) **37 ... ♖xh6 ∓∓ 38 ♖b7+ ♔e8 39 ♖a1 ♔f8 40 ♖aa7 ♖f6 41 ♔f2 ♖xf4 42 ♖a1 ♖xc4 43 ♔g3 ♗e4 44 ♖b8+ ♔e7 45 ♔xg4 ♗xd5+ 46 ♔g3 ♖xc3 47 ♖a7+ ♔f6 48 ♖d8 ♖c2 49 ♖xd6+ ♔e5 0-1**

(760) Petrosian-Ciocaltea
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 ♘bd7 7 0-0 e5 8 e4 c6 9 h3 ♖e8 10 ♗e3 a5 11 ♕c2 a4 12 ♖ab1 (12 ♘xa4 ♘xe4 ∓) **12 ... exd4** (12 ... ♕a5!?) **13 ♘xd4 ♘c5 14 ♖fe1 ♕e7 15 ♖bd1** (15

b4!? axb3 16 axb3 ♗d7 intending ... ♘xe4 ∞) **15 ... ♘fd7** (15 ... ♘fxe4?? 16 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 17 ♗xe4 ♕xe4 18 ♗d2 ±±) **16 ♖e2 ♘e5 17 b3 axb3 18 axb3 f6?** (18 ... h5!? ∞) **19 f4** ± **♘f7 20 ♗f2 ♗d7 21 b4 ♘a6 22 ♖b1 ♘c7 23 ♕c1** (23 ♘a4?? c5 ∓∓) **23 ... ♕f8 24 ♖d2 ♕e7 25 ♕d1 ♘e6? 26 ♘de2?!** (26 c5! dxc5 27 ♘f5! gxf5 28 ♖xd7 ±±) **26 ... ♗c8 27 ♘a4! ♘f8 28 ♘b6 ♖b8 29 c5 dxc5 30 bxc5 ♗e6 31 ♘d4 ♖bd8 32 ♕c2 ♗h6 33 ♖bd1 ♗g7** (33 ... g5 34 f5 ♗c8 35 g4 ♘e5 [*35 ... ♘d7 36 ♘xc8 ♖xc8 37 ♘xc6 bxc6 38 ♖xd7* ±±] 36 ♗g3 intending ♘f3 ±±) **34 ♗f1!** (heading for the a2-g8 diagonal) **34 ... h5?** (34 ... ♗c8) **35 f5 gxf5 36 ♘xe6 ♖xd2 37 ♖xd2 ♕xe6** (37 ... ♘xe6 38 ♖d7 ♕f8 39 exf5 ±±) **38 exf5 ♕e7 39 ♗c4 ♔h7 40 ♕d1 ±± ♗h6 41 ♕xh5 ♘e5 42 ♖d4 1-0**

(761) A.Rodriguez-Petrosian
Alekhine's Defence

1 e4 ♘f6 2 e5 ♘d5 3 d4 d6 4 ♘f3 c6 5 c4 ♘c7 6 exd6 exd6 7 ♗d3 ♗g4 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♘bd2 ♘d7 10 ♕c2 ♘f6 11 b3 ♗h5 12 ♘h4 ♗g6 13 ♘f5 ♗xf5 14 ♗xf5 0-0 15 ♘f3 g6 16 ♗h3 ♖e8 17 ♖e1 ♗f8 18 ♗g5 h6 19 ♖xe8 ♘cxe8 20 ♗e3 ♕a5 21 g3 ♕h5 22 ♗g2 ♕g4 23 h3 ♕d7 ½-½

(762) Petrosian-Stean
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 d5 5 0-0 0-0 6 c4 c6 7 ♕b3 ♕b6 8 ♘c3 ♗e6!? (8 ... ♕xb3 9 axb3 ±) **9 ♘a4?!** (9 c5 ♕xb3 10 axb3 ±; 9 ... ♕c7 10 ♗f4 ±; 9 ... ♕a6! ∓; 9 ♘g5) **9 ... ♕xb3 10 axb3 ♘a6** (10 ... dxc4? 11 ♘b6! ±, 11 ♘g5! ±) **11 ♘g5 ♗f5 12 ♗f4 ♖fd8 13 ♘f3 ♗e4 14 ♗e5 ♘e8 15 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 16 e3 ♘d6** (16 ... ♗xf3!? 17 ♗xf3 e6 =) **17 ♘d2 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 ♘b4?!** (18 ... ♘c7 =) **19 ♖fc1** ± **e6 20 ♘c5 ♔f8 21 ♔f1 ♔e7 22 ♔e2 a5 23 ♖a3 b6 24 ♘d3 ♘xd3 25 ♔xd3 ♘b7 26 cxd5 cxd5 27 b4 ♖ac8 28 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 29 bxa5 ♘xa5 30 ♖c3 ♖xc3+ 31 ♔xc3 ♘b7! 32 f3 ♘d6 33 e4 f5 34 e5 ♘b5+ 35 ♔d3 g5 36 ♘b3 ♔d7 37 ♘c1 ♘a7 38 ♘e2 ♘c6 39 g4 fxg4 40 fxg4 ♘e7 41 ♘g3 ½-½**

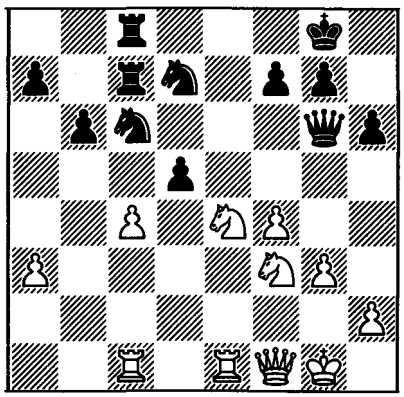
(763) Ribli-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 e3 d6!? 5 d4 g6 6 b3 (6 dxe5 dxe5 7 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 ±; 6 ... ♘xe5! =) **6 ... ♗g4** (6 ... ♗g7 7 dxe5 ♘xe5 8 ♘d4 ±) **7 ♗e2 ♗g7 8 h3 ♗f5!** (8 ... ♗xf3 9 ♗xf3 ±) **9 dxe5 ♘e4! 10 ♗b2 0-0 11 ♘d5** (11 0-0 ♘xe5 12 ♘d4 ±; 11 0-0 dxe5 =) **11 ... dxe5 12 0-0 ♖e8 13 ♕c1?!** (13 b4! intending ♕b3 ±) **13 ... ♘b8! 14 ♖d1 ♘d7 15 g4?** (15 c5!) **15 ... ♗e6 16 ♕c2 ♘ef6! 17 e4** (17 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 18 ♗xe5 ♗xd5 19 ♗b2 ♗e4 ∓∓; 19 ♕b2 ♕e7 20 ♖xd5 c6 ∓∓; 19 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 intending ... ♕h4 ∓) **17 ... ♗xd5 18 cxd5** (18 exd5 e4 intending ... e3) **18 ... h5 19 ♖ac1?** (19 d6!? c6 20 g5 ♘h7 21 h4 f6 22 ♗c4+ ±; 21 ... ♘df8 intending ... ♕d7-g4, ... ♘e6 ∞; 19 ... ♖c8! ∓) **19 ... hxg4 20 hxg4 ♖c8 21 ♘d2 ♘h7** ∓ **22 ♕d3 ♗h6 23 ♖c3 ♗f4 24 ♔f1?** (24 ♕f3 ♕h4 25 ♕h1 ∓; 24 ... ♘g5 25 ♕g2 intending ♘f1 ∓) **24 ... ♕h4 25 ♕h3??** ∓∓ (25 ♕f3 ∓) **25 ... ♕xh3+ 26 ♖xh3 ♘g5 27 ♖d3 ♘c5 28 ♖c3 ♘gxe4 29 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 30 ♖c2 ♘d6?!** (30 ... ♔g7!) **31 ♗a3 e4 32 ♗c5** (32 ♗xd6 ♗xd6 ∓∓; 32 ... cxd6 ∓∓) **32 ... a5?!** (32 ... a6!) **33 a4 ♖e7 34 ♗d4 f5 35 ♔g2 ♗e5 36 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 37 ♖c5 f4 38 f3 b6?** (time trouble; 38 ... exf3+ 39 ♗xf3 ♖e3 40 ♖dc1 ♖xb3 41 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 42 ♖xc7 ♔f8 intending ... ♘f7, ... g5, ... ♘e5 ∓∓) **39 ♖c6 exf3+ 40 ♗xf3 ♖e3 41 ♖dc1 ♖ce8** (41 ... ♖xb3 42 ♖xd6) **42 ♖xc7 ♖xb3 ½-½**

(764) Petrosian-Browne
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 e3 ♗b7 4 ♗d3 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 c5 8 c4 cxd4 9 exd4 d5 10 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 11 ♖c1 ♖c8 12 ♕e2 ♖c7!? (intending ... ♕a8) **13 ♘g5?!** (13 ♘e5 dxc4 14 bxc4 ♘xe5 15 dxe5 ♘d7 16 ♘e4 ♗xe4 =; 15 ♕xe5!? ±) **13 ... h6 14 ♘h3** (intending f2-f4-f5) **14 ... ♖e8 15 f4 ♕a8!** (intending 16 f5 exf5 ∓) **16 ♘f3 dxc4 17 bxc4 ♗e4! ∓ 18 ♘d2 ♗xd3 19 ♕xd3 ♗b4!** (e4 is weak) **20 ♘f3 ♕e4 21 ♕b3 ♗a5 22 ♗c3 ♗xc3 23 ♖xc3 ♖ec8 24 g3 ♘d5?!** (better 24 ... ♘e8! intending ... ♘d6 ∓) **25 ♖cc1 ♕g6 26 ♖fe1 ♘e7 27 ♘f2 ♘f5 28 ♕d3! = ♘e7 29 ♘e4!** (weak point at d6) **29 ... ♘d5? 30 ♕f1 ± ♘b4** (30 ... ♘xf4 31 ♘h4) **31 a3 ♘c6** (time trouble) **32 d5 exd5** (32 ... ♘d8 33 ♘d6 ♖b8 34 ♘e5 ±) *(302)*

302



33 cxd5 (33 f5 ♕h5!? 34 ♘d6 [*34 h3 dxe4 35 g4 ♘de5*] 34 ... ♖d8! 35 cxd5 ♘ce5! [*35 ... ♘de5 36 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 37 ♖xc7 ♘f3+ 38 ♔g2 ♘xe1+ 39 ♕xe1 ♖xd6 40 ♕e8+ ♔h7 41 ♖xf7 ±±*] 36 ♖xc7 ♘xf3+ 37 ♔g2 ♘xe1+ 38 ♕xe1 ♘f6! ∞; 33 f5 ♕g4 34 ♘d6 [*34 h3 ♕xe4* ∓] 34 ... ♘d4 ∞) **33 ... ♘a5 34 f5 ♕h5 35 ♖xc7** (35 h3 ♖xc1 36 g4 ♖xe1) **35 ... ♖xc7 36 ♘d6 ♘f6** (better 36 ... ♘b7) **37 h3 ♖c3 38 ♔g2 ♘xd5?? ±±** (38 ... ♘b3 ∞) **39 g4 ♘f4+ 40 ♔g3 ♕xh3+ 41 ♕xh3** (41 ... ♘xh3 42 ♖e8+ ♔h7 43 ♘xf7 g5 44 ♖e7 ±±) **1-0**

(765) Unzicker-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 a4 ♗e7 12 b3 0-0 13 ♗b2 ♕c7 14 ♕f3 ♗d7 ½-½

(766) Petrosian-Djindjihashvili
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 ♗g4 5 ♗xc4 e6 6 ♘c3 a6 7 h3 ♗h5 8 g4 ♗g6 9 ♘e5 ♘bd7 10 ♘xg6 hxg6 11 g5 ♘d5 12 ♘xd5 exd5 13 ♗xd5 c6 14 ♗b3 ♕xg5 15 ♕f3 ♗b4+ 16 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 17 ♔xd2 ♕f5 18 ♕xf5 gxf5 19 ♔e2 ♘f6 20 ♖ac1 ♖d8 21 ♖c5 g6 22 ♔f3 ♔f8 23 ♔g2 ♔g7 24 ♗d1 ♖he8 25 ♔f3 ♘e4 26 ♖c2 ♖d6 27 ♖e2 ♘g5+ 28 ♔g3 ♘e6 29 f4 c5 30 dxc5 ♘xc5 31 ♗c2 ♖c8 32 ♔f3 ♖b6 33 ♖b1 ♖h8 34 ♔g2 ♖d6 35 ♖c1 ½-½

(767) Biyiasas-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d3 ♘f6 4 g3 d5 5 ♘bd2 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♗e7 7 0-0 b6 8 ♖e1 ♗b7 9 e5 ♘d7 10 h4 h6 11 ♘f1 ♕c7 12 ♕e2 0-0-0 13 ♘1h2 ♔b8 14 ♗f4 ♔a8 15 ♘g4 ♘f8 16 c3 ♘d7 17 a3 b5 18 b4 ♘b6 19 bxc5 ♗xc5 20 d4 ♗e7 21 ♕xb5 ♘c4 22 ♘e3 ♘6a5 23 ♕b1 ♘b6 24 ♕b5 ♘bc4 25 ♕b1 ♘b6 26 ♕b5 ½-½

Moscow Spartakiad
November 1978

ˆ(768) Petrosian-Balashov
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 b3 ♘c6 3 ♗b2 ♘f6 4 e3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 a3 ♗d6 7 ♕c2 0-0 8 ♘f3 ♕e7 9 ♗d3 ♔h8 10 ♗e4! ♘b6? (10 ... ♗e6) **11 ♗xc6! bxc6 12 d3 ± ♗d7 13 ♘bd2 f5 14 e4! fxe4 15 dxe4 ♖f4 16 ♕c3 ♖e8 17 0-0 c5 18 ♔h1 ♗c6 19 ♖ae1 ♘d7 20 ♘g1 ♘f6 21 f3 ♘h5?** (21 ... ♘d7) **22 g4!** (22 ... ♘f6 23 ♘h3 ±±) **1-0** (Suetin)

‹(769) Averbakh-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 d4 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘bd7 8 ♖e1 ♖e8 9 ♗f1 a5 10 ♖b1 c6 11 d5 ♘c5 12 b3 ♗d7 13 dxc6 ♗xc6 14 ♗d3 ♗d7 15 h3 ♕b8 16 ♗e3 ♗c6 17 ♗c1 b6 18 ♗c2 ♕b7 19 ♕e2 ♘h5 20 ♘d5 ♘f4 21 ♕d1 ♘xd5 22 cxd5 ♗d7 23 ♘d2 b5 24 ♘f1 ♖ec8 25 a3 ♖c7 26 ♘e3 ♕c8 27 ♗d2 ♕d8 28 ♕f3 ♕h4 29 ♖ec1 ♕f4 30 b4 ♕xf3 31 gxf3 axb4 32 axb4 ♘a6 33 ♗d3 ♖ca7 34 ♖a1 ♗f6 35 ♔g2 ♗d8 36 ♗c3 ♘c7 37 ♖xa7 ♖xa7 38 ♖a1 ♖xa1 39 ♗xa1 ♘e8 40 ♗f1 ♗b6 41 ♘c2 f5 42 ♘a3 ♘c7 43 ♗d3 f4 44 ♗c3 ♔g7 45 ♗f1 ♔h6 46 ♔g1 ♔g5 47 ♗b2 ♔h4 48 ♗c3 h5 49 ♗e1 ♗d4 50 ♔h2 ♔g5 51 ♘b1 ♔f6 52 ♔g2 ♔e7 53 ♗c3 ♗b6 54 ♘a3 ♔d8 55 ♗e2 ♔c8 56 ♘c2 ♔b7 57 ♘e1 ♘e8 58 ♘d3 ♗c7 59 ♗d1 ♔c8 60 ♗e2 ♔d8 61 ♘e1 ♗b8 62 ♘d3 ♘c7 63 ♘e1 ♘a8 64 ♘c2 ♔c7 65 ♘a3 ♔b6 66 ♘c2 ♔a6 67 ♘e1 ♘b6 68 ♘d3 ♘a4 69 ♗a1 ♔b7 70 ♘c1 ♗c7 71 ♘b3 ♗e8 72 ♗d3 ♔a6 73 ♗e2 ♘b6 74 ♗c3 ♘d7 75 ♘c1 ♘f6 76 ♗d3 ♘h7 77 ♘e2 ♘g5 78 ♘g1 ♗b6 79 ♘e2 ♗d7 80 ♘g1 ♘h7 81 ♘e2 g5 82 ♘g1 ♘f8 83 ♗e2 ♘g6 84 ♔f1 ♗d4 85 ♗e1 ♘e7 86 ♗d3 ♔b6 87 ♔g2 ♗b2 88 ♗d2 ♗c8 89 ♗e2 ♘g6 90 ♗d1 ♘f8 91 ♘e2 ♘d7 92 ♗c1 ♗xc1 93 ♘xc1 ♘f6 94 ♘a2 ♗d7 95 ♘c3 ♘e8 96 ♗e2 ♘c7 97 ♘a2 ♘a6 98 ♗d1 h4 99 ♗c2 ♗e8 100 ♔f1 ♗g6 ½-½

1979

Keres Memorial Tournament
Tallinn, February-March 1979

1 **Petrosian** (+8 –0 =8) 12; 2-3 Vaganian, Tal 11½; 4 Bronstein 10; 5-6 Sax, Veingold 9½; 7-10 Hartston, Knaak, Lechtinsky, Zilbershtein 8; 11-12 Christiansen, Nei 7½; 13-14 Vilela, Vooremaa 6; 15 Rytov 5½; 16 Ivanović 5; 17 Rantanen 2½.

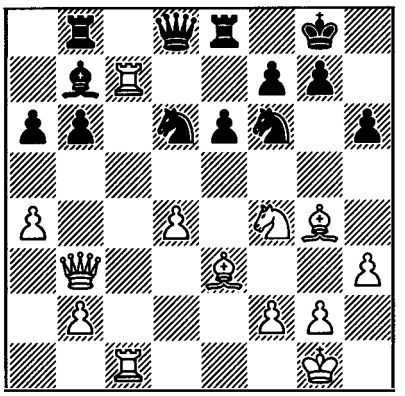
(770) Vaganian-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 g6 5 b3 ♗g7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 d3 ♗xf3 9 ♗xf3 e6 10 ♘d2 ♘bd7 11 b4 ♘e8 12 ♕c2 ♗xb2 13 ♕xb2 ♕f6 14 ♖ab1 ♕xb2 ½-½

(771) Petrosian-Bronstein
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘e2 d5 7 0-0 cxd4 8 exd4 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 ♘bd7 10 ♕d3 a6 11 a4 b6 ± (11 ... ♘b6 12 ♗b3 ♘bd5 =) **12 ♗g5 ♗b7 13 ♖ac1 ♗e7 14 ♖fd1 ♖e8 15 h3 h6** (15 ... ♕b8! 16 ♗f4 ♗d6) **16 ♗e3** (16 ♗f4!?) **16 ... ♗b4 17 ♘f4 ♗xc3?! 18 ♕xc3** ± (18 bxc3 ±) **18 ... ♘e4 19 ♕b3! ♕f6 20 ♗e2?** (20 a5! ♕d8 [*20 ... b5 21 ♗xb5 axb5 22 ♕xb5 ♗c8 23 ♕c6* ±±] 21 ♗xe6 [*21 d5 e5 22 ♘e6 ♕b8 23 axb6 fxe6 24 dxe6 ♘dc5 25 e7+ ♔h8 26 ♕a3* ±±; 24 ... *♘df6* ±] 21 ... fxe6 22 ♘xe6 ♖xe6 23 ♕xe6+ ♔h8 24 d5 ±±) **20 ... ♘d6 21 ♖c7 ♕d8 22 ♖dc1** (intending ♗g4, ♘xe6, ♗xe6+) **22 ... ♖b8 23 ♗g4 ♘f6** *(303)*

303



24 ♘xe6 (24 ♗xe6 fxe6 25 ♘xe6 ♗d5! ∓) **24 ... fxe6 25 ♗xe6+ ♔h8 26 ♗f4** (26 d5 ♘de4! ∓) **26 ... ♖e7** ∓ **27 ♖7c2 ♗e4 28 ♖c3 b5! 29 a5 ♖a8 30 ♖c5 ♕e8?!** (time trouble; 30 ... ♘c4! ∓) **31 d5 ♘c4 32 f3 ♗xd5?** (32 ... ♗g6 33 ♕c3 intending b2-b3 ∞) **33 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 34 ♖xd5 ♖e2** (intending ... ♕g6) **35 ♕d3** ± **♖xb2??** (35 ... ♘xb2 36 ♕f5 ±) **36 ♗xh6 gxh6 37 ♖xc4 ♕e1+ 38 ♔h2 ♕f2 39 ♕c3+ ♔g8 40 ♖g4+ 1-0**

(772) Christiansen-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

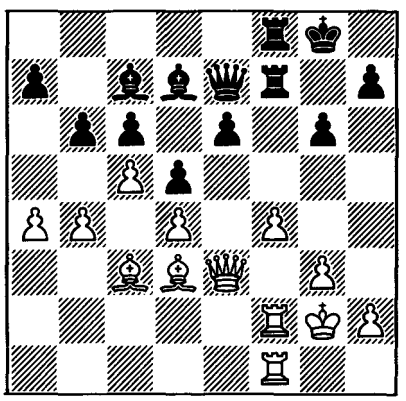
1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♕c2 ♗b7 9 ♗e2 ♘bd7 10 0-0 a6 11 ♘e5 ♘xe5 12 dxe5 ♘d7 13 ♗f4 ♘c5 14 ♖ad1 c6 15 ♗g3 b5 16 f4 f5 17 exf6 ♗xf6 18 ♘xd5 cxd5 19 ♕xc5 ♖c8 20 ♕a7 ♕e7 21 ♗f3 ♖fd8 22

♗e1 ♖a8 23 ♕b6 ♗xb2 24 ♗h4 ♗f6 25 ♗xf6 gxf6 26 ♖f2 ♖ac8 27 ♖fd2 ♖fe8 28 e4 dxe4 29 ♗h5 ♖f8 30 ♖d7 ♕c5+ 31 ♕xc5 ♖xc5 32 ♖xb7 ♖xh5 33 ♖dd7 ♖e8 34 h3 ♖h4 35 ♔f2 ♖xf4+ 36 ♔g3 ♖f5 37 ♖g7+ ♔h8 38 ♖xh7+ ♔g8 ½-½

(773) Petrosian-Nei
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 c6 4 e3 ♘f6 5 ♗d3 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 b3 ♘bd7 8 ♗b2 ♘e4 9 ♘fd2 ♘df6 10 ♕f3 ♘xd2 11 ♘xd2 b6 12 e4 g6 13 e5 ♘h5 14 ♕e3 ♘f4 15 ♕xf4 ♗g5 16 ♕g3 ♗xd2 17 f4 f5 18 exf6 ♕xf6 19 ♖f3 ♗b4 20 ♕f2 ♗d6 21 ♖f1 ♗d7 22 ♕c2 ♖f7 23 g3 ♖af8 24 ♖3f2 ♖g7 25 ♔g2 ♖gf7 26 ♕d2 ♖g7 27 ♕e3 ♖gf7 28 a4 ♖b8 29 ♕d2 ♖bf8 30 c5 ♗c7 31 b4 ♕e7 32 ♕e3 ♖b8 33 ♗c3 ♖bf8 *(304)*

304



34 b5 g5 35 f5 exf5 36 ♕xe7 ♖xe7 37 ♗b4 ♖ef7 38 cxb6 ♗xb6 39 ♗xf8 ♖xf8 40 ♗xf5 ♗xf5 41 ♖xf5 1-0

(774) Zilbershtein-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 e4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘bd7 8 ♖e1 a5 9 ♗f1 ♖e8 10 ♗g5 h6 11 ♗h4 c6 12 d5 ♘c5 13 ♘d2 ♕b6 14 ♘b3 ♗g4 15 ♗e2 ♗xe2 16 ♖xe2 g5 17 ♗g3 cxd5 18 ♘xc5 ♕xc5 19 cxd5 ♖ac8 20 ♔h1 ♕c4 21 f3 b5 22 a4 bxa4 23 ♕xa4 g4 24 ♕xc4 ♖xc4 25 ♖xa5 h5 26 h3 ♖b8 27 ♗h4 ♘d7 28 ♖a7 ♘c5 29 fxg4 ♘d3 30 ♖e3 ♘f4 31 ♖a2 ♘g6 32 ♗g5 hxg4 33 ♖g3 gxh3 34 ♖xh3 ♘f4 35 ♖g3 ♖d4 36 ♗h6 ♘g6 37 ♗g5 ♘f4 38 ♗h6 ♘g6 39 ♗g5 ½-½

(775) Petrosian-Veingold
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 ♘c3 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 ♘f3 ♘c6 7 0-0 a6 8 d5 ♘a5 9 ♘d2 c5 10 ♕c2 ♖b8 11 b3 b5 12 ♗b2 e5 13 dxe6 fxe6 14 cxb5 axb5 15 ♘ce4 ♗b7 16 ♖ad1 ♕e7 17 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 18 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 19 ♗xb7 ♘xb7 20 ♕d3 b4 21 ♘e4 ♕e7 22 h4 ♖a8 23 ♖d2 ♖f5 24 ♖c2 ♖d5 25 ♕e3 ♘a5 26 ♘g5 ♘c6 27 ♕xe6+ ♕xe6 28 ♘xe6 ♘d4 29 ♘xd4 ♖xd4 30 e3 ♖d5 31 ♖a1 ♔f7 32 ♔f1 ♔e6 33 ♔e2 h6 34 g4 g5 35 ♖h1 ♔f6 36 hxg5+ hxg5 37 ♖h6+ ♔g7 38 ♖h5 ♖e5 39 f4 gxf4 40 ♖xe5 dxe5 41 exf4 exf4 42 ♔f3 ♖a5 43 ♔xf4 ♔f6 44 ♔e4 ♔g5 45 ♖g2 1-0

(776) Hartston-Petrosian
Bishop's Opening

1 e4 e5 2 ♗c4 ♘f6 3 d3 c6 4 ♗b3 d5 5 ♘f3 ♗d6 6 ♘c3 dxe4 7 ♘g5 0-0 8 ♘cxe4 ♘xe4 9 ♘xe4 ♗f5 10 0-0 ♘a6 11 ♕f3 ♗xe4 12 dxe4 ½-½

(777) Petrosian-Rantanen
Dutch Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 0-0 d6 7 ♘c3 ♕e8 8 ♕c2 ♕h5 9

b4 e5 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♘xe5 ♗xb4 12 ♘d5 ♗d6 13 ♘d3 c6 14 ♗f4 ♗xf4 15 ♘e7+ ♔h8 16 ♘xf4 ♕e8 17 ♘xf5 ♗xf5 18 ♕xf5 ♘d5 19 ♘g6+ 1-0

(778) Ivanović-Petrosian
Scotch Game

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♗c5 5 ♘b3 ♗b4+!? 6 c3 ♗e7 7 c4!? ♘f6 8 ♘c3 0-0 (8 ... ♗b4 9 ♗d3 ±) **9 ♗e2 ♖e8 10 f3** (10 0-0 ♗b4 11 f3 ±; 10 ... a5) **10 ... a5 11 a4?** (11 0-0 a4 12 ♘d4 ♗c5 13 ♗e3 ±) **11 ... d6 12 0-0 ♘d7 = 13 ♗e3 ♗f6 14 ♕d2 b6 15 ♘d5 ♘c5 16 ♖a3 ♗d7! 17 ♘c1 ♘b4!** (intending ... ♘xd5, ... c6 =) **18 ♗d1** (18 ♘xb4 axb4 19 ♕xb4 ♖xa4 =) **18 ... ♘xd5 19 cxd5 c6! 20 dxc6?!** (20 ♘a2!? intending ♘c3) **20 ... ♗xc6 21 ♘d3 d5 22 ♘xc5 d4 23 ♗f2?!** (23 ♘b7!? dxe3 24 ♘xd8 exd2 25 ♘xc6 ±±; 23 ... ♗xb7 24 ♗f2 – intending ♗e2-b5, ♖d3, ♖d1 ± – 24 ... ♗e7! intending ... ♗b4, ... ♗a6 ∞) **23 ... bxc5 ∞ 24 ♗e2 ♖b8 25 ♗c4 ♖b4 26 b3 ♗e5 27 ♕d3 ♖b7 28 ♖a2 ♗d7!** (intending ... ♗e6) **29 ♗d5 ♖b8 30 ♖c2 ♗e6 31 ♖xc5?** (31 ♗xe6 ♖xe6 32 ♖b1 intending ♗e1 ∞) **31 ... ♗xh2+ 32 ♔h1 ♗d6 ∓ 33 ♖c4 ♕g5 34 ♗xe6 ♖xe6 35 ♖fc1 ♖f8** (intending ... ♖g6) **36 ♖c8 ♖ee8 37 ♖8c6 ♖e6 38 ♖c8 ♖g6** (time trouble) **39 ♖xf8+ ♗xf8** (39 ... ♔xf8 40 ♖c8+ ♔e7 41 g4) **40 ♕f1 d3! ∓∓ 41 g3 d2 42 ♖d1 ♖c6 43 ♔g2 ♖c1 44 ♗b6** (44 ♕e2 ♖xd1 45 ♕xd1 ♕d8! 46 ♗e3 ♗b4 intending ... ♕d3 ∓∓) **44 ... ♗d6 45 ♗f2 h5 46 ♕e2 ♗xg3 0-1**

(779) Petrosian-Tal
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♕d2 ♗e6 12 b4 c6 13 ♖b1 ♘d7 14 ♗e2 c5 15 bxc5 bxc5 16 dxc5 ♘xc5 17 0-0 ♘e4 18 ♕a5 ♖fc8 19 ♖bc1 ♖xc1 20 ♖xc1 ♕f6 21 ♗d3 ♕b2 22 ♖c2 ♕b1+ 23 ♕e1 ♕xe1+ 24 ♘xe1 ♖c8 25 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 26 ♘f3 ♗d7 27 ♘d4 ♔f8 28 ♔f1 ♔e7 29 ♔e1 ♔d6 30 f3 ♘c5 31 ♗b5 ♗c8 32 ♔d2 a6 33 ♗e2 ♘a4 34 a3 ♔c5 35 ♘b3+ ♔b6 36 f4 ♘c5 ½-½

(780) Vooremaa-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘xc6 bxc6 7 0-0 d5 8 ♘d2 a5 9 c4 ♗e7 10 cxd5 cxd5 11 ♗b5+ ♗d7 12 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 13 e5 ♘g8 14 ♕g4 g6 15 ♘f3 ♔f8 16 ♗d2 h5 17 ♕f4 ♘h6 18 h3 ♘f5 19 ♖ac1 ♔g7 ½-½

(781) Petrosian-Rytov
Sicilian Defence

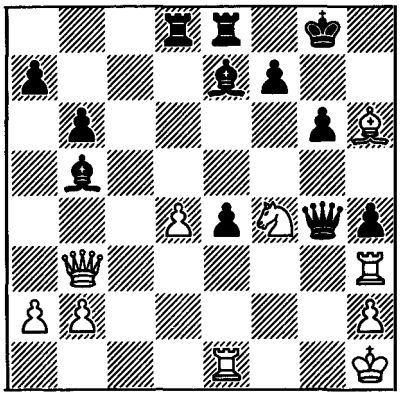
1 d4 g6 2 c4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 e4 0-0 6 ♗e2 c5 7 0-0 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♘c6 9 ♗e3 ♗d7 10 ♘c2 a6 11 f3 ♘e5 12 b3 ♖c8 13 a4 a5 14 ♕e1 ♗c6 15 ♖d1 ♘ed7 16 ♔h1 ♕c7 17 ♘d4 b6 18 ♗d3 ♘c5 19 ♗c2 ♗b7 20 ♕h4 ♖fe8 21 ♗g5 ♕b8 22 ♖fe1 ♘e6 23 ♘xe6 fxe6 24 ♕h3 e5 25 ♘d5 ♗xd5 26 exd5 ♖c7 27 f4 ♕c8 28 f5 ♖f8 29 ♖f1 e4 30 ♖de1 ♘xd5 31 ♗xe4 ♘f6 32 ♗d3 h5 33 ♕h4 ♕d7 34 fxg6 ♕g4 35 ♗f5 ♕xh4 36 ♗e6+ ♔h8 37 ♗xh4 ♘g8 38 ♗f7 ♘f6 39 h3 e5 1-0

(782) Knaak-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘f3 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7 8 cxd5 (8 a3) **8 ... exd5 9 ♘e5 ♗d6 10 f4 c5 11 ♖f3!?**

(11 ♕f3!?) **11 ... g6 12 ♗d2 ♘c6 13 ♖h3 cxd4** (13 ... ♖c8!?) **14 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 15 exd4 ♘e4 16 f5 ♕f6 17 ♗xe4 dxe4** (17 ... ♕xd4+?! 18 ♗e3 ±±) **18 ♕g4 ♕xf5 19 ♕h4??** (19 ♕xf5 gxf5 20 ♖f1 =) **19 ... h5** ∓∓ **20 ♗h6 ♖fe8 21 ♖f1 ♗e7! 22 ♕g3 ♕g4 23 ♕e3 ♖ad8 24 ♔h1 ♕e6 25 ♘e2 ♗b5 26 ♘f4 ♕f5 27 ♖e1 h4 28 g4 ♕xg4?** (28 ... ♕f6 ∓∓) **29 ♕b3** *(305)*

305

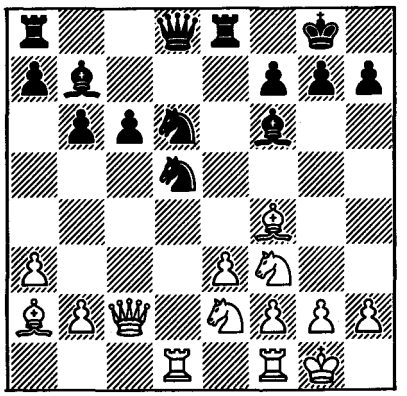


29 ... e3?? (29 ... ♗c6! ∓∓) **30 ♕xb5** ±± **♗d6 31 ♕g5?** (time trouble; 31 ♖g1 e2 32 ♖xg4 e1=♕+ 33 ♖g1 ♕e4+ 34 ♘g2 ±±) **31 ... ♕xg5 32 ♗xg5 f6 33 ♗xf6 ♗xf4 34 ♗xd8 ♖xd8 35 ♖xh4 ♖xd4 36 ♖g4 ♔h7 37 ♖e2 g5 38 ♔g2 ♔g6 39 ♔f3** (39 h4 ♖d2 40 ♔f3 ♔f5 =) **39 ... ♔f5 40 ♖g1 ♖d8 41 h4 = gxh4 42 ♖g7 ♖d1 43 ♖f7+ ♔e5 44 ♖e7+ ½-½**

(783) Petrosian-Vilela
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 b6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b7 4 a3 ♘f6 5 d5 exd5 6 cxd5 ♗c5?! 7 ♘f3 (7 ♗f4) **7 ... 0-0 8 ♗g5?!** (8 g3 ±) **8 ... ♘a6 9 e3 ♗e7 10 ♗c4 ♘c5 11 ♗f4 ♖e8 12 0-0 ♘ce4! = 13 ♘e2 ♘d6?** (13 ... ♗d6!) **14 ♗a2 c5 15 dxc6! dxc6 16 ♕c2** ± **♘d5 17 ♖ad1 ♗f6?** *(306)*

306



18 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 19 e4! ♕e7 20 ♘g3 ♘f4 21 e5! ±± **♗xe5 22 ♖fe1 ♕c7 23 ♘g5 g6 24 ♗xf7+ ♔g7 25 ♗xe8 ♖xe8 26 ♘f3 c5 27 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 28 ♕c3 ♔f6 29 ♖d7 1-0**

(784) Lechtinsky-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 a6 4 d4 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 d6 6 ♗e2 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♗e3 ♗d7 9 ♘b3 b5 10 a3 ♗e7 11 f4 0-0 12 ♕e1 ♖b8 13 ♖d1 ♕c7 14 ♕g3 b4 15 axb4 ♘xb4 16 e5 ♘e8 17 ♖d2 d5 18 ♖a1 ½-½

∫ (785) Petrosian-Sax
Pirc Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 0-0 ♗g4 7 ♗e3 ♘c6 8 ♕d2 e5 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♖ad1 ♕c8 11 ♕c1 ♖d8 12 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 13 ♖d1 ♕f8 14 h3 ♗xf3 15 ♗xf3 a6?! (15 ... ♖d8 intending ... ♘d4 =; 15 ... h5 intending ... ♔h7, ... ♗h6 =) **16 ♘b1** (16 ♘d5 =) **16 ... ♖d8 17 ♖xd8 ♕xd8 18 c3** ± **♕d3 19 ♘d2 ♗f8 20 ♕b1 ♕b5** (20 ... ♕xb1+ 21 ♘xb1 ±) **21 ♕c2 ♘d8** (21 ... ♗c5 22 ♗g5 intending b2-b4, a2-a4, ♘c4 ±) **22 ♕b3 ♕d3?!** (22 ... ♕xb3!? 23 ♘xb3 b6 ±) **23 ♕c4 ♕d6 24**

♕e2 ♕e6 25 ♕d3 ♘c6 26 a3 ± (intending b2-b4, ♘c4, ♗d1-b3) 26 ... ♕e7 27 b4 ♘d8 28 ♘c4 ♘d7 29 ♗g4! ♘e6 30 ♘a5! b5 31 ♘c6 ♕e8 32 c4 ±± ♘f6 33 cxb5 axb5 34 ♕xb5 ♘xe4 35 ♕c4 ♘d6 36 ♕d5 h5 37 ♗xe6 fxe6 38 ♕c5 ♘f5 39 ♕c2 ♗g7 40 b5 ♘d4 41 ♕c4 ♕d7 42 a4 ♘f5 43 ♕e2 1-0

International Tournament
Banja Luka, April 1979

1 Kasparov 11½; 2-3 Andersson, Smejkal 9½; 4 **Petrosian** (+3 –0 =12) 9; 5 Adorjan 8½; 6 Knežević 8; 7-8 Browne, Matanović 7½; 9 Bukić 7; 10-13 G.Garcia, Marjanović, Marović, Vukić 6½; 14-15 Hernandez, Kurajica 6; 16 Sibarević 4.

(786) Petrosian-Smejkal
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 e6 4 g3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 ♗e7 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 d6 9 b3 0-0 10 ♖d1 ♘c6 11 ♕f4 ♕b8 12 ♗b2 a6 13 ♘e4 ♘xe4 14 ♕xe4 ♘e5 15 ♕e3 ♘xf3+ 16 ♗xf3 b5 17 c5 ♗xf3 18 cxd6 ♗xd6 19 exf3 ♖d8 20 ♖d4 ♗f8 21 ♖c1 ♖xd4 22 ♗xd4 ♕b7 23 ♕e4 ♕xe4 24 fxe4 f6 25 ♖c6 e5 26 ♗b6 a5 27 ♗c5 a4 28 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 29 ♖b6 ♖d8 30 ♖xb5 ♖d4 31 ♖b7 ♖xe4 32 ♔f1 axb3 33 axb3 h5 34 h4 ♔g8 35 b4 ♔h7 ½-½

(787) Marjanović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 ♗d7 11 b3 a6 12 a4 ♕c7 13 ♕f3 ♗d6 14 h3 0-0 15 ♗b2 ½-½

(788) Petrosian-Knezević
Dutch Defence

1 c4 f5 2 d4 ♘f6 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 d5 c6 8 0-0 e5 9 dxe6 ♗xe6 10 b3 ♘a6 11 ♘g5 ♗c8 12 ♖b1 ♕e7 13 ♕c2 h6 14 ♘f3 ♘c5 15 ♗a3 ♗e6 16 ♖bd1 ♖ad8 17 e3 ♗f7 18 ♘e2 ♕e4 19 ♕c1 ♕e7 20 ♗b2 ♖c8 21 ♕a1 a5 22 ♗d4 a4 23 ♕b2 axb3 24 axb3 ♘ce4 25 ♘d2 ♘c5 26 ♖a1 ♖a8 27 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 28 ♖a1 ♖xa1+ 29 ♕xa1 ♔h7 30 h3 ♗e8 31 b4 ♘e6 32 ♗c3 ♘g5 33 ♘c1 ♘f7 34 ♘cb3 ♘e5 35 c5 ♘ed7 36 cxd6 ♕xd6 37 ♘c4 ♕e7 38 e4 f4 39 g4 ♗f7 ½-½

(789) Browne-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 c6 3 d4 d5 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕b3 a5 ½-½

(790) Petrosian-Hernandez
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♗g7 8 e4 0-0 9 ♗e2 ♖e8 10 0-0 ♘a6 11 ♔h1 ♘c7 12 a4 b6 13 f3 ♗a6 14 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 15 ♘c4 ♘c7 16 ♗f4 ♗f8 17 ♗g5 h6 18 ♗h4 g5 19 ♗f2 ♕d7 20 ♘e3 a6 21 ♘e2 b5 22 a5 ♖ec8 23 ♘g3 ♘ce8 24 ♗e1 ♘g7 25 ♗c3 ♘gh5 26 ♘gf5 ♖e8 27 b3 ♕d8 28 ♖a2 ♔h7 29 ♕b1 ♘f4 30 ♕a1 ♘d7 31 ♘g4 ♘g6 32 ♗g7 ♘ge5 33 ♗xf8 ♘xf8 34 ♘fxh6 ♘fg6 35 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 36 ♘f5 ♖g8 37 g3 ♖g6 38 f4 gxf4 39 gxf4 ♘g4 40 ♖g2 ♘f6 41 ♕e1 ♖xg2 42 ♕h4+ 1-0

(791) Marović-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 c5 5 dxc5 ♘c6 6 ♘f3 ♗xc5 7 ♗f4 ½-½

(792) Bukić-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e4 ♘f6 (3 ... e5 =) **4 e5** (4 ♘c3 e5 =) **4 ... ♘d5 5 ♗xc4 ♘b6 6 ♗d3** (6 ♗b3) **6 ... ♘c6 7 ♘e2 ♗g4?!** (7 ... ♘b4 8 ♗e4 c6 =) **8 f3 ♗e6 9 ♘bc3 ♕d7 10 ♘e4 ♗d5 11 ♘c5 ♕c8 12 a3 ± e6 13 ♕c2 ♗xc5! 14 ♕xc5 ♕d7 15 0-0 ♕e7 16 ♕c2 ♕d7 17 ♗d2 ♘e7 18 ♖ac1 ♗c6** (weak points at d5 and f5) **19 ♗e3 ♘bd5 20 ♗f2 ♗b5! 21 ♘g3 ♗xd3 22 ♕xd3 0-0 = 23 ♘e4 b6 24 ♕a6 ♕c8 25 ♕xc8? ♖fxc8 ∓ 26 ♖c2 ♔f8 27 ♖fc1 ♔e8 28 ♗h4** (intending ♗xe7 =) **28 ... ♘f5 29 ♗f2 ♔d7 30 g4 ♘fe7 31 ♗g3** (31 ♗h4 ♘g6, exploiting the weakness at f4) **31 ... ♖h8** (intending ... h5) **32 h4?! h5 33 g5? ♖hd8 34 ♗f2 ♔e8 35 ♔h2 ♖d7 36 ♖c4 ♔d8 37 ♘g3! g6 38 ♘e4 ♔c8 39 ♘d6+ ♔b8 40 ♘e4** (40 ♘xf7 ♔b7 intending ... ♖f8) **40 ... ♔b7 41 ♖4c2 ♘f5 42 ♔h1 ♖ad8 43 ♖d2 ♖c8 44 ♔h2 ♘de7** (playing against the weak d4 pawn) **45 ♘f6 ♖dd8 46 ♘e4 ♘c6 47 ♖cd1 ♘a5!** (intending ... ♘c4) **48 ♖c2 ♘b3 49 ♖c4 c5! ∓∓ 50 ♖d3 ♘bxd4 51 b4 ♘c6! 52 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 53 bxc5 ♘xe5 54 ♖c3 ♖d3 55 ♖xd3 ♘xd3 56 cxb6 ♘xf2 57 ♘xf2 ♔xb6 58 ♔h3 ♔b5 59 ♘d3 ♔a4 60 ♘e5 ♔xa3 61 ♘xf7 a5 62 ♘e5 a4 63 ♘xg6 ♔b3 0-1**

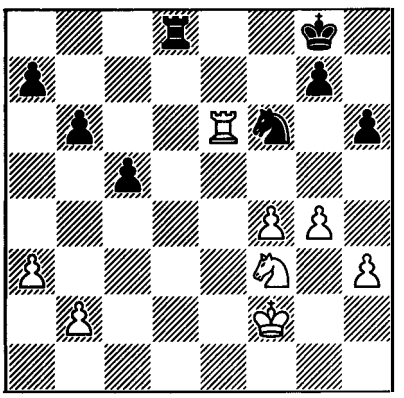
(793) Petrosian-Sibarević
Caro-Kann Defence

1 c4 c5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 e3 ♘f6 4 d4 cxd4 5 exd4 d5 6 ♗f4 e6 7 ♘f3 ♗e7 8 c5 ♘e4 9 ♖c1 0-0 10 ♗b5 ♗d7 11 0-0 ♕a5 12 ♗d3 f5 13 ♘e5 ♘xe5 14 ♗xe5 ♗f6 15 ♗xf6 ♖xf6 16 ♕e1 ♕c7 17 f3 ♖h6 18 g3 ♘g5 19 ♕e5 ♕d8 20 ♔g2 ♘f7 21 ♕e3 e5 22 f4 e4 23 ♗e2 ♗e6 24 b4 ♘h8 25 a4 ♘g6 26 a5 a6 27 ♘a4 ♘e7 28 ♘b6 ♖b8 29 b5 axb5 30 ♗xb5 ♗f7 31 ♖a1 ♗h5 32 ♔g1 ♗e8 33 ♗e2 ♖g6 34 ♖fb1 ♖c6 35 ♖b4 ♖c7 36 ♖b2 ♗f7 37 ♖ba2 ♘c6 38 ♗b5 ♘a7 39 ♗a4 ♕e7 40 ♗b3 ♖d8 41 a6 bxa6 42 ♖xa6 h6 43 ♗d1 ♔h7 44 ♗e2 ♖b8 45 ♗f1 ♖d8 ½-½

(794) Petrosian-Kurajica
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♘e2 ♘e4 6 ♗d2 ♘xd2 7 ♕xd2 0-0 (7 ... ♗a6 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 ♘xc3 d5 =) **8 a3 ♗xc3 9 ♘xc3 f5?!** (9 ... d6!? intending ... ♗b7, ... ♘d7 ±) **10 ♗d3 ± d6 11 0-0 ♘d7 12 f4 ♘f6 13 d5 ♖e8 14 ♖ae1 ♗d7 15 ♕c2 c6! 16 dxe6 ♗xe6 17 e4** (17 ♗xf5 ♗xc4 ∞) **17 ... fxe4 18 ♘xe4 ♔h8! 19 ♘g5** (19 ♘xf6 ♕xf6 20 ♗xh7 ♕d4+! ∓) **19 ... ♗g8 20 h3 ♕c7 21 ♗f5 ♖xe1 22 ♖xe1 d5 23 cxd5 ♗xd5 24 ♖e5 ♗g8 25 ♗e6?!** (25 ♕d2 ♖d8 26 ♕e3 ±) **25 ... ♗xe6 26 ♘xe6 ♕d6 27 ♘g5 ♕d4+ 28 ♕f2 ♕xf2+ 29 ♔xf2 ± h6 30 ♘f3 ♖d8 31 g4** (31 ♖e7 ♘d5 32 ♖xa7 ♘xf4 =) **31 ... ♔g8 32 ♖e6 c5** *(307)*

307



33 ♘e5!? ♖d2+ 34 ♔g3 ♖xb2 35 g5 ♖b3+ 36 ♔h4 hxg5+ 37 fxg5 ♖e3?? (time trouble; 37 ... ♘h7 38 ♖e8+ ♘f8 39 ♘d7 ♖f3 40 g6 ⩱) **38 gxf6 ++ gxf6 39 ♖e8+ ♔g7 40 ♖e7+ ♔g8 41 ♖e8+ ♔g7 42 ♖e7+ ♔g8 43 ♘g6 ♖xe7** (43 ... ♖xa3 44 ♔g4

intending h3-h4, ♔h5-h6, ♖g7 mate) **44 ♘xe7+ ♔f8 45 ♘c6 c4 46 a4 ♔f7 47 ♔g4 c3 48 ♘b4 ♔g6 49 h4 f5+ 50 ♔f4 a6 51 ♔e5 ♔h5 52 ♔xf5 ♔xh4 53 ♔e4 1-0**

(795) Adorjan-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 d4 exd4 4 e5 ♘e4 5 ♕xd4 d5 6 exd6 ♘xd6 7 ♗d3 ♘c6 8 ♕f4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♘c3 ½-½

(796) Andersson-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 d4 ♘c6 6 ♗f4 ♕b6 7 ♘a4 ♕a5+ 8 ♗d2 ♕d8 9 e3 e6 10 ♗d3 ♗d6 11 ♖c1 0-0 12 0-0 ♕e7 13 ♘c3 ½-½

(797) Petrosian-Matanović
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗f4 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 ♘e4 9 e3 ♘d7 10 ♗b5 a6 11 ♗a4 0-0 12 ♗xd6 cxd6 13 ♘e2 b5 14 ♗c2 ♕a5+ 15 b4 ♕d8 16 0-0 ♘b6 17 ♗b3 ♖c8 18 ♖c1 ♘c4 19 ♗xc4 dxc4 20 d5 ♕f6 21 ♕d4 ♕xd4 22 ♘fxd4 ♗xd5 23 ♖fd1 ♘f6 24 ♘f5 ♖c7 25 ♘c3 ♗e4 26 ♘xe4 ½-½

(798) G.Garcia-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 0-0 ♘bd7 8 ♕c2 c6 9 ♖d1 ♖e8 10 dxe5 dxe5 11 ♘a4!? (intending c4-c5 and exploitation of the d6 square) **11 ... b6!? 12 b4 ♕c7 13 ♗b2 ♘f8 14 c5 ♗g4 15 ♖d6 b5 16 ♘c3 ♗xf3 17 ♗xf3 a5 18 a3 axb4 19 axb4 ♖xa1 20 ♗xa1** (intending ♗e2, ♗xb5, ♘xb5) **20 ... ♘e6 21 ♘e2 ♘g5 22 ♗c3 ♘xf3+ 23 gxf3 ♕c8 24 ♕d3 ♘h5** (intending ... ♗f8, ... ♘g7-e6-g5) **25 ♖d7 ♘f6 26 ♖d6 ♘h5 27 ♖d7 ♘f6 28 ♖d6?** (28 ♖a7 ♖d8 29 ♕c2 ±) **½-½**

(799) Kasparov-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 ♗d7 13 ♘f1 ♘c4 14 d5 (14 ♘e3; 14 b3 ♘b6 15 ♘e3 ♖ad8!?; 14 ♗d3!?) **14 ... ♘b6 15 g4 h5! 16 gxh5 ♗xh3 17 ♘3h2 ♗xf1!** (17 ... g6 18 ♘g3 ♔g7 19 ♕f3 ♖h8 20 h6+ ♔g8 21 ♘f5 ±; 17 ... ♔h7 18 f4 ♖h8 19 ♘g3 ♔g8 20 f5 ±) **18 ♘xf1 ♕d7 19 ♘g3 ♕h3 20 ♕f3 g6 21 ♗d1! ♖fe8** (21 ... ♘xh5 22 ♘f5 ±±; 21 ... ♔h7 22 ♕g2 ♕xg2+ 23 ♔xg2 ±) **22 ♕g2** (22 ♖e3!?) **22 ... ♕xg2+ 23 ♔xg2 ± ½-½** (Kasparov)

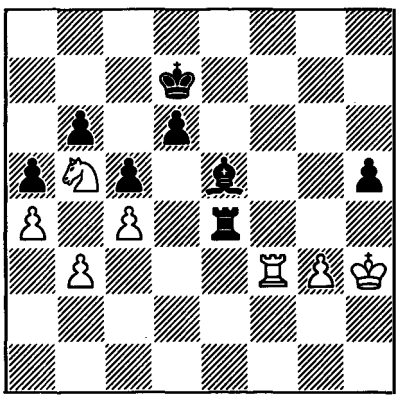
(800) Petrosian-Vukić
King's Indian Defence

In this game I managed to save an interesting ending. From the opening I gained a big advantage, but then unexpectedly blundered away my most important pawn. The game was twice adjourned, and when the position finally seemed lost, I managed to find a rather amusing possibility.

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 ♗f4 d6 5 e3 0-0 6 ♘f3 c6 7 h3 a6 8 a4 a5 9 ♗d3 ♘a6 10 ♖c1 ♘b4 11 ♗b1 b6 12 0-0 ♗a6 13 ♘a2 ♘xa2 14 ♗xa2 ♘d7 15 ♗g5 ♖e8 16 ♕d2 ♕c7 17 ♖fd1 ♖a7 18 ♗h4 h6 19 ♕c2 c5 20 d5 e5 21 dxe6 ♖xe6 22 ♖d2 ♗b7 23 ♕d1 ♘f6 24 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 25 ♗b1 ♗c6 26

♗d3 ♕d7 27 b3 ♕e7 28 ♗e2 ♖d7 29 ♘e1 ♗g5 30 ♗f3 ♗xf3 31 ♘xf3 ♗f6 32 ♖d3 ♗g7 33 ♖c2 ♖d8 34 ♖cd2 ♔f8 35 ♔f1 ♕f6 36 ♘e1 ♔e7 37 ♖d5 ♖xe3 38 ♘f3 ♖e6 39 g3 ♔f8 40 ♔g2 ♕e7 41 h4 h5 42 ♔f1 ♗h6 43 ♖e2 ♖xe2 44 ♕xe2 ♕xe2+ 45 ♔xe2 ♔e7 46 ♘e1 ♔d7 47 ♘c2 ♖e8+ 48 ♔f1 f5 49 ♘a3 f4 50 ♘b5 ♖e6 51 ♖d3 fxg3 52 fxg3 ♗g7 53 ♔f2 ♗e5 54 ♔g2 ♖e7 55 ♖e3 ♖g7 56 ♔h3 g5 57 hxg5 ♖xg5 58 ♖d3 ♖g7 59 ♖e3 ♖g4 60 ♖d3 ♖e4 61 ♖f3 *(308)*

308



Black is a pawn up, but the win is not easy. He should have played 61 ... ♗d4 and then activated his king. But my opponent went in for a forcing variation:

61 ... ♖e2 62 ♔h4 ♖h2+ 63 ♔g5 ♖h3

The threat of ... h4 cannot be parried, but White finds a study-like way to draw.

64 ♔g6 ♗xg3

On 64 ... h4 White would have played 65 ♖f7+.

65 ♔f7! h4

Black also fails to win by 65 ... ♖h4 66 ♖xg3 ♖f4+ 67 ♔g6 ♖g4+ 68 ♖xg4 hxg4 69 ♘c3 g3 70 ♘e2 g2 71 ♔f5 d5 72 cxd5 b5 73 ♔e4 – the white king manages to get back in time.

66 ♖e3, and after **66 ... ♖h2 67 ♖e7+** the game ended in perpetual check.

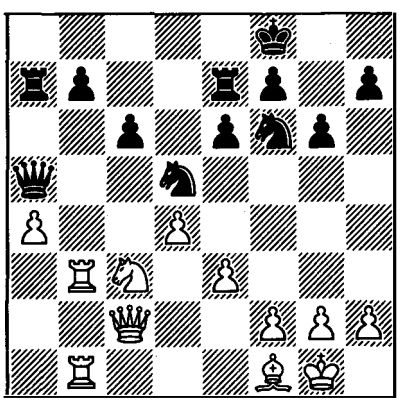
Yugoslavia v. USSR
Belgrade, May 1979

Board 2, +1 –0 =3.

(801) Ivkov-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 c4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♗g4 5 e3 ♘f6 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 c6 8 b3 d5 9 ♗b2 ♗xf3 10 ♗xf3 e6 11 ♕c2 ♘bd7 12 ♖fd1 ♖e8 13 ♗e2 ♕e7 14 a4 a5 15 ♗a3 ♕d8 16 b4 axb4 17 ♗xb4 ♗f8 18 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 19 ♖ab1 ♖a7 20 ♗d3 ♕a5 21 ♖b3 dxc4 22 ♗xc4 ♘b6 23 ♗f1 ♘bd5 24 ♖db1 ♖e7 *(309)*

309



25 ♘e2 ♕xa4 26 e4 ♘c7 27 ♕d2 ♘ce8 28 ♘c3 ♕a5 29 e5 ♘d5 30 ♕h6+ ♔g8 31 ♘e4 f5 32 exf6 ♘dxf6 33 ♖f3 ♖f7 34 ♘g5 ♕a2 35 ♖c1 ♖e7 36 ♘e4 ♘d7 37 h3 ♘g7 38 ♗c4 ♕b2 39 ♕f4 ♖a1 40 ♖xa1 ♕xa1+ 41 ♔h2 ♕xd4 42 g3 ♕e5 43 ♕h4 ♖e8 44 ♘g5 h5 45 ♗d3 ½-½

(802) Petrosian-Ivkov
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 c3 d5 9 d3 dxe4 10 dxe4 ♕xd1 11 ♗xd1 ♗b7 12 ♘bd2 ♖fd8 13 ♗c2 ♘d7 14 ♘f1 ♘c5 15 ♘e3 ♘d3 16 ♗xd3 ♖xd3 17 ♘d5 ♗d6 18 ♖f1 f5 19 ♘e1 fxe4 20 ♘e3 ♖d8 21 ♘xd3 exd3 22 ♘f5 e4 23 ♘xd6 ♖xd6 24 ♗f4 ♖d7 25 f3 exf3 26 ♖xf3 ♘e7 27 ♖e3 ♘g6 28 ♗g3 c5 29 ♖f1 h5 30 h4 c4 ½-½

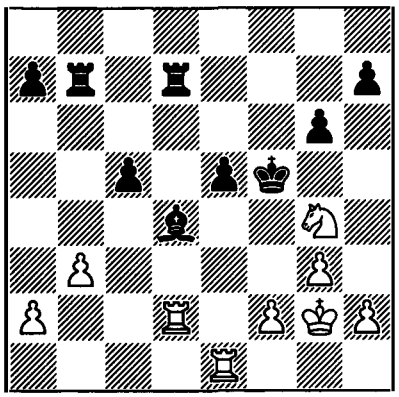
(803) Ivkov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘h4 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d5 11 ♕a4 ♕d7 12 ♕xd7 ♘xd7 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♗f4 c5 15 dxc5 ♘xc5 16 ♖ad1 ♖fd8 17 ♗e5 f6 18 ♗c3 ♖d7 19 ♘f4 ♖ad8 20 e3 ♔f7 21 ♘e2 ♘e6 22 ♖d2 ♔e8 23 ♖fd1 ♗f8 24 ♔g2 ♗c5 25 g4 ♗e7 26 h3 ♗c5 27 h4 a5 28 h5 ♔f7 29 ♗d4 ♔e7 30 ♗c3 ♔f7 31 ♘g3 ♘c7 32 ♘e2 ♘e6 ½-½

(804) Petrosian-Ivkov
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗d3 ♘bd7 6 ♘bd2 c5 7 b3 g6 8 0-0 ♗g7 9 ♗a3 b6 10 cxd5 ♘xd5 11 ♘e4 0-0 12 ♖c1 f5 13 ♘d6 ♕e7 14 ♘xc8 ♖axc8 15 ♖e1 ♔h8 16 e4 fxe4 17 ♗xe4 ♘f4 18 ♖c2 ♕f6 19 dxc5 ♘xc5 20 ♗xc5 bxc5 21 ♖c4 ♕b2 22 ♕c2 ♕xc2 23 ♗xc2 ♗d4 24 ♔f1 e5 25 ♗e4 ♔g7 26 ♖c2 ♖cd8 27 g3 ♘d5 28 ♗xd5 ♖xd5 29 ♔g2 ♔f6 30 ♘d2 ♖b8 31 ♘c4 ♖b4 32 ♖d2 ♖b7 33 ♘e3 ♖dd7 34 ♘g4+ ♔f5 *(310)*

310



35 ♖xd4 1-0

In the summer of 1979 Petrosian celebrated his 50th birthday. A happy event (an anniversary!) and at the same time a little sad: whatever you say, the greater part of your life has already been lived. But in the numerous interviews which Tigran had to give at the time, there was no sadness, but rather the quiet wisdom of a man who had experienced much and learned much. Here are two interviews which he gave to well-known chess journalists:

First interview (with Victor Khenkin):

There is a widely-held opinion that the only players who enjoy competitive longevity are those who base their play not on the calculation of concrete variations but on positional understanding. In short, their play is founded on general positional considerations. Such a method allows a player to expend less energy, and hence to withstand better the tension of a tournament game. Is this true?

I do not share this point of view. Positional understanding is indeed a sign of the great practical strength of a player.

But with the years this skill also becomes blunted. It must be constantly stimulated and modernized; in other words a player must work at chess and analyze.

But on positional understanding alone you will not go far. Without sharp tactical vision there is no chance of success. But as a player grows older his calculating capability is markedly reduced, and he has somehow to compensate for this deficiency. Why did Botvinnik retain for so long his great fighting ability? Because he was able to recognize this irreversible process earlier than others and to 'reprogram' himself. In what way? In the same way as I am doing now.

Although I have never been assigned to the category of 'chess calculators', in my youth I used to work out at the board an enormous number of variations. I used to calculate them quite quickly and quite deeply. Today too I can calculate deeply and well, only not for five hours at a stretch. I can now switch on my 'calculating apparatus' at full power only once or twice during the course of a game. Therefore I try to choose my openings and build up my play so that there is no need to analyze variations move after move. But if at a critical moment such a necessity suddenly arises, I can cope with this no worse than I used to.

And even so, in order to play chess long and well, one must not rely on experience and knowledge, but devote every effort to it. I know perfectly well what it means genuinely to play, and what it means to spare oneself.

I rarely see young players who are tired after a game. No, it is not that they spare themselves, but simply that they are unable to devote every effort. Like certain footballers, they return to the dressing room in dry shirts.

In my time, in order to get on and create a name for oneself, it was necessary to play well in the USSR Championships and in the battle for the World Championship. This required enormous effort. I recall how, in 1961 in the USSR Championship, after a decisive victory in time trouble I was unable to complete my scoresheet: my hands were shaking. Since that time I have always carried with me a vasodilator. I remember how in 1949, also in a USSR Championship, Semion Furman, to gain the grandmaster norm, had to win in the last round with Black against Boleslavsky! He won. But when he arrived back at his hotel room, he suffered a severe nose-bleed.

I think that young players have not learned to devote all their efforts to the game, for the reason that present-day chess life does not force them to. Many are quite happy with easy victories in foreign tournaments. As for prestigious but exhausting battles for the World Championship, as Arkady Raikin says: "Very well, the camel is lucky, he is a discoverer, he is the ship of the desert". Translated into chess language, this signifies: he is Karpov, he is Tal, he is Petrosian . . .

I am disappointed by young players. They do not give to chess everything of which they are capable, and do not receive from chess all that they could.

For one and a half thousand years chess has been travelling across the world, gaining more and more new supporters. This wonderful fusion of science, art and sport as though embodies man's eternal dream of harmony. But each player nevertheless gives preference to one of these facets. What do you consider chess to be?

The well-known Dutch chess official H.Slavekoorde once said to me: "One can live without poetry or without music, but one cannot live without art. One can also

live without chess, but then chess is also an art."

Is chess an art? Yes, it is. How else should one define such a type of activity, in which a person experiences the deepest aesthetic pleasures? How else can one assess the result of his creativity, affording spiritual joy to other people?

In this sense chess can be compared with music – serious music. A simple rhythmic song is understandable to everyone. But for serious music to bring joy and pleasure, a certain musical culture is required. It is the same in chess. In order to gain pleasure from the game (not from winning, but from the creative process itself and from the process of perceiving the creativity of others), one needs special preparation, in other words, an appropriate qualification. The necessity for such preparation sometimes frightens people off chess, just as it does serious music.

I have been a long time in chess. And although by style, by approach and, finally, by results it is hard to assign me to the devotees of chess art, I nevertheless regard chess primarily as an art. It is this facet which attracts so many people to our game.

Every World Champion has left an indelible trace in the history of chess. Books and articles are devoted to him, and his games are subjected to the most thorough analysis. What place in this constellation of names do you occupy?

Whether this or that player remains in history depends not only on his results but also on his games. To me, for example, it is of no importance whether or not a player has been the World Champion. The main thing is that he should leave behind some remarkable games. Was sufficient written about Nimzowitsch in his time? But now many leading players (including, for example, Larsen and me) call ourselves his followers. Bronstein was also never World Champion, but his games are no worse for that.

Of course, I would be pleased to see a book about myself published during my lifetime. But there has not been one, and I am not disappointed. If I have managed to create something in chess, it is not possible that it will be erased. The time will come when chess analysts, historians and researchers will be found who will put everything in order and determine my place in chess. But if I could suppose that, say, fifty years after my death, my chess games will be of no interest to anyone, I would now be very offended.

Each new approach to chess demands popularization. More and more masters are trying to explain their chess credo, and to offer their works to the judgement of readers. Why have you not written a single book?

I made a great mistake, when after the match with Botvinnik in 1963 I did not quickly publish a book. And what is amusing is this: I immediately got down to work and annotated 17 of the 22 games in the match. But then the 'sweet life' of the Champion began: I went here, went there, made public appearances, played . . . This was an omission on my part. But I hope that I still have a long life before me, and that I will manage to realize my long-held dream – to annotate the 70-odd games of all three matches for the World Championship which I played. A book is a very serious thing. I do not like recording my thoughts on tape; I myself have to write everything down in full, and this requires an enormous amount of time.

As the saying goes, "there is nothing permanent under the sun", and this also applies to the title of 'chess king'. In every era new heroes have appeared and overthrown the former champions. What feelings does

a champion experience after losing his title?

Highly unpleasant, although this is not so easy to explain. In general, a person is at the height of fame, when suddenly this fame recedes, and he sees how the attitude of those around changes. A feeling of vexation and annoyance at people arises. I realized, of course, that the title of World Champion is not given in perpetuity, but nevertheless I still consider that I need not have lost the 1969 match against Spassky. In chess terms I was then not inferior to him. However, Spassky too would have been vexed if he had failed to win this second match against me. But chess is a struggle. Had a third match taken place, I might have won it, in a fourth Spassky would have won, and so on ad infinitum.

Perhaps the most vexing thing – although this is a pure accident – was that I lost the title of World Champion on my birthday, and on no ordinary birthday, but on my fortieth! But seriously, to win two matches such as those against Botvinnik in 1963 and Spassky in 1966 is a quite sufficient reason for a life in chess.

Big time chess demands psychological stability and mental equilibrium. And here a considerable role is played by a player's family relations. We know, for example, of the family disorders of Chigorin and Alekhine. And on the contrary, Marta Lasker and Gayane Botvinnik are regarded as ideal wives for a chess player . . . What qualities should the wife of a World Champion have?

I have been fortunate in life. My wife Rona has relieved me of practically all family concerns. I cannot say that I was not concerned about my sons (I have two, and they are now grown up, in fact I have been a grandfather for six years), I tried to educate them, and took part in their schooling and other matters. But on the whole all the household burdens lay on my wife's shoulders.

At home we always had a friendly, cordial atmosphere. My family lived with my joys and with my sorrows. Chess is a difficult, nervy business, I am fairly hot-tempered, and often – especially in my younger years – I simply had to be endured. But my wife had plenty of patience. I am eternally grateful to her. My chess successes are to a large extent also thanks to her.

Second Interview (with Yuri Vasiliev):

The Petrosian style. What is concealed behind it? Some experts have stated that Petrosian plays to restrict his opponent's possibilities, but in doing so he restricts his own. What does Petrosian himself think about his style?

Style is the person. In my chess style are reflected, as in a mirror, the traits of my character. Yes, my attributes are caution and circumspection, which in my youth were interspersed with sudden bursts of hot temper. To the extent that sometimes, on looking through some of my games, I did not recognize myself: did I really play that? However, I am convinced that with 'caution' and 'circumspection' alone it is not possible to win two matches for the World Championship and four USSR Championships. Therefore I do not believe those experts who are convinced that they have an exact knowledge of my style. In the same way that I do not believe in the 'incomprehensibility' attributed to this or that player. I consider that in chess everything can be taught.

This is precisely what you are doing in the Spartak 'Petrosian School'. But is it possible to teach chess to be understood, as Petrosian understands it?

I believe it is. In the depths of my heart I cherish a hope that I will some time meet a student to whom I can pass on that which I know, and which has arisen in agonizing searches for the truth. I hope to meet such a lad, with whom we could seek together, who would then in practice, at the board, test our searchings.

And although I have not yet met such a player, I am waiting for him and I happily work with youngsters. Our school has been in operation now for nearly three years, and there are already some successes. Boris Kantsler from Frunze has become USSR Junior Champion, and two lads – Kuporosov and Novikov – have achieved the master norm.

Recently in Banja Luka you played in a tournament with the young Baku player Garry Kasparov. What do you think of him?

When we were setting off for the tournament, at the airport my wife Rona remembered how in 1953 I had travelled in the same way to a tournament with Boris Spassky, who, like Kasparov, was then sixteen. "Garry", said Rona, "Tigran is a luck-bringer . . ."

Garry has great talent. In this respect I would compare him with Tal. But talent is not yet a guarantee of great achievements. Much will depend on Kasparov himself. How, for example, he stands the test of fame.

And how did you react to fame?

As to a good confectionery. If you have it, that's good; if not – you can do without it.

Tigran Vartanovich, you will recall that they liked to nickname you 'iron' for your imperturbability and your 'impenetrability'. You have behind you three matches for the World Championship. From the auditorium many grandmasters appear to be impassive and inscrutable, but what is it like on the stage, at the board? How is it achieved, this impassiveness?

Once in a conversation with Gligorić I complained about my nerves. He exclaimed: "What, do you too have nerves?!" No one apart from me knows what my 'ironness' cost me. Spassky has always rather theatrically emphasized his impassiveness. But I will never forget his eyes in that game with Tal in 1958, in the elimination USSR Championship . . . It was played in the last round. Spassky adjourned in an almost winning position. I too was an interested party. If Spassky had won the game, I would have become USSR Champion for the first time in my career. If he had drawn, I would have shared first place with Tal. I didn't follow the adjournment session, but spent the time in the press centre. Suddenly it was reported: "Spassky is losing!" I could not stand it, and went onto the stage. I did not believe that it was possible to lose such a position! When I went up to the board, Spassky raised his eyes. They were the eyes of a cornered animal . . . But from the auditorium he no doubt looked, as always, completely impassive.

There is the problem of the strong personality in competitive chess. You have met Botvinnik and Fischer at the board. How would you characterize them from this purely psychological viewpoint?

Fischer was distinguished, I would say, by a purely chess severity. He only needed to sense a slight wavering on his opponent's part, and his strength would as though increase ten-fold. He would then aim to drive his opponent into a corner as quickly as possible and to finish him off. I recall how Nimzowitsch wrote in his book *How I became a grandmaster* that for a long time he was hindered by an inexplicable sympathy for his opponent, when he had achieved a superior position. He would

suddenly begin feeling sorry for him. I can now say that at times I too have been hindered by such a weakness.

And yet playing against Botvinnik was more difficult! A feeling of inevitability would arise. A highly unpleasant feeling. Once, when talking to Keres, I mentioned this to him, and even compared Botvinnik with a bulldozer, which sweeps away everything in its path. Keres smiled and said: "Can you imagine what it was like playing him when he was young?"

Every leading chess master no doubt has games such as those which you have been talking about. Let's call them tragic games. Have you had any?

Yes, unfortunately . . . Their outcome distressed me, although I have never made a tragedy out of a defeat. But there are defeats and defeats. To this day I cannot forget what a terrible blow it was for me when I blundered away my queen in my game with Bronstein from the 1956 Candidates Tournament. In the same year I blundered away my queen to Gligorić in the USSR-Yugoslavia match: I worked out a winning variation to the end, the first move was obligatory, but I began the combination with the second move . . .

Let's get away from chess. It is well known that you often go to football and ice hockey matches, that you have been supporting Spartak for many years, and that you play table tennis and billiards quite well . . . How is it now; has anything in your interests changed?

As regards Spartak, no, of course not. After all, I have been a Spartak member now for thirty-three years. As for the rest, I now prefer digging at my dacha, and I like reading and listening to music. With the years one's attitude to billiards changes.

How do you assess your chances in the coming Interzonal Tournament?

I think that the 'old men' will win both tournaments. Out of the six to go forward, my opinion is that the young players can count on not more than two places! I think that I have chances of finishing among the three winners. I will certainly try! Everything will depend on how I feel.

What, are the 'old men' still strong, or are the young as yet weak?

If we hold on, it means that they are as yet weak. Young grandmasters may be offended by me, I know, but I have to say that it is easy for me to play against them – it is like reading an open book.

Why should this be? Perhaps nowadays young players work less on theory than was the case in Botvinnik's time?

You see, in my time you could prepare an innovation and know that it would serve you for a long time. But now the speed at which information spreads is so great that within a month all strong players will have on their boards the position in which the innovation was employed. And alongside will be a periodical with the game published, and against the new move will stand the letters TN (meaning 'theoretical novelty').

You have a large chess library, with many old books. Do you really have time to re-read the classics?

I very much like looking at old books. I usually look at the games without a board. In the games of the old masters there is much that is naive from the viewpoint of the modern grandmaster, but there is also much that is extremely interesting. Not long ago I got carried away by a study of the 1898 Vienna Tournament, which was not a major or large-scale tournament. I realized that much of what modern masters regard as a revelation was already known 70-80 years ago. At first I looked through all the games from the entire tournament in

order. Then I made a study of each player. It was very interesting to see how, say, a certain master Lipke, who is now probably quite unknown, tried to solve problems which are on the agenda even today. It was interesting to try and understand his chess credo, and to follow how he upheld his views. I have to admit that I used up a whole exercise book on this work.

What has been your happiest day in chess?

It was when I won the match for the World Championship. Moreover, I cannot separate the match with Botvinnik from the following one with Spassky. I considered that only by winning the second match could I demonstrate that my victory in the first was not accidental. Although I am also convinced that it is not possible to win accidentally a match for the World Championship. But at the time I considered myself obliged to win the second match.

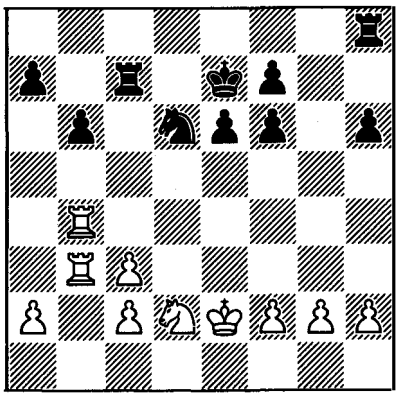
7th USSR Spartakiad
Moscow, July 1979

Board 1, +2 –1 =5.

(805) Lutikov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♗d3 dxe4 5 ♗xe4 ♘f6 6 ♗g5 ♘bd7 7 ♕d3 c5 8 ♘f3 cxd4 9 ♕xd4 ♕b6 10 ♕xb6 ♘xb6 11 0-0-0 ♗xc3 12 bxc3 ♘a4 13 ♗xf6 gxf6 14 ♔d2 ♘b2 15 ♖b1 ♘c4+ 16 ♔e2 ♘d6 17 ♗d3 ♗d7 18 ♖b4 ♔e7 19 ♖hb1 h6 20 ♘d2 b6 21 ♗a6 ♗c8 22 ♗xc8 ♖axc8 23 ♖1b3 ♖c7 *(311)*

311



24 ♖h4 e5 25 ♘f1 f5 26 f4 f6 27 ♘e3 ♔e6 28 g4 exf4 29 gxf5+ ♔e5 30 ♘g2 ♖c4 31 ♔f3 ♖hc8 32 ♘xf4 ♖xc3+ 33 ♘d3+ ♔xf5 34 ♖xh6 ♘f7 35 ♖h4 ♘e5+ 36 ♔e3 ♖xc2 37 ♘xe5 fxe5 38 ♖h5+ ♔e6 39 ♖h6+ ♔d5 40 ♖d3+ ♔c5 41 ♖e6 ♔b4 42 a3+ ♔a4 43 ♖d7 ♖8c7 44 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 45 ♖xe5 ♖h7 46 ♖e4+ ♔xa3 47 h4 b5 48 ♖e5 b4 49 ♖a5+ ♔b2 50 h5 b3 51 ♔f4 ♔c3 52 ♔g5 ♖b7 0-1

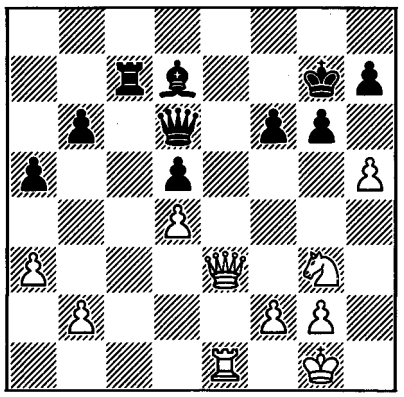
(806) Romanishin-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♘e2 ♘gf6 6 ♘2g3 g6 7 ♗c4 ♗g7 8 c3 0-0 9 0-0 ♘d5 10 ♖e1 e5 11 ♗g5 f6 12 ♗d2 exd4 13 cxd4 ♘7b6 14 ♗b3 ♔h8 15 ♕c1 a5 16 a3 ♘c7 17 ♘c5 ♘bd5 18 ♗h6 b6 19 ♗xg7+ ♔xg7 20 ♘d3 ♗d7 21 ♘f4 ♖f7 22 h4 ♖c8 23 ♕d2 ♕f8 24 ♖ac1 ♖e7 25 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 26 ♗xd5 cxd5 27 ♕f4 ♖xe1+ 28 ♖xe1 ♖c6 29 h5 ♕d6 30 ♕e3 ♖c7

(diagram 312)

31 ♕e7+ ♕xe7 32 ♖xe7+ ♔h6 33 ♔h2 a4 34 f4 b5 35 ♖f7 f5 36 ♖e7 ♖b7 37 hxg6 ♔xg6 38 ♘e2 ♗c8 39 ♖e8 ♖c7 40 ♘c3 ♗a6 41 ♖e6+ 1-0

312



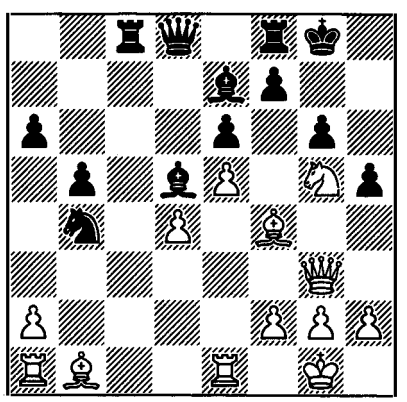
(807) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕c7 13 ♕c2 ♘d7 14 ♖d2 ♖fd8 15 ♖ad1 ½-½

(808) Kupreichik-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♘e7 4 ♘f3 b6 5 c4 ♗b7 6 ♘c3 ♘bc6 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗c4 ♘xc3 9 bxc3 ♗e7 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♗d3 ♘a5 12 ♕e2 a6 13 ♗f4 ♗d5 14 ♖fe1 b5 15 ♘d2 c5 16 ♕g4 g6 17 ♘e4 cxd4 18 cxd4 ♘c6 19 ♘g5 ♘b4 20 ♗b1 h5 21 ♕g3 ♖c8 *(313)*

313



22 ♗xg6 fxg6 23 ♘xe6 ♕e8 24 ♘xf8 ♗xf8 25 e6 ♗xe6 26 ♗d6 ♘d5 27 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 28 ♕d6+ ♔f7 29 ♕xa6 ♕c6 30 ♕a3 b4 31 ♕f3+ ♘f6 32 ♕f4 ♕c7 33 ♖e5 ♔g7 34 ♖ae1 ♘d7 35 d5 ♘xe5 36 dxe6 ♘c6 37 ♕d2 ♕e7 38 ♕d5 ♖c7 39 ♖c1 ♕e8 40 h3 ♖c8 41 ♖c4 ½-½

(809) Dzyuban-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 c5 4 ♘f3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 cxd4 7 ♕xd4 ♘c6 8 ♕f4 ♗c5 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 ♖d1 ♘e7 11 g4 ♘g6 12 ♕g3 ♘e4 13 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 14 ♘g5 ♗xg2 15 ♔xg2 ♗e7 16 ♘f3 a6 17 ♗e3 d6 18 ♖ac1 ♕c7 19 h4 ♖fc8 20 h5 ♘f8 21 ♗f4 e5 22 ♗e3 ♕b7 23 ♔g1 ♘e6 24 ♕g2 b5 25 ♘d2 ♕xg2+ 26 ♔xg2 ♖c6 27 ♖c3 g6 28 hxg6 hxg6 29 ♖dc1 f5 30 f3 ♔f8 31 a3 ½-½

(810) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♖c1 c6 9 ♗d3 ♘d7 10 0-0 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 e5 12 ♘e4 exd4 13 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 14 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 15 ♘xd4 ♖e8 16 ♖fd1 ♗d7 17 ♔f1 ♔f8 18 ♔e2 ♖e5 19 h3 c5 20 ♘b5 ½-½

(811) Georgadze-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 e3 g6 5 b3 ♗g7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 ♗e2 ♗g4 8 d4 e6 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 h3 ♗xf3 11 ♗xf3 ♖e8 12 ♕c2 ♖c8 13 ♖ad1 b5 14 e4 bxc4 15 bxc4 dxe4 16 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 17 ♗xe4 ♕c7 18 ♖fe1 ♖cd8 19 c5 ♘f6 20 ♗f3 ♘d5 21 ♗c1 ♖d7 22 ♗g5 ♖b8 23 ♗h4 ♖b4 24 ♗g3 ♕d8 25 ♗e5 ♗xe5 26 dxe5 ♕a5 27 ♖e4 ♖xe4 28

♗xe4 ♘b4 29 ♕b1 ♖xd1+ 30 ♕xd1 ♘d5 31 ♗xd5 exd5 32 ♕c1 ♕xa2 33 g4 d4 34 ♔f1 ♕d5 35 ♕g5 a5 36 ♕e7 ♔g7 37 ♕f6+ ♔f8 38 e6 ♕xe6 39 ♕d8+ ♔g7 40 ♕xd4+ ♕f6 41 ♕e4 h6 42 ♔g2 ♕e6 43 ♕d4+ ♔h7 44 h4 h5 45 gxh5 gxh5 46 f3 ♕g6+ 47 ♔h3 ♕f5+ 48 ♔g3 ♔g6 49 ♔g2 a4 50 ♕xa4 ♕xc5 51 ♕a1 ♔f5 52 ♕h8 ♔e6 53 ♕e8+ ♔f6 54 ♕h8+ ♔e7 55 ♔g3 ♕d6+ 56 ♔f2 ♕h2+ 57 ♔e3 ♕xh4 58 ♕e5+ ♔d7 59 ♕f5+ ♔d6 60 ♔d3 f6 61 ♕a5 ♔d7 62 ♕a7+ ♔e6 63 ♕a8 ♔f5 64 ♕xc6 ♕e1 65 ♕c5+ ♕e5 66 ♕c4 ♔g5 67 ♕c1+ ♔h4 68 f4 ♕d5+ 69 ♔e3 f5 70 ♕e1+ ♔h3 71 ♕c3 ♔g4 72 ♔f2 ♕a2+ 73 ♔g1 ♕e2 74 ♕g7+ ♔f3 75 ♕g5 ♕e3+ 76 ♔h1 ♕c1+ 0-1

(812) Petrosian-Vaganian
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘f3 ♗g7 4 ♘c3 d5 5 ♗g5 ♘e4 6 cxd5 ♘xg5 7 ♘xg5 e6 8 ♘f3 exd5 9 e3 0-0 10 ♗d3 ♘c6 11 0-0 a5 12 a3 ♘e7 13 b4 ♗g4 14 b5 ♕d6 15 ♗e2 ½-½

Interzonal Tournament
Rio de Janeiro, September-October 1979

1-3 Hübner, **Petrosian** (+6 –0 =11), Portisch 11½; 4 Timman 11; 5-6 Ivkov, Sunye 9½; 7-9 Balashov, Sax, Torre 9; 10-11 Shamkovich, Smejkal 8½; 12 Vaganian 8; 13-14 G.Garcia, Velimirović 7½; 15 Harandi 6½; 16 L.Bronstein 6; 17-18 Hébert, Kagan 4½.

(813) Petrosian-Smejkal
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 d4 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 g6 7 e3 ♗g7 8 ♗b5+ ♗d7 9 a4 ♕a5 10 ♕b3 cxd4 11 exd4 0-0 12 0-0 ♗e6 13 ♕a3 a6 14 ♗e2 ♘c6 15 ♗e3 ♗d5 ½-½

(814) Sax-Petrosian
French Defence
(notes by Vasyukov)

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 exd5 5 ♗b5+

In recent years the continuation 5 ♘gf3 ♘c6 (*5 ... a6* is also acceptable) 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 0-0 ♘e7 8 dxc5 ♗xc5 9 ♘b3 etc has been thoroughly tested. Now, following the example of World Champion Karpov, the bishop check has become fashionable.

5 ... ♘c6

The alternative defence is 5 ... ♗d7 6 ♕e2+ ♗e7 (the ending after *6 ... ♕e7* is not very pleasant) 7 dxc5 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 0-0 9 ♘f3 ♖e8 10 ♗e3 a6, as in the game Tal-Portisch (Montreal, 1979).

6 ♕e2+ ♗e7

Here too the ending after 6 ... ♕e7 7 dxc5 ♕xe2+ 8 ♘xe2 ♗xc5 9 ♘b3 favours White, while 6 ... ♗e6 is well met by **7** ♘gf3 ♘f6 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♖e1 (*9 dxc5 0-0 10 ♘b3 ♘e4 11 ♗e3 ♘a5 12 ♘xa5 ♕xa5 13 c6* also comes into consideration) 9 ... 0-0 10 ♗xc6 followed by ♘g5, as was played back in 1937 in a game Iglitsky-Verlinsky.

7 dxc5 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 0-0 9 ♘f3

Sax was evidently dissatisfied with the outcome of the opening in the present game, since towards the end of the tournament he played 9 ♗e3 against Vaganian, on which there followed 9 ... ♘a5!? (theory considers *9 ... ♖e8*, and if *10 0-0-0 a5* with counterplay) 10 ♘f3 a6 11 ♗d3 ♖e8 12 ♘fd4 ♗g4 13 f3 ♘xb3 14 ♘xb3 d4 15 fxg4 ♗xc5 16 0-0 ♖xe3 17 ♕f2 ♕d5 with great complications.

9 ... ♖e8

According to *ECO*, 9 ... ♘e4 10 ♗e3 ♖e8 11 0-0-0 (*11 0-0* is no better) 11 ... ♘xc5 12 ♗c4 ♘xb3 13 ♗xb3 ♗e6 leads to an equal game.

10 ♗e3

Keres recommended 10 0-0, and if 10 ... ♗xc5 11 ♕d3 ♗b6 12 ♗g5 with a favourable position. I do not think that kingside castling would have worried the Ex-World Champion: after 10 ... ♘e4 11 ♘fd4 (*11 ♗e3 ♘xc5*) 11 ... ♗d7 Black has no reason to complain.

10 ... a6!?

Black's idea becomes clear – before moving his knight to e4 he determines the fate of the bishop at b5.

11 ♗a4

11 ♗xc6 bxc6 12 0-0 leads to a double-edged struggle, but is not especially promising for White.

11 ♗d3 brought Smyslov success in a game with Uhlmann (Cienfuegos, 1973): 11 ... ♗g4 12 0-0-0 ♘e5 13 h3 ♗xf3 14 gxf3 ♕c7 15 ♔b1 ♘ed7 16 c4! etc, but 12 ... a5 would have given Black sufficient counterchances.

Sax's move can hardly be called a happy choice.

11 ... ♘e4
12 0-0-0 ♗xc5!

White was probably counting on 12 ... ♘xc5 13 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 14 ♗b3 ♗xe3 15 fxe3 with slight pressure, but Petrosian subtly perceives the unfortunate placing of the bishop at a4.

13 ♘fd4

Not wishing to give Black a comfortable game in the variation 13 ♗xc6 bxc6 14 ♘xc5 ♘xc5 15 ♘d4 ♗d7, the Hungarian grandmaster soon begins to run into difficulties.

13 ... ♗d7
14 ♘xc6?

It was not yet too late to get rid of the ill-fated bishop – 14 ♗xc6 bxc6 15 ♘xc5 ♘xc5, maintaining approximate equality.

14 ... bxc6
15 ♖he1

This loses a tempo, but it is not easy to find a suitable continuation – 15 ♗xc5 fails to 15 ... ♘xc5 and 16 ... ♘xa4, as does 15 ♕d3 ♘xf2, and 15 ♘xc5 ♘xc5 16 ♗b3 a5 is also unfavourable.

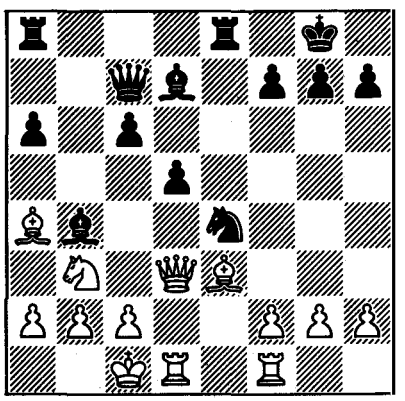
15 ... ♗b4!
16 ♖f1

If 16 c3? then 16 ... ♗xc3 17 bxc3 ♘xc3 and 18 ... ♘xa4.

16 ... ♕c7
17 ♕d3 *(314)*

White decides on a pawn sacrifice; 17 h3 would have weakened the g3 square, and 17 g3 the light squares.

314



17 ... ♕xh2!

The a4 bishop and b3 knight are a long

way from the kingside, and without them it is difficult for White to exploit the opening of the h-file.

18 ♖h1

White should have considered 18 g4 ♕e5 (*18 ... ♗xg4 19 ♗xc6*) 19 ♔b1 with the idea of f2-f3, ♗d4 and ♖h1. However, Black's position would have remained solid enough.

18 ... ♕e5

Of course, not 18 ... ♕xg2? 19 ♖dg1 ♕f3 20 ♖xg7+!.

19 ♘d4 ♖ac8 20 c3 ♗d6 21 ♗c2?

Sax was probably short of time, otherwise he would have chosen 21 f3 – it was absolutely essential that the knight, Black's key piece, should be driven from e4. After 21 ... ♘f6 (*21 ... ♘g5 22 ♗d2 ♕g3 23 ♕xa6 ♖a8 24 ♕b7*) 22 ♗d2 White would have obtained possibilities of resisting, for example:

(a) 22 ... g6 (*22... h5? 23 g4!*) 23 g4! ♗c5 24 ♖de1 ♕g3 (*24 ... ♕d6 25 ♕xa6*) 25 ♖eg1 ♕d6 26 ♗c2 a5!? 27 g5! ♗xd4 28 cxd4 ♘h5 (*28 ... ♗f5 29 ♕xf5!*) 29 ♖xh5 ♗f5 30 ♕xf5 gxf5 31 ♗xf5, and the outcome is not completely clear.

(b) The blockading 22 ... ♕g3! is the strongest, when White appears to have nothing better than 23 ♘f5 (*23 ♕xa6? ♖a8*, while *23 ♘e2 ♕xg2 24 ♘d4 ♕g6 25 ♕f1 ♕g3* is hardly justified) 23 ... ♗xf5 24 ♕xf5. The advantage is with Black, but there is still a lot of play in prospect.

21 ... g6
22 ♕xa6?

In the event of 22 f3 the black knight, being no longer obliged to guard h7, would have advanced with great effect to g3. White's play has reached an impasse, and with a heavy heart he opens the a-file, which proves fatal.

22 ... ♖a8
23 ♕d3

But not 23 ♕b7 ♘c5 or 23 ♕b6 ♗c5 24 ♕b7 ♖a7.

23 ... ♖xa2 24 ♗b1 ♖a1 25 ♘c2 ♖aa8 26 ♘d4 ♕f6

Making way for the bishop and at the same time aiming at the f2 pawn. Petrosian conducts the final attack simply and convincingly.

27 ♘f3 ♖a1 28 ♕c2 ♗f5 29 ♘d4 ♖xb1+! 30 ♕xb1 ♘xc3 31 ♘xf5 ♘xb1 32 ♘h6+ ♔f8 33 ♔xb1 ♖b8 34 ♖d2 ♗f4 35 ♖h3 ♗xe3 36 ♖xe3 ♔g7 37 ♖f3 ♕xf3 White resigns

(815) Petrosian-Vaganian
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♕d2 a5 12 ♖c1 ♗e6 ½-½

(816) Timman-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

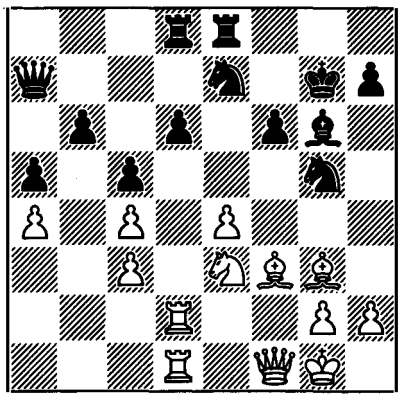
1 c4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 d6 4 e4 ♘f6 5 f3 c6 6 ♗e3 0-0 7 ♗d3 a6 8 ♘ge2 b5 9 ♕d2 ♘bd7 10 b3 e5 11 d5 cxd5 12 cxd5 ♘c5 13 ♗c2 ♘h5 14 0-0 f5 15 b4 ♘d7 16 exf5 gxf5 17 ♖ac1 ♘b6 18 ♗b3 ♘f6 19 ♔h1 f4 20 ♗xb6 ♕xb6 21 ♗c2 ♕e3 22 ♕xe3 fxe3 ½-½

(817) Petrosian-G.Garcia
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 d6 4 ♘c3 g6 5 e4

♗g7 6 ♘f3 0-0 7 ♗e2 e6 8 0-0 ♖e8 9 ♘d2 ♘a6 10 dxe6 ♗xe6 11 ♘b3 ♕b6 12 ♗g5 ♕c6 13 ♘d2 ♘d7 14 f4 ♗xc3 15 bxc3 f6 16 ♗h4 ♗f7 17 ♗g4 ♖ad8 18 ♕f3 ♘ab8 19 a4 a5 20 ♕d3 ♔g7 21 ♖fc1 b6 22 ♗f3 ♕c7 23 ♘f1 ♘c6 24 ♘e3 ♘e7 25 ♖d1 ♘f8 26 ♗g3 ♕a7 27 ♖d2 ♘e6 28 ♖ad1 g5 29 fxg5 ♘xg5 30 ♕f1 ♗g6 *(315)*

315



31 e5 ♘g8 32 ♗c6 ♘e4 33 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 34 exf6+ ♘xf6 35 ♗h4 ♖f8 36 ♖f2 ♕e7 37 ♖e1 ♕e5 38 ♖f4 ♘h5 39 ♖g4+ ♗g6 40 ♘f5+ ♖xf5 41 ♕d3 ♘f4 42 ♖xe5 ♘xd3 43 ♖xf5 ♖f8 44 ♖xf8 ♔xf8 45 ♗d8 ♘b2 46 ♗xb6 ♘xa4 47 ♗xa5 ♔e7 48 h4 ♘b2 49 h5 ♗xh5 50 ♖g7+ ♗f7 51 ♗d8+ ♔e6 52 ♖xh7 ♘xc4 53 ♖h6+ ♔d7 54 ♗h4 ♘e3 55 ♗g3 ♘f5 56 ♖h3 ♔e6 57 ♗f4 ♘e7 58 ♔f2 ♘d5 59 ♗h2 ♗g6 60 ♔e2 c4 61 ♔d2 ♗e4 62 ♖h6+ ♔f5 63 ♖h5+ ♔g4 64 ♖h8 ♗xg2 65 ♖g8+ ♔f3 66 ♗xd6 ♗f1 67 ♖f8+ ♔g2 68 ♖f5 ♘b6 **1-0**

(818) Sunye-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 ♗g4 4 e3 g6 5 ♗e2 ♗g7 6 d4 0-0 7 0-0 c6 8 ♕c2 ♕c7 9 b3 ♖e8 10 h3 ♗c8 11 ♗a3 ♘bd7 12 ♖fd1 ♘f8 13 b4 h6 14 e4 a6 15 ♖ac1 ♗d7 16 c5 d5 17 exd5 ½-½

(819) Petrosian-Harandi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗f4 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 0-0 9 e3 ♘e4 10 ♕b3 c6 11 ♗d3 ♖e8 12 ♗xe4 dxe4 13 ♘e5 ♗xe5 14 dxe5 ♘d7 15 ♘xe4 ♘xe5 16 ♖d1 ♕c7 17 ♘d6 ♗a6 18 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 19 f3 ♕c8 20 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 21 ♔f2 h6 22 ♖d2 c5 23 ♖hd1 ♖e8 24 ♖d7 c4 25 ♕b4 **1-0**

(820) Balashov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 ♘e7 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 b6 7 ♕g4 ♘g6 8 h4 h5 9 ♕g3 ♗a6 10 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 11 ♕d3 ♘b8 12 ♘f3 ♘c6 ½-½

(821) Hébert-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘c3 c6 4 ♗c4 d6 5 ♘f3 e6 6 ♗b3 ♘e7 7 ♗f4 h6 8 h3 d5 9 ♕d2 ♘d7 10 0-0 ♘f6 11 ♖fe1 ♔f8 12 a4 a5 13 ♗e5 ♘e8 14 ♗xg7+ ♔xg7 15 e5 b6 16 ♘d1 ♗a6 17 ♘e3 c5 18 c3 ♖c8 19 ♗c2 ½-½

(822) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♘d5 12 ♕e4 ♘f6 13 ♕e2 ♘d5 14 ♗d3 ♘cb4 15 ♗b1 b6 16 ♕e4 g6 17 ♗h6 ♖e8 18 ♕e5 ♗f8 19 ♗xf8 ♖xf8 20 ♘e4 ♘c6 21 ♕g3 ♘ce7 22 ♘d6 ½-½

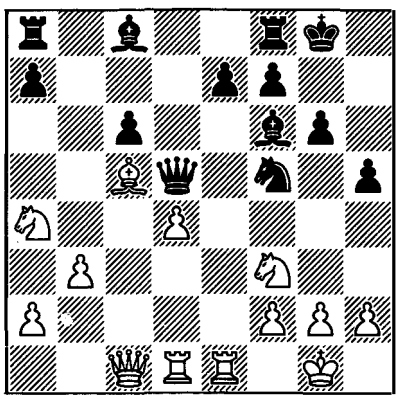
(823) Velimirović-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 ♗d7 13 ♘f1 ♘c4 14 b3 ♘b6 15 ♘e3 c4 16 bxc4 ♘xc4 17 ♘xc4 bxc4 18 a4 ♖fe8 19 ♕e2 a5 20 ♖b1 ♗c8 21 ♘h2 ♗a6 22 ♘f1 g6 23 ♕f3 ♖ab8 24 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 25 ♘e3 ♗b7 26 ♗a3 ♔g7 27 ♖b1 ♖e8 28 d5 ♗a6 29 ♘g4 ♘xg4 30 ♕xg4 ½-½

(824) Petrosian-L.Bronstein
Grünfeld Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 ♕b3 dxc4 6 ♕xc4 0-0 7 e4 c6 8 ♗e2 b5 9 ♕b3 ♕a5 10 ♗d2 b4 11 ♘a4 ♘xe4 12 ♗xb4 ♕c7 13 0-0 ♘a6 14 ♗xa6 ♗xa6 15 ♖fe1 ♘d6 16 ♖ac1 ♖ab8 17 ♕c3 ♘f5 18 ♘c5 ♗c8 19 b3 ♕d8 20 ♖cd1 ♕d5 21 ♘a4 ♗f6 22 ♗c5 ♖a8 23 ♕c1 h5 *(316)*

316

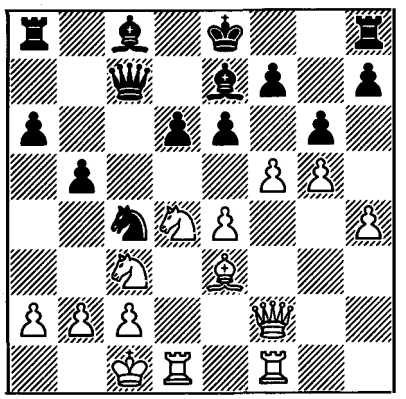


24 ♘e5 ♘h4 25 f3 ♘f5 26 ♘c3 ♕d8 27 ♘xc6 ♕c7 28 ♘xe7+ 1-0

ʃ (825) Kagan-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 g4 ♘c6 7 g5 ♘d7 8 ♗e3 a6 9 h4 ♗e7 10 ♖g1 ♘a5 11 ♕d2 ♕c7 12 0-0-0 g6 13 f4 b5 14 f5 ♘e5 15 ♕f2 ♘ac4 16 ♗xc4 ♘xc4 17 ♖gf1 *(317)*

317

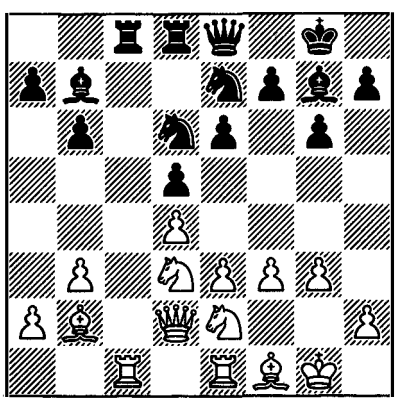


17... 0-0 18 f6 ♗d8 19 h5 b4 20 ♘ce2 e5 21 ♘b3 ♗g4 22 hxg6 fxg6 23 ♔b1 ♖c8 24 ♖c1 a5 25 c3 ♕b7 26 ♘g3 a4 27 ♘a1 ♗e6 28 cxb4 ♕xb4 29 b3 axb3 30 ♘xb3 ♖a8 0-1

(826) Petrosian-Shamkovich
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 c5 2 g3 ♘c6 3 ♗g2 g6 4 c3 ♗g7 5 d4 cxd4 6 cxd4 ♕b6 7 e3 ♘f6 8 0-0 d5 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 ♘e5 e6 11 ♘d3 ♕d8 12 b3 b6 13 ♖e1 ♗a6 14 ♗b2 ♖c8 15 ♕d2 ♕e7 16 ♖ac1 ♖fd8 17 ♗f1 ♘e4 18 ♕d1 ♗b7 19 ♘e2 ♕e8 20 f3 ♘d6 21 ♕d2 ♘e7 *(318)*

318



22 g4 ♖xc1 23 ♖xc1 ♖c8 24 ♘e5 ♖xc1 25 ♕xc1 ♕c8 26 ♕xc8+ ♘exc8 27 ♘f4 ♗f6 28 ♗e2 ♗e7 29 ♔f1 f6 30 ♘ed3 ♔f7 31 ♔e1 g5 32 ♘h5 ♗c6 33 ♔d1 ♘b5 34 a4 ♘c7 35 ♗c3 a5 36 ♗e1 ♘d6 37 ♘g3 h6 38 ♗f1 ♗b7 39 ♗c3 ♔e8 40 ♘f2 ♘f7 41 ♗d3 ♔f8 ½-½

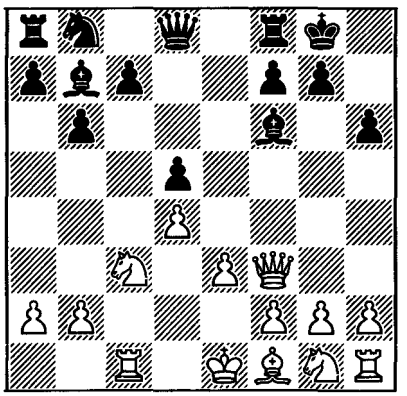
(827) Torre-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘a5 10 ♗c2 c5 11 d4 ♕c7 12 ♘bd2 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♘c6 14 a3 ♗d7 15 ♘b3 a5 16 ♗e3 a4 17 ♘bd2 ♖fc8 18 ♖c1 ½-½

(828) Petrosian-Hübner
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 0-0 6 ♖c1 h6 7 ♗h4 b6 8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♕f3 ♗b7 *(319)*

319

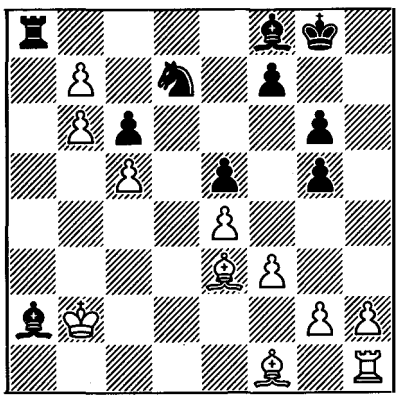


11 ♗c4 c6 12 ♗b3 ♘a6 13 ♘ge2 ♘c7 14 0-0 ♘e6 15 ♖fd1 ♖e8 16 ♘f4 ♘xf4 17 ♕xf4 ♖c8 18 ♖c2 ♗g5 19 ♕f3 ♖e7 20 h3 ♖d7 21 ♖cd2 g6 22 a3 ♔g7 23 ♗a4 a5 24 g3 h5 25 h4 ♗f6 ½-½

(829) Ivkov-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 c6 7 ♕d2 a6 8 a4 e5 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 ♕xd8 ♖xd8 11 a5 ♗e6 12 ♘a4 ♘bd7 13 b4 ♗f8 14 c5 ♘e8 15 ♘b6 ♘xb6 16 axb6 ♘f6 17 ♘h3 a5 18 ♖xa5 ♖xa5 19 bxa5 ♘d7 20 ♘g5 ♗b3 21 ♔d2 h6 22 ♔c3 ♗a2 23 ♔b2 ♖a8 24 a6 hxg5 25 axb7 *(320)*

320



25 ... ♖b8 26 ♔xa2 ♗xc5 27 ♗xc5 ♘xc5 28 ♗e2 ♖xb7 29 ♖c1 ♘d7 30 ♖xc6 ♘xb6 31 ♗a6 ♖b8 32 ♔b1 ♘d5+ 33 ♔c1 ♘f4 34 g3 ♘e6 35 ♗c4 ♘d4 36 ♖c7 ♖f8 37 f4 gxf4 38 gxf4 exf4 39 ♔d1 ♘f3 40 ♔e2 ♘e5 41 ♖c5 ♖e8 42 ♗b5 ♖e7 0-1

International Tournament
Buenos Aires
November-December 1979

1 Larsen 11; 2-5 Andersson, Miles, Najdorf, Spassky 8; 6-7 Gheorghiu, Ivkov 7½; 8 Quinteros 6½; 9-10 Panno, **Petrosian** (+2 -3 =8) 6; 11-12 Franco, Lombardy 5; 13 Tempone 3; 14 Rubinetti 1½.

(830) Petrosian-Miles
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 g3 ♘c6 3 ♗g2 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 d3 ♘f6 6 ♗g5 b6 7 e4 0-0 8 ♘ge2 ♗b7 9 ♕d2 a6 10 0-0 ♖b8 11 h3 ♘e8 12 ♘d5 ♗a8 13 f4 b5 14 cxb5 ♖xb5 15 ♘ec3 ♖b8 16 f5 ♘f6 17 ♖ae1 d6 18 b3 ♘e5 19 fxg6 fxg6 ½-½

(831) Andersson-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 d4 d5 3 c4 dxc4 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a3 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗d6 9 ♘f3 0-0 10 ♕e2 ♘c6 11 e4 ♕c7 12 h3 b5 13 ♗a2 ♘e5 14 ♘c3 ♗b7 15 ♗g5 ♘xf3+ 16 ♕xf3 ♗e5 17 ♖ac1 ♕e7 18 ♗b1 ♖fc8 19 ♗f4 ♗xf4 ½-½

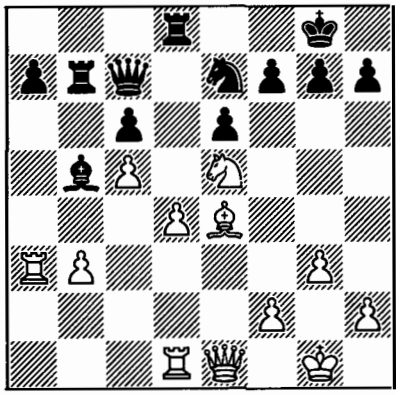
(832) Petrosian-Ivkov
English Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 ♘f3 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 e6 5 e3 ♘c6 6 ♗e2 ♗b4+ 7 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 8 ♕xd2 ♘e4 9 ♕c2 ♕a5+ 10 ♘d2 ♘xd2 11 ♕xd2 ♕xd2+ 12 ♔xd2 ♔e7 13 ♖hd1 ♖d8 14 ♔c3 ♘xd4 15 ♖xd4 b6 16 ♗f3 ♖b8 17 b3 ♗b7 18 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 19 ♖ad1 ♖c8 20 ♔b4 ♖c5 21 ♖1d2 ♖bc7 22 h4 h5 ½-½

(833) Quinteros-Petrosian
Catalan Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 c6 7 ♕c2 b6 8 b3 ♗a6 9 ♗b2 ♘bd7 10 ♘bd2 ♖c8 11 e4 ♘xe4 12 ♘xe4 dxe4 13 ♕xe4 b5 14 c5 b4 15 ♖fd1 ♗b5 16 ♕e1 ♖b8 17 a3 bxa3 18 ♖xa3 ♖b7 19 ♗c1 ♘f6 20 ♗g5 ♘d5 21 ♗xe7 ♘xe7 22 ♘e5 ♕c7 23 ♗e4 ♖d8 *(321)*

321

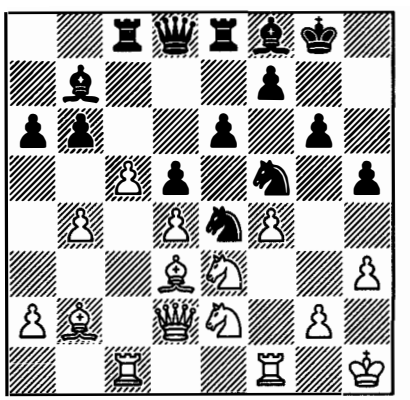


24 ♗xh7+ ♔xh7 25 ♘xf7 ♖d5 26 ♕xe6 ♕d7 27 ♕e4+ ♕f5 28 f3 ♘c8 29 g4 ♕xe4 30 fxe4 ♖dd7 31 ♘e5 ♖d8 32 b4 ♔g8 33 ♖h3 ♖e7 34 ♘g6 ♖ee8 35 ♖d2 ♔f7 36 ♘e5+ ♖xe5 37 ♖f2+ ♔e6 38 dxe5 ♘e7 39 ♖h7 ♖g8 40 ♖d2 a6 41 ♔f2 ♔xe5 42 ♔e3 ♔f6 43 ♖d6+ ♔f7 44 ♖h3 ♖b8 45 g5 ♗c4 46 g6+ ♔e8 47 ♖f3 ♗b3 48 h4 ♗d1 49 ♖xd1 1-0

(834) Petrosian-Rubinetti
English Opening

1 c4 c5 2 b3 b6 3 ♗b2 ♗b7 4 ♘f3 e6 5 ♘c3 ♘f6 6 e3 ♗e7 7 d4 cxd4 8 exd4 d6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♘g5 ♖e8 12 f4 h6 13 ♘ge4 d5 14 ♘g3 g6 15 ♔h1 ♗f8 16 h3 ♖c8 17 ♖c1 a6 18 ♕d2 h5 19 ♘ge2 ♘b8 20 ♘d1 ♘c6 21 ♘e3 ♘e7 22 c5 ♘f5 23 b4 ♘e4 *(322)*

322



24 ♗xe4 dxe4 25 ♘xf5 exf5 26 d5 bxc5 27 bxc5 f6 28 d6 e3 29 ♕d4 ♖e4 30 ♕xf6 ♕xf6 31 ♗xf6 ♔f7 32 d7 ♔xf6 33 dxc8 = ♕ ♗xc8 34 ♖fd1 ♖e8 35 ♖d3 a5 36 ♖b3 ♔f7 37 ♖b6 ♖d8 38 ♖b8 ♗g7 39 c6 ♖e8 40 c7 ♔e7 41 ♖d1 1-0

(835) Larsen-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 b3 ♗g4 5 ♗g2 e6 6 0-0 ♘bd7 7 ♗b2 ♗e7 8 d3 0-0 9 ♘bd2 ♖e8 10 a3 a5 11 ♖e1 ♗f8 12 ♘e5 ♘xe5 13 ♗xe5 ♗d6 14 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 15 d4 ♖ed8 16 c5 ♕c7 17 b4 e5 18 ♘b3 axb4 19 axb4 e4 20 ♕d2 h6 21 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 22 ♖a1 ♖xa1+ 23 ♘xa1 g5 24 ♘c2 ♔g7 25 ♘e3 ♗e6 26 f3 ♕b8 27 ♕b2 ♔g8 28 ♕a1 ♕d8 29 ♕a5 ♕xa5 30 bxa5 ♔f8 31 ♔f2 ♔e7 32 fxe4 dxe4 33 h3 ♔d8 34 ♘f1 ♔c7 35 e3 ♔b8 36 ♘d2 ♔a7 37 ♗f1 ♗d5 38 ♗e2 ♗e6 39 g4 ♗d5 40 ♘f1 ♗e6 41 ♘g3 ♗d7 42 ♗c4 ♗e6 43 ♗f1 ♗d7 44 ♔e1 ♗e6 45 ♔f2 ♔b8 46 ♗g2 ♗d5 47 ♘f5 ♘g8 48 ♘d6 ♘f6 49 ♔g3 ♔a7 50 ♗f1 ♗e6 51 ♔f2 ♗d5 52 ♗e2 ♗e6 53 ♔e1 ♘d5 54 ♔d2 ♘f6 55 ♗c4 ♔b8 56 ♗xe6 fxe6 57 ♘f7 ♘g8 58 ♘d8 ♔a7 59 ♘xe6 ♔a6 60 ♘d8 ♘f6 61 ♘f7 ♘g8 62 ♔c3 ♔xa5 63 ♘d6 ♘f6 64 ♘xb7+ ♔a4 65 ♘d8 1-0

(836) Petrosian-Najdorf
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 a3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 c5 9 ♗b2 ♕c7 10 ♗d3 b6 11 ♕e2 ♘c6 12 e4 e5 13 d5 ♘a5 14 h3 c4 15 ♗c2 ♘d7 16 ♘f3 ♘c5 17 0-0 ♗a6 18 ♘e1 ♖ad8 ½-½

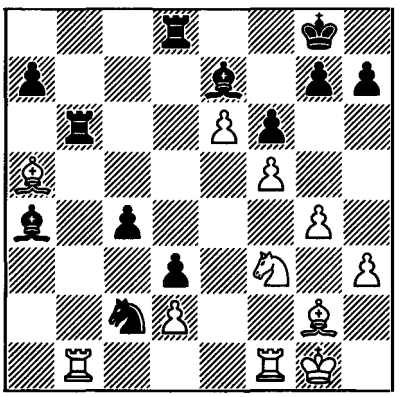
(837) Petrosian-Spassky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♗e7 4 ♗f4 ♘f6 5 e3 0-0 6 ♘f3 c5 7 dxc5 ♘c6 8 ♕c2 ♗xc5 9 ♖d1 ♕a5 10 a3 ♗e7 11 ♘d2 a6 12 ♗e2 ♗d7 13 0-0 ♖ac8 14 ♗g3 b5 15 cxb5 axb5 16 ♗xb5 ♘b4 17 ♕b3 ♗xb5 18 axb4 ♕b6 19 ♖fe1 ♗d3 ½-½

(838) Tempone-Petrosian
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 b3 c5 4 ♗b2 ♘c6 5 g3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗g2 d4 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♘a3 0-0 10 e3 ♗g4 11 h3 ♗h5 12 ♘c2 d3 13 ♘ce1 ♘e8 14 g4 ♗g6 15 ♘e5 ♘xe5 16 ♗xe5 ♕d7 17 f4 f6 18 ♗b2 ♖d8 19 ♕f3 b5 20 ♕c6 ♘c7 21 ♕b7 ♘d5 22 ♕xd7 ♖xd7 23 f5 ♗f7 24 e4 ♘b4 25 ♘f3 ♘c2 26 ♖ac1 ♖d6 27 e5 ♖a6 28 e6 ♗e8 29 a4 bxa4 30 bxa4 ♗xa4 31 ♗c3 ♖d8 32 ♖b1 ♖b6 33 ♗a5 c4 *(323)*

323



34 ♗xb6 axb6 35 ♘e1 ♘a3 36 ♖c1 ♗b4 37 ♘f3 ♔f8 38 ♖fe1 ♔e7 39 ♖e4 ♗b5 40 h4 ♗c5+ 41 ♔h2 h6 42 ♔h3 ♗a6 43 g5 h5 44 ♖f1 ♗b7 45 ♖ee1 ♗d5 46 ♘e5 ♗xg2+ 47 ♔xg2 fxe5 48 ♖xe5 ♖f8 49 ♖d5 ♗d6 50 ♖a1 b5 51 ♔f3 ♖b8 52 ♔e4 b4 53 ♖a5 b3 54 ♖a7+ ♔f8 55 f6 g6 56 ♔d5 ♘b5

57 ♖h7 ♔g8 58 ♖g7+ ♔h8 59 ♖e1 ♗f8 60 ♖d7 c3 61 e7 cxd2 62 exf8=♕+ ♖xf8 63 ♖ee7 1-0

(839) Petrosian-Lombardy
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘f3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 d6 8 e4 e5 9 d5 ♘e7 10 ♘d2 ♕a5 11 ♕c2 ♗d7 12 ♘f1 h6 13 ♘e3 ♘g4 14 ♘f1 ♘f6 15 h3 ♗a4 16 ♕d2 ♖b8 17 ♘e3 ♘h5 18 g3 ♗d7 19 a4 ♘f6 20 ♖a3 ♘g6 21 ♔f1 h5 22 ♔g2 ♔f8 23 ♘f5 ♗xf5 24 exf5 ♘e7 25 ♕c2 ♕c7 26 ♗g5 ♘d7 27 a5 f6 28 ♗e3 ♔f7 29 h4 b6 30 axb6 ♘xb6 31 ♕e2 a5 32 ♕f3 a4 33 ♕e4 ♖a8 34 ♖ha1 ♖a6 35 ♖3a2 ♕a7 36 ♗c1 ♕c7 37 ♗c2 ♕d7 38 ♗d2 ♔f8 39 ♗e1 g6 40 fxg6 ♔g7 41 f3 f5 42 ♕e2 ♘xg6 43 ♗d2 ½-½

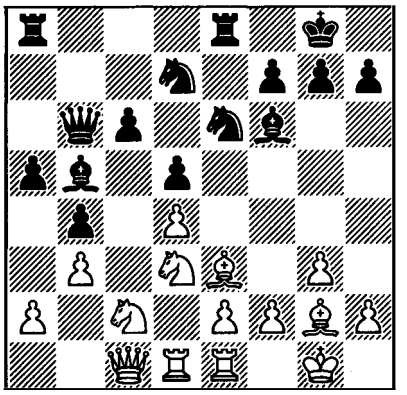
(840) Panno-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♖e1 d5 8 cxd5 exd5 9 d4 ♘a6 10 ♗e3 c6 11 ♘e5 ♘d7 12 ♘d3 ♖e8 13 ♕a4 ♗f6 14 ♖ad1 ♘c7 15 ♘b4 b5 16 ♕c2 ♘e6 17 ♕c1 a5 18 ♘c2 b4 19 ♘a4 ♗a6 20 b3 ♗b5 21 ♘b2 ♕b6 22 ♘d3

(diagram 324)

22 ... ♘xd4 23 ♘f4 ♖xe3 24 ♘xe3 ♘e6 25 ♖xd5 cxd5 26 ♘exd5 ♕a7 27 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 28 ♘xe6 fxe6 29 ♗xa8 ♕xa8 30 ♕c5 ♕d5 31 ♕c8+ ♔f7 32 ♕c7+ ♔g6 33 ♕xa5 ♕d2 34 ♔f1 ♗c6 35 f3 ♘d5 36 ♕c5 ♘e3+ 37 ♔f2 ♘c2 38 ♖b1 ♘d4 39 ♕e5 ♗xf3 40 ♕e3 ♕xe2+ 41 ♕xe2 ♗xe2 42 ♔e3 e5 43 ♖b2 ♔f5 0-1

324



(841) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
Benoni Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 3 d5 g6 4 d6 ♘e4 5 dxe7 ♕xe7 6 ♘fd2 ♘f6 7 ♘b3 b6 8 ♘c3 ♗b7 9 ♗f4 a6 10 e3 ♕e6 11 ♕d2 d5 12 0-0-0 ♘bd7 13 ♗e2 ♖d8 ½-½

(842) Franco-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 a3 ♗xc3+ 5 bxc3 c5 6 exd5 exd5 7 ♘f3 c4 8 g3 ♘e7 9 ♗g2 0-0 10 0-0 f6 11 ♖e1 ♘bc6 12 a4 ♗g4 13 h3 ♗h5 14 ♗a3 ♖e8 15 ♕b1 ♖b8 16 ♕b5 ½-½

1980

7th European Team Championship
Skara, January 1980

Board 3, +0 –0 =4.

(843) Stean-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♗e2 0-0 6 0-0 c6 7 a4 a5 8 ♗e3 ♘a6 9 ♘d2 d5 10 e5 ♘e8 11 f4 b6 12 ♘f3 f6 13 ♕d2 ♘ec7 14 ♘d1 ♗f5 15 ♘f2 ♕d7 16 c3 c5 17 ♘h4 fxe5 18 fxe5 cxd4 19 cxd4 ♗e6 20 h3 ♘b4 21 ♖fc1 ♘ca6 22 ♖c3 ♕e8 23 ♘f3 ♗d7 24 b3 ♖c8 25 ♖ac1 ♖xc3 26 ♖xc3 ♕b8 27 ♗g5 ♖e8 28 ♘h2 ♘c7 29 ♘fg4 ♘e6 30 ♘h6+ ♗xh6 31 ♗xh6 ♖c8 32 ♗g4 ♖xc3 33 ♕xc3 ♕c8 34 ♕xc8+ ♗xc8 35 ♘f3 ♘c2 36 ♔f2 ♗d7 37 ♗d2 ½-½

(844) Petrosian-Schneider
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 b6 5 ♘e2 ♗a6 6 ♘g3 0-0 7 e4 ♘c6 8 ♗d3 e5 9 d5 ♗xc3+ 10 bxc3 ♘e7 11 0-0 d6 12 ♗g5 ♘d7 13 ♕g4 f6 14 ♗e3 ♘c5 15 ♗xc5 bxc5 16 ♖fb1 ♕c8 17 ♕d1 ♕d7 18 ♕b3 ♘g6 19 ♘f5 ♘f4 20 ♗f1 g6 21 ♘e3 f5 22 ♕c2 ♘h5 23 exf5 gxf5 24 ♗e2 ♘f4 25 ♗f1 ♘h5 26 ♗e2 ♘f4 ½-½

(845) Tringov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘fd7 5 f4 c5 6 c3 ♘c6 7 ♘df3 ♕b6 8 ♘e2 ♗e7 9 dxc5 ♘xc5 10 ♘ed4 ♗d7 11 ♗e2 ♘e4 12 0-0 0-0 13 ♕b3 ♗c5 14 ♗e3 f6 15 exf6 ♘xf6 16 ♕xb6 ♗xb6 17 ♘e5 ♘xe5 18 fxe5 ♘e4 19 ♘c2 ♖xf1+ 20 ♖xf1 ♗c7 21 ♗d4 ♘g5 22 ♗d3 g6 23 ♖e1 ½-½

(846) Smejkal-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘c3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 ♘c6 5 d3 ♘f6 6 ♗g5 h6 7 ♗d2 a6 8 ♕c1 ♖b8 9 b3 d6 10 ♖b1 ♗d7 11 ♘f3 b5 12 0-0 b4 13 ♘d1 h5 14 ♖e1 0-0 15 a4 ♕c7 16 ♘e3 e6 17 ♘f1 ♖fe8 18 ♗g5 ♘h7 19 ♗h6 ♗c3 20 ♖d1 ♘e5 21 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 22 ♘d2 ♗h8 23 ♘f3 ♗c6 24 ♖e1 ♘f6 25 ♗f4 ♗b7 26 ♖b2 ♘d7 27 ♖a2 e5 28 ♗e3 ♘f8 29 ♖f1 ♗c8 30 ♘g5 f6 31 ♘h3 g5 32 f3 ♕h7 33 ♘f2 h4 ½-½

Candidates Quarter-Final Match
Velden, March 1980

Korchnoi	½	½	½	½	1	½	½	½	1	5½
Petrosian	½	½	½	½	0	½	½	½	0	3½

Each new Candidates series is widely covered in the chess press: there are forecasts, interviews, and pen-portraits of the leading grandmasters. This is what Mark Taimanov wrote in a review article before the 1980 Candidates Quarter-Final matches:

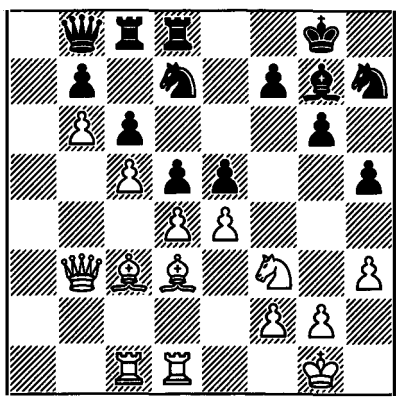
"Petrosian's creative longevity provokes

admiration and a feeling of good-natured envy. Through his biography one can trace virtually the entire post-war history of the battle for the World Championship. Out of the ten series held under the FIDE system, Petrosian has participated in seven, missing two for the good reason that for six years he was World Champion. After losing this title, he has not lost faith in his powers, and has firmly retained his position among the Candidates. One may be surprised by the lack of followers of Petrosian, as other World Champions have had. But the originality of his chess talent is such that simply no one has succeeded in imitating Petrosian's style. Such a positional intuition and such a sense of danger are attributes with which one has to be born!"

Game 1
(847) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 c6 3 e3 d5 4 ♗d3 g6 5 ♘f3 ♗g7 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 h3 ♗xf3 9 ♕xf3 e6 10 ♖d1 ♘bd7 11 ♗f1 ♖e8 12 b3 a6 13 ♗b2 ♕e7 14 ♖ac1 ♖ad8 15 ♕e2 h5 16 ♕c2 ♘b6 17 ♗d3 ♘c8 18 ♘b1 ♘h7 19 ♗a3 ♕c7 20 ♘d2 ♘b6 21 ♘f3 ♘d7 22 ♗b4 ♘hf6 23 ♗c3 ♘h7 24 ♗e1 ♖c8 25 b4 ♘hf6 26 ♕b3 ♕b8 27 a4 ♖ed8 28 ♗c3 ♕c7 29 c5 ♘h7 30 b5 axb5 31 axb5 e5 32 b6 ♕b8 33 e4 *(325)*

325



33 ... exd4 34 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 35 ♘xd4 ♕f4 36 ♘e2 ♕f6 37 exd5 cxd5 38 ♕b4 ♕e7 39 ♘d4 ♘hf6 40 ♖e1 ♕f8 41 ♗xg6 fxg6 42 ♘e6 ♕e7 43 ♕b1 ♖e8 44 ♘c7 ♕f7 45 ♘xe8 ♘xe8 46 c6 bxc6 47 b7 ♖b8 48 ♖xc6 ♘df6 49 ♖b6 ♘e4 50 ♖xe4 dxe4 51 ♕xe4 ♔h7 52 ♕c6 ♕f6 53 ♕d7+ ♕g7 54 ♕e6 ♕f6 55 ♕e3 ♘d6 56 ♕g3 h4 57 ♕xd6 ♕xd6 58 ♖xd6 ♖xb7 59 ♔f1 ♔h6 60 ♖d4 g5 61 ♔e2 ♔g6 62 ♔f3 ♖f7+ 63 ♔e3 ♖e7+ 64 ♖e4 ♖a7 65 ♖e6+ ♔f5 66 ♖d6 ♖a3+ 67 ♖d3 ♖a5 68 ♔d4 ♖a2 69 ♖f3+ ♔g6 70 ♖f8 ♔g7 ½-½

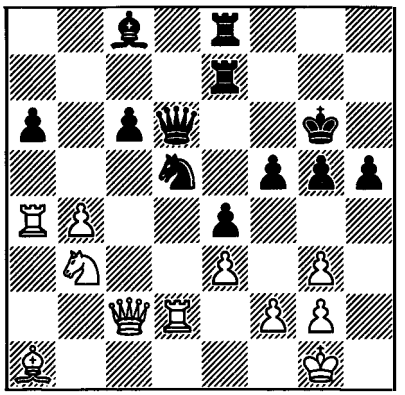
Game 2
(848) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♘e2 d5 6 a3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♕c2 ♘d7 9 ♗d2 c5 10 ♘xd5 exd5 11 ♘f4 cxd4 12 ♘xd5 dxe3 13 ♘xe3 ♘f6 14 ♗d3 ♗e6 15 0-0 ♗d6 16 ♗c3 ♕c7 ½-½

Game 3
(849) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 b3 ♘bd7 6 ♗b2 ♗e7 7 d4 0-0 8 ♗d3 b6 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♕e2 ♕c7 11 ♖ac1 ♖ad8 12 cxd5 exd5 13 a3 ♕b8 14 ♖fd1 ♗d6 15 b4 ♖fe8 16 ♕c2 ♖e7 17 ♘e2 a6 18 ♘g3 g6 19 ♖e1 ♖de8 20 ♖e2 ♘e4 21 ♗xe4 dxe4 22 ♘d2 ♗xg3 23 hxg3 ♘f6 24 d5 ♘xd5 25 ♘c4 ♖e6 26 ♖d2 f6 27 ♖cd1 ♔g7 28 ♗d4 ♗c8 29 ♕b2 h5 30 a4 b5 31 ♘a5 bxa4 32 ♗c5 ♗d7 33 ♘c4 ♔h6 34 ♖a1 g5 35 ♖xa4 ♔g6 36 ♕c2 ♗c8 37 ♘a5 ♕c7 38 ♘b3 f5 39 ♗d4 ♖6e7 40 ♗a1 ♕d6 *(326)*

326

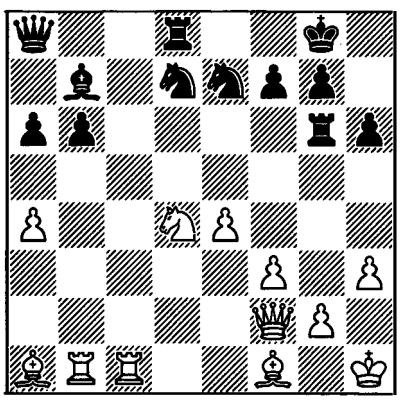


41 ♘a5 ♖e6 42 ♕b2 ♕f8 43 ♘xc6 ♘b6 44 ♘d8 ♘xa4 45 ♘xe6 ♖xe6 46 ♖d8 ♘xb2 47 ♖xf8 ♘d3 48 ♖xc8 ♖b6 49 ♗c3 a5 50 ♖g8+ ♔h6 51 ♖h8+ ½-½

Game 4
(850) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 ♘e2 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♘c6 9 a3 ♗xc3 10 bxc3 ♕c7 11 ♗b2 ♖d8 12 ♗a2 b6 13 ♖e1 ♗b7 14 ♘g3 ♖d7 15 ♕e2 ♖ad8 16 ♖ad1 h6 17 h3 ♕c8 18 ♗c4 ♘a5 19 ♗d3 ♘c6 20 f3 ♕b8 21 ♕f2 e5 22 ♘f5 exd4 23 cxd4 cxd4 24 ♘xd4 ♘e5 25 ♗f5 ♖d6 26 a4 ♘c4 27 ♗a1 a6 28 ♖b1 ♘d5 29 ♗d3 ♘e5 30 ♗f1 ♘e7 31 ♖ec1 ♖g6 32 ♔h1 ♕a8 33 e4 ♘d7 *(327)*

327

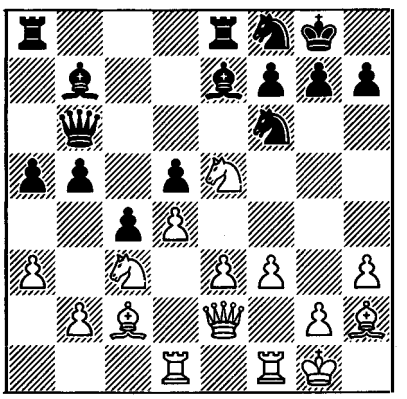


34 ♖c2 a5 35 ♖c7 ♕b8 36 ♖bc1 ♖c8 37 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 38 ♕h4 ♖g5 39 ♖d1 ♘c5 40 ♗b5 ♘g6 41 ♕f2 ♘f4 42 ♘c6 ♕c7 43 ♕d2 ♔h7 44 ♗e5 ♖xe5 45 ♕xf4 ♖e7 ½-½

Game 5
(851) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 cxd5 exd5 8 ♗d3 ♗b7 9 h3 c5 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♕e2 c4 12 ♗c2 a6 13 ♖ad1 b5 14 a3 ♖e8 15 ♘e5 ♘f8 16 ♗h2 ♕b6 17 f3 a5 *(328)*

328

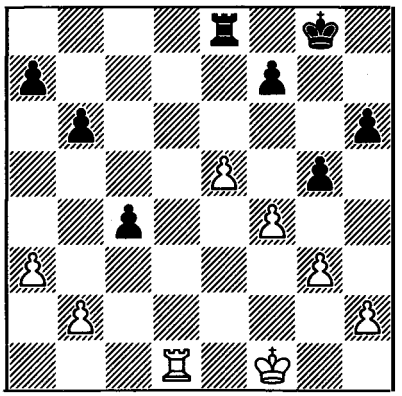


18 ♔h1 b4 19 ♘a4 ♕b5 20 ♖a1 ♘6d7 21 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 22 e4 ♘f8 23 ♗g1 ♗c6 24 ♖fe1 ♖ab8 25 axb4 axb4 26 b3 c3 27 ♗d3 ♕b7 28 ♗a6 ♕d7 29 ♗h2 dxe4 30 fxe4 ♕xd4 31 ♖ad1 ♕a7 32 ♗xb8 ♖xb8 33 ♗c4 ♗e8 34 ♖f1 ♗g5 35 ♖d5 ♕e7 36 ♘c5 g6 37 ♕f2 ♗h6 38 e5 ♗g7 39 ♘e4 ♗xe5 40 ♖e1 ♔g7 41 ♘d6 ♗xd6 42 ♖xe7 ♗xe7 43 ♖d1 ♗f6 44 ♖f1 ♘d7 45 g4 ♖c8 46 ♗b5 1-0

Game 6
(852) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 a3 ♗a6 5 ♕c2 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♘c3 c6 8 g3 ♗d6 9 ♗g2 0-0 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♖e1 ♖e8 12 ♗g5 h6 13 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 14 e4 dxe4 15 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 16 ♖xe4 ♖xe4 17 ♕xe4 ♖c8 18 ♘e5 ♗xe5 19 dxe5 ♕d3 20 ♕xd3 ♗xd3 21 ♗h3 ♖e8 22 f4 c5 23 ♖d1 c4 24 ♗f1 ♗xf1 25 ♔xf1 g5 *(329)*

329



26 ♔f2 gxf4 27 gxf4 f6 28 ♖d5 fxe5 29 fxe5 ♖c8 30 ♔e3 c3 31 bxc3 ♖xc3+ 32 ♔d4 ♖xa3 33 ♖d7 a5 34 ♖b7 a4 35 ♖xb6 ♖h3 36 ♖a6 ♔f7 37 ♔d5 ♖d3+ 38 ♔e4 ♖h3 ½-½

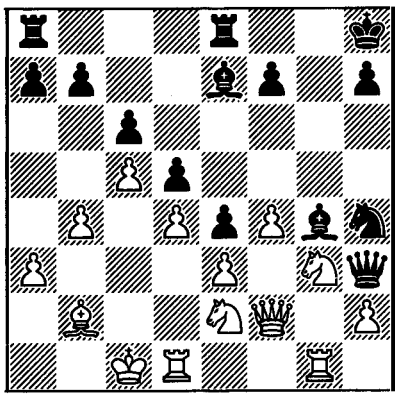
Game 7
(853) Korchnoi-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 c6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 b3 ♘bd7 6 ♗b2 e5 7 d4 e4 8 ♘d2 ♗e7 9 a3 0-0 10 b4 ♖e8 11 c5 ♘f8 12 ♗e2 ♕d7 13 ♕c2 ♕f5 14 f4 g5 15 g3 gxf4 16 gxf4 ♕h3 17 ♖g1+ ♘g6 18 ♘f1 ♕h4+ 19 ♘g3 ♘g4 20 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 21 ♕f2 ♕h3 22 ♘ce2 ♘h4 23 0-0-0 ♔h8

(diagram 330)

24 ♘xe4 ♕f3 25 ♕xf3 ♗xf3 26 ♘4g3 ♗f6 27 ♖d3 ♖e7 28 ♗c3 ♖ae8 29 ♗d2 h6 30 ♖f1 ♔h7 31 ♖b3 ♗g4 32 ♖f2 ♘f3 33 h3 ♘xd2 34 ♔xd2 ♗xh3 35 ♘h5 ♗h8 36 f5 ♖g8 37 ♘eg3 ♗g4 38 ♖b1 ½-½

330



Game 8
(854) Petrosian-Korchnoi
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 g3 ♗d6 8 ♗g2 0-0 9 0-0 ♖e8 10 ♗g5 ♘bd7 11 ♘b5 ♗a6 12 ♘xd6 cxd6 13 ♖e1 h6 14 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 15 ♘d2 ♕d7 16 e3 ♖ac8 17 ♘b1 ♕f5 18 ♘c3 ♘e4 19 ♘xe4 dxe4 20 ♕d2 ½-½

Game 9
(855) Korchnoi-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 d4 ♘f6 4 ♘f3 ♘bd7 5 cxd5 exd5 6 ♗f4 c6 7 e3 ♗e7 8 h3 0-0 9 ♗d3 ♖e8 10 ♕c2 ♘f8 11 0-0-0 ♗b4 12 ♔b1 ♕e7 13 ♗g5 ♕e6 14 ♗f4 ♕e7 15 ♘e5 ♘e4 16 ♘xe4 dxe4 17 ♗c4 ♗e6 18 ♗xe6 ♘xe6 19 ♗h2 ♘f8 20 ♕b3 ♗a5 21 ♘c4 ♗b6 22 d5 cxd5 23 ♖xd5 ♗c5 24 ♗d6 ♗xd6 25 ♘xd6 ♖ed8 26 ♖hd1 ♕e6 27 ♘xb7 ♖db8 28 ♖b5 ♕f6 29 ♖d2 ♕g6 30 g3 h6 31 ♘d6 ♖d8 32 ♖bd5 ♖ab8 33 ♕c3 ♔h7 34 ♕e5 ♖d7 35 ♘f5 ♖db7 36 h4 ♘e6 37 ♘d6 ♖b4 38 h5 ♕g4 39 a3 ♖a4 40 ♔a2 ♘c7 41 ♕f5+ ♕xf5 42 ♖xf5 f6 43 b3 ♖a6 44 ♘xe4 1-0

USSR Cup (Premier League)
Rostov-on-Don, May-June 1980

+0 –0 =7.

(856) Kholmov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘e7 4 ♘gf3 ♘d7 5 ♗d3 c5 6 0-0 cxd4 7 ♘xd4 ♘c5 8 ♗b5+ ♗d7 9 ♕e2 ♘c6 10 ♗xc6 bxc6 11 c4 ♗e7 12 cxd5 cxd5 13 exd5 exd5 14 ♖e1 ♘e6 15 ♘xe6 ♗xe6 16 ♘f3 ♗f6 17 ♗e3 0-0 18 ♗d4 ♗g4 19 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 20 ♕e5 ♗xf3 21 ♕xf6 gxf6 22 gxf3 ♖fb8 23 ♖e2 ♖b5 24 ♖d1 a5 25 ♖d4 a4 26 ♖ed2 ♖ab8 27 ♖xa4 ♖xb2 28 ♖xd5 ♖c2 29 ♔g2 ♖bb2 30 ♔g3 ♖xf2 31 ♖d8+ ♔g7 32 ♖g4+ ♔h6 33 ♖h4+ ♔g7 34 ♖g4+ ½-½

(857) Petrosian-Bronstein
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 ♗g4 5 ♗xc4 e6 6 h3 ♗h5 7 ♘c3 a6 8 0-0 c5 9 dxc5 ♕xd1 10 ♖xd1 ♗xc5 11 g4 ♗g6 12 ♘e5 ♘bd7 13 ♘xg6 hxg6 14 g5 ♖h4 15 gxf6 ♖xc4 16 fxg7 ♔e7 17 e4 f6 18 ♔g2 ♖g8 19 ♗h6 ♘e5 20 ♗d2 ♗a7 21 b3 ♖c6 22 ♘e2 ♖xg7 23 ♖ac1 ♖xc1 24 ♖xc1 ♘c6 25 ♗c3 g5 26 ♖d1 ♗c5 27 ♖d2 ♖h7 28 ♖d1 ♖g7 29 ♖d2 ♖h7 30 ♖d1 ♖g7 ½-½

(858) Romanishin-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 b5 3 ♗g2 ♗b7 4 0-0 e6 5 d3 ♗e7 6 e4 d6 7 ♘a3 a6 8 c4 c6 9 e5 dxe5 10 ♘xe5 ♕c8 11 d4 0-0 12 ♗e3 ♘bd7 13 ♖c1 c5 14 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 15 cxb5 ♗xg2 16 ♔xg2 ♕b7+ 17 ♕f3 ♕xf3+ 18 ♔xf3 cxd4 19 ♗xd4 ♗xa3 20 bxa3 axb5 21 ♖c3 ♖a4 22 ♖d1 ½-½

(859) Petrosian-Tseshkovsky
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 c4 d6 6 ♘c3 ♘c6 7 d3 e5 8 ♖b1 a5 9 a3 ♘d4 10 b4 axb4 11 axb4 ♘e6 12 ♗b2 ♖e8 13 ♖a1 ♖b8 14 ♖e1 ♗d7 15 b5 c6 16 ♗a3 ♗f8 17 ♘d2 d5 18 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 19 bxc6 ♗xc6 20 ♖b1 ♔g7 21 cxd5 ♘xd5 22 ♕c1 ♘xc3 23 ♕xc3 ♗xg2 24 ♔xg2 ♕d5+ 25 ♘f3 ♘d4 26 e4 ♕c6 27 ♕xc6 ♘xc6 28 ♖b6 ♖e7 29 ♖eb1 ♖d8 30 ♖xb7 ♖xb7 ½-½

(860) Balashov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 ♗d3 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♘bd7 6 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 7 ♘f3 c5 8 dxc5 ♗xc5 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♕e2 b6 11 ♗g5 ♗b7 12 ♖ad1 ♕c7 13 ♗xf6 gxf6 14 ♗e4 ♖fd8 15 g3 ♖ac8 16 c3 ♔g7 17 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 18 ♘d4 ♕d5 19 ♘b3 ♕e5 20 ♕g4+ ♕g5 21 ♕f3 ♕g6 22 ♕e2 ♗f8 23 ♖fe1 ♔g8 24 ♕f3 ♕c2 25 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 26 ♕xf6 ♖d1 27 ♖xd1 ♕xd1+ 28 ♔g2 ♕b1 29 ♘d2 ♕xb2 30 ♕g5+ ♗g7 31 ♕d8+ ♗f8 32 ♕g5+ ♗g7 33 ♕d8+ ♗f8 34 ♘e4 h6 35 ♘f6+ ♔g7 36 ♘h5+ ♔g8 37 ♘f6+ ♔g7 38 ♘d7 ♕a3 ½-½

(861) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 dxc5 ♕xd1+ 7 ♔xd1 ♗xc5 8 a3 b6 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 ♔e2 ♗b7 11 ♖d1 ♘c6 12 b4 ♗e7 13 ♗b2 ♖fd8 14 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 15 ♖c1 ♔f8 ½-½

(862) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 b6 3 ♗g2 ♗b7 4 0-0 e6 5 c4 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕e7 13 ♕c2 ♘c6 14 e4 g6 15 e5 dxe5 16 dxe5 ♗g7 17 ♕e2 ♖ad8 18 h4 ♖xd1+ 19 ♖xd1 ♖d8 ½-½

International Tournament
Las Palmas, June 1980

1-3 Geller, Miles, **Petrosian** (+6 –0 =5) 8½; 4-5 Andersson, Sosonko 7; 6 Bellon 6; 7 G.Garcia 5½; 8 Fernandez 4½; 9 Hernandez 4; 10 Gonzales Mestres 3; 11 Dominguez 2½; 12 Colon 1.

(863) Petrosian-G.Garcia
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♘f3 c5 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 7 ♖c1 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 a6 9 a3 ♗xc3+ 10 ♖xc3 ♘c6 11 e3 0-0 12 ♗e2 d5 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♖d3 ♘xd4 15 ♖xd4 ♗e6 16 0-0 ♖ac8 17 ♕b3 ♕e7 18 ♗f3 ♖c5 19 ♕d3 ♕f6 20 ♕b3 b5 21 ♗e2 ♖fc8 22 h3 ♕g6 23 ♗d3 ♗f5 24 ♗xf5 ♕xf5 25 ♕d1 ♕f6 26 b3 ♕c6 27 a4 bxa4 28 ♖xa4 ♕b5 29 ♖d4 ♖c3 30 b4 ♖3c4 31 ♖xd5 ♕xb4 32 ♖d8+ ♖xd8 33 ♕xd8+ ♕f8 ½-½

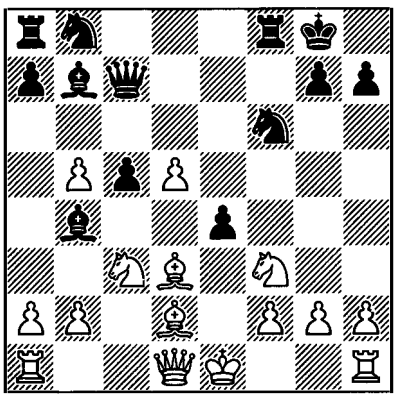
(864) Colon-Petrosian
English Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 ♘f3 e6 4 ♘c3 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 a6 6 ♘c2 ♕c7 7 e4 b6 8 ♗d3 ♗b7 9 ♕e2 d6 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♗f4 ♗e7 12 ♖ac1 0-0 13 ♖fd1 ♖ac8 14 ♘e3 ♘c5 15 ♘g4 ♘xd3 16 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 17 ♕xd3 ♕xc4 18 ♕xc4 ♖xc4 19 ♖xd6 b5 20 f3 h6 21 ♖d7 ♗c6 22 ♖dd1 ♖c8 23 e5 ♗e7 24 ♘e2 ♗d5 25 b3 ♖c2 26 ♖xc2 ♖xc2 27 ♖d2 ♖c8 28 ♘d4 ♖c1+ 29 ♔f2 ♖h1 30 ♖c2 ♗h4+ 31 ♔e2 ♖g1 32 ♔d3 ♔h7 33 ♗e3 ♖d1+ 34 ♖d2 ♖h1 35 ♗f4 ♗d8 36 ♔c2 g5 37 ♗g3 ♖g1 38 ♖e2 ♗b6 39 ♗f2 ♖xg2 0-1 (time)

(865) Petrosian-Hernandez
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 c5 6 d5 b5 7 dxe6 fxe6 8 cxb5 ♗b7 9 ♘f3 ♕c7 10 ♗d2 e5 11 e4 d5 12 exd5 e4 *(331)*

331



13 ♗c4 ♕d6 14 ♘g5 ♘bd7 15 0-0 ♘b6 16 ♗b3 ♕e5 17 ♘e6 c4 18 ♗c2 ♖f7 19 ♖e1 ♗xc3 20 ♗xc3 ♕xd5 21 ♕xd5 ♘bxd5 22 ♘g5 ♖e7 23 ♘xe4 ♘xe4 24 ♗xe4 ♖ae8 25 ♗xd5+ ♗xd5 26 ♖xe7 ♖xe7 27 f3 ♖b7 28 ♖d1 ♗e6 29 ♖d6 ♗f5 30 a4 ♖b6 31 ♖d4 ♗e6 32 ♖d8+ ♔f7 33 ♗d4 ♖b7 34 ♖a8 c3 35 bxc3 ♗b3 36 a5 1-0 (time)

(866) Andersson-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 ½-½

(867) Petrosian-Sosonko
Barcza Opening
(notes by Geller)

1 ♘f3 c5 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 ♘c6 4 d4

A Grünfeld Defence with colours reversed.

4 ... ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗g4 6 dxc5 e5 7 c4 ♗xc5 8 cxd5 ♕xd5 9 ♘c3 ♕xd1 10 ♖xd1

Sosonko has employed this variation several times, and has usually succeeded in equalizing.

10 ... h6 11 ♘a4 ♗e7 12 ♗e3 e4 13 ♘d4 ♘xd4 14 ♖xd4 ♗xe2 15 ♘c3 ♗f3 16 ♘xe4 ♗xg2 17 ♔xg2 0-0

The opening battle is over. White has retained an advantage: he has more pieces developed, and has the possibility of attacking the black pawns on the queenside.

18 ♖ad1

Perhaps an inaccuracy. In some cases the rook could also have gone to c1. 18 ♘d6 was possibly more promising, since after the exchange 18 ... ♗xd6 19 ♖xd6 White's bishop would have been stronger than the opponent's knight.

18 ... a6

18 ... ♖fc8 would have offered a more tenacious defence.

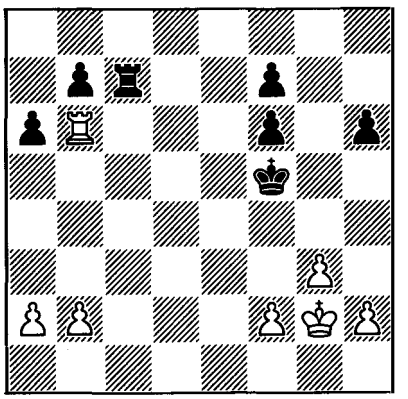
19 ♘d6 ♖fd8 20 ♘f5 ♔f8 21 ♘xe7 ♖xd4

White also has much the better chances after 21 ... ♔xe7 22 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 23 ♗c5+.

22 ♗xd4 ♔xe7 23 ♗c5+ ♔e6 24 ♖d6+ ♔f5 25 ♗d4 ♖c8 26 ♗xf6 gxf6 27 ♖b6 ♖c7 *(332)*

White has a great positional advantage, which he converts into a win in excellent style.

332



28 ♔h3! ♔g5 29 f4+ ♔f5 30 ♔h4 ♔g6 31 ♔g4 ♖d7 32 f5+ ♔g7 33 h4 ♖d4+ 34 ♔f3 ♖d3+ 35 ♔f4 ♖d4+ 36 ♔e3 ♖d5 37 ♔e4 ♖e5+ 38 ♔f4 ♖e7 39 h5! ♖c7 40 ♔e3 ♖c5 41 g4 ♖e5+ 42 ♔d4 ♖e2

By the gradual advance of his king (♔d5-d6) White would in any case have forced the black rook off the seventh rank. Therefore Black immediately tries to complicate matters.

43 ♖xb7 ♖g2 44 ♔c5 ♖xg4 45 b4 ♖g5 46 a4 ♖xf5+ 47 ♔b6 ♖e5 48 ♔xa6 f5 49 b5 f4 50 ♖c7 Black resigns

(868) Petrosian-Bellon
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 cxd5 cxd5 4 ♘c3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 ♘f6 6 ♗f4 ♗f5 7 e3 e6 8 ♗b5 ♘d7 9 ♕a4 ♕b6 10 ♘h4 ♗e4 11 0-0 ♗e7 12 f3 ♗g6 13 ♘xg6 hxg6 14 ♖f2 ♖c8 15 ♖d1 a6 16 ♗f1 0-0 17 a3 ♘f6 18 g4 ♖fd8 19 ♘a2 ♘e8 ½-½

(869) Dominguez-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 a3

♗f8 6 f4 h5 7 ♘f3 ♘h6 8 ♗e3 c5 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 11 ♘e2 ♗e7 12 c3 a5 13 h3 ♘f5 14 ♗f2 a4 15 g3 ♘c6 16 ♔f1 ♘a5 17 ♔g2 ♘c4 18 ♕c1 ♕b5 19 ♖e1 ♕xb2 20 ♕xb2 ♘xb2 21 g4 ♘h6 22 ♖h1 ♘c4 23 ♘g3 hxg4 24 hxg4 ♔d7 25 ♘h2 cxd4 26 ♗xd4 ♗xa3 27 g5 ♘g8 28 ♗xb6 ♘e7 29 ♗d4 ♗b2 30 ♖a2 a3 0-1

(870) Petrosian-Gonzales Mestres
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘e2 cxd4 7 exd4 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 0-0 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 a3 ♗e7 11 ♗a2 ♘b6 12 ♘f4 ♗d7 13 ♖e1 ♗d6 14 ♘d3 ♗c6 15 ♗g5 ♘bd5 16 ♘xd5 exd5 17 ♕f3 ♗e7 18 ♖e5 ♖e8 19 ♖ae1 ♕d7 20 h3 h6 21 ♗h4 ♖ad8 22 ♖f5 ♕c8 23 ♘e5 ♖d6 24 ♘xc6 bxc6 25 ♖fe5 ♖e6 26 ♖xe6 fxe6 27 ♗b1 c5 28 dxc5 ♕xc5 29 ♗g6 ♖b8 30 b4 ♕c6 31 ♕e3 ♖b6 32 ♖c1 ♕d7 33 ♕c3 ♗d8 34 ♕c8 ♖b7 35 ♗g3 ♔f8 36 ♕c5+ ♗e7 37 ♕c2 ♗d8 38 ♗e5 ♘e8 39 ♗xe8 ♔xe8 40 ♕h7 ♕f7 41 ♖c3 h5 1-0

(871) Geller-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 ♗e3 ♘d7 12 ♖ac1 ♕c7 ½-½

(872) Fernandez-Petrosian
Alekhine's Defence

1 e4 ♘f6 2 e5 ♘d5 3 d4 d6 4 ♘f3 ♗g4 5 ♗e2 e6 6 0-0 ♗e7 7 c4 ♘b6 8 h3 ♗h5 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 ♗e3 d5 11 cxd5 exd5 12 ♘e1 ♗xe2 13 ♕xe2 ♘c6 14 f4 f5 15 ♘d3 ♕d7 16 ♖ad1 ♘d8 17 ♔h2 c6 18 g4 ♘e6 19 ♕g2 g6 20 ♘e2 ♘g7 21 b3 ♖ad8 22 ♗d2 ♘a8 23 ♗b4 ♗xb4 24 ♘xb4 ♘c7 25 ♘d3 ♘ce6 26 g5 ♔f7 27 ♕f2 ♖h8 28 ♕h4 ♕e7 29 ♕h6 ♖dg8 30 ♘g1 ♔e8 31 ♘f3 ♘h5 32 ♘h4 ♖f8 33 b4 ♔d8 34 ♘g2 ♘xd4 35 ♘c5 ♘e6 36 ♘xe6+ ♕xe6 37 ♘e3 ♔c8 38 ♖d4 ♖d8 39 ♖c1 ♔b8 40 ♖cd1 ♖d7 41 ♘f1 b6 42 ♘g3 ♘xg3 43 ♔xg3 c5 44 bxc5 bxc5 45 ♖4d2 c4 0-1

(873) Petrosian-Miles
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 d4 ♗b4 5 ♗d2 ♗b7 6 e3 0-0 7 ♗e2 ♗xc3 8 ♗xc3 ♘e4 9 ♖c1 d6 10 0-0 ♘xc3 11 ♖xc3 ♘d7 12 ♘d2 c5 13 ♗f3 ♗xf3 14 ♕xf3 ♘f6 15 ♘e4 ♘xe4 16 ♕xe4 d5 17 ♕f4 cxd4 18 ♕xd4 dxc4 ½-½

International Tournament
Vrbas, October 1980

1 Miles 7; 2-4 Adorjan, **Petrosian** (+2 –0 =9), Yusupov 6½; 5-6 Ivanović, Sax 6; 7-8 Gligorić, Kurajica 5½; 9-11 Bukić, Ivkov, Velimirović 4½; 12 Popović 3.

(874) Miles-Petrosian
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 b3 c5 7 ♗b2 ♘c6 8 e3 b6 9 ♘c3 dxc4 10 bxc4 ♗b7 11 d3 ♕c7 12 ♕e2 a6 13 ♖ab1 ♖ab8 14 ♗a1 ♘a5 15 a4 ♖fe8 16 ♖fd1 ♗c6 17 ♘e1 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 ♘c6 19 f4 ♗d6 20 ♘f3 ♗f8 21 e4 ♘d7 22 e5 ♖b7 23 ♖e1 ♘a7 24 ♕e4 ♕c6 25 ♖e2 ♕xe4 ½-½

(875) Petrosian-Ivkov
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♕d2 b6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♖d1 ♗b7 11 g3 ♕e7 12 ♗g2 ♖d8 13 ♘g1 ♘a6 14 ♘ge2 c5 15 0-0 ♘c7 16 ♖fe1 c4 17 b3 b5 18 bxc4 bxc4 19 ♖b1 ♗c6 20 ♕b2 ♕f8 21 ♕c2 ♖ab8 22 h4 ♕d6 23 ♘f4 ♖b6 24 ♖xb6 axb6 25 a4 g5 26 hxg5 ♗xg5 27 ♘fe2 ♕g6 28 ♕b1 ♖b8 29 ♗f3 ♕xb1 30 ♖xb1 ♔f8 31 ♗g2 ♔e7 32 f4 ♗f6 33 ♔f2 ♔d6 34 ♗f3 ♗g7 35 g4 ♗f8 36 ♘g3 ♔e6 37 f5+ ♔d7 38 ♘ge2 ♔d6 39 ♘c1 ♗e7 40 ♘1a2 ♔d7 41 ♘b4 ♗xb4 42 ♖xb4 ♔d6 43 e4 dxe4 44 ♘xe4+ ♗xe4 45 ♗xe4 c3 46 ♔e3 b5 47 ♔d3 ♖c8 48 ♗b7 ½-½

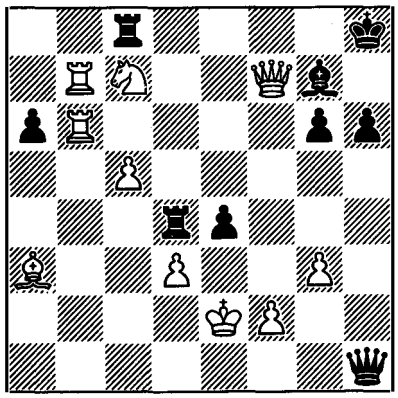
(876) Bukić-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗a6 5 b3 d5 6 ♗g2 ♗b4+ 7 ♗d2 ♗e7 8 ♘e5 c6 9 ♗c3 ♘fd7 10 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 11 ♘d2 f5 12 0-0 0-0 13 a4 ♖c8 14 ♖e1 ♘f6 15 a5 b5 16 c5 ♔h8 17 b4 ♕c7 18 ♖a3 ♖ce8 19 ♗b2 ♘d7 20 ♘f3 g5 21 ♘e5 ♗f6 22 ♕a1 ♗c8 23 f3 ♘xe5 ½-½

(877) Petrosian-Popović
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 d5 3 cxd5 ♘xd5 4 g3 g6 5 ♗g2 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ♗g7 7 ♗a3 ♘d7 8 ♘f3 ♘b6 9 0-0 0-0 10 ♕c2 ♖e8 11 d3 ♗d7 12 ♖ab1 ♗a4 13 ♕c1 ♗c6 14 c4 ♘d7 15 c5 ♘f8 16 ♖d1 e5 17 ♘d2 ♗xg2 18 ♔xg2 ♕d5+ 19 ♔g1 ♕xa2 20 ♖xb7 ♘e6 21 ♕b2 ♕d5 22 ♘e4 a6 23 ♖b1 ♕c6 24 ♕a2 h6 25 ♕c4 ♔h8 26 ♘c3 ♖ed8 27 ♕e4 ♕e8 28 ♘d5 ♖ac8 29 ♕c4 ♘d4 30 ♘xc7 ♕c6 31 ♖1b6 ♘xe2+ 32 ♔f1 ♘xg3+ 33 hxg3 ♕h1+ 34 ♔e2 ♖d4 35 ♕xf7 e4 *(333)*

333



36 ♕xg7+ ♔xg7 37 ♘e6++ ♔g8 38 ♘xd4 exd3+ 39 ♔xd3 ♖d8 40 ♗b2 ♕d1+ 41 ♔c4 ♕f1+ 42 ♔c3 ♕e1+ 43 ♔b3 ♕d1+ 44 ♘c2 ♔f8 45 ♗g7+ ♔g8 46 ♗f6 ♖d7 47 c6 1-0

(878) Gligorić-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♘d5 12 ♕e4 ♘f6 13 ♕e2 ♘d5 14 ♕e4 ♘f6 15 ♕e2 ½-½

(879) Kurajica-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 ♗b5+ ♗d7 4 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 5 0-0 ♘c6 6 d4 cxd4 7 ♘xd4 ♘f6 8 ♖e1 g6 9 ♘xc6 bxc6 10 b3 ♗g7 11 ♗b2 0-0 12 ♘d2 ♖fd8 13 ♕e2 ♕g4 14 ♕xg4 ♘xg4 15 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 16 ♘c4 ½-½

(880) Petrosian-Ivanović
Catalan Opening

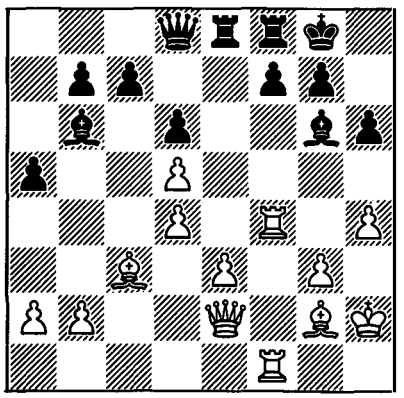
1 c4 e6 2 g3 ♘f6 3 ♗g2 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5

0-0 0-0 6 d4 dxc4 7 ♕c2 a6 8 a4 ♗d7 9 ♕xc4 ♗c6 10 ♗f4 ♘bd7 11 ♘c3 ♘b6 12 ♕b3 a5 13 ♖fd1 ♖a6 14 ♕c2 ♘bd5 15 ♗d2 ♘xc3 16 bxc3 ♗e4 17 ♕a2 c5 18 ♗g5 ♘d5 19 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 20 ♕a3 ♖c8 21 ♘e5 ♗xg2 22 ♔xg2 cxd4 23 ♕xe7 ♘xe7 24 cxd4 f6 25 ♘d3 ♖d6 26 e3 ♔f7 27 ♔f3 b6 28 ♖dc1 ♖dc6 29 ♔e2 ♘d5 30 ♔d2 ♔e7 31 e4 ♖xc1 32 ♖xc1 ♖xc1 33 ♘xc1 ♘c7 34 ♘b3 b5 35 axb5 ♘xb5 36 ♘xa5 ♘xd4 37 ♔e3 e5 38 f4 ½-½

(881) Yusupov-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 ♗c5 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 0-0 d6 8 d3 ♘xd5 9 cxd5 ♘d4 10 ♗d2 a5 11 ♘xd4 exd4 12 e4 dxe3 13 fxe3 ♕g5 14 d4 ♗b6 15 ♖f4 ♗d7 16 ♕b3 ♗f5 17 ♖af1 ♗g6 18 ♕c4 ♕e7 19 h4 h6 20 ♔h2 ♖ae8 21 ♕e2 ♕d8 22 ♗c3 *(334)*

334



22 ... f6 23 e4 ♗h7 24 ♕h5 ♕e7 25 ♗h3 ♔h8 26 e5 dxe5 27 dxe5 fxe5 28 ♖f7 ♖xf7 29 ♖xf7 ♕c5 30 ♖f1 ♕e7 31 ♖f7 ♕c5 32 ♖f1 ♕e7 33 ♗xe5 ♗c5 34 ♗e6 ♖f8 35 ♖xf8+ ♕xf8 36 ♕f7 ♕xf7 37 ♗xf7 ♗d6 38 ♗c3 b6 39 ♔g2 ♗b1 40 a3 ♗a2 41 ♗d4 ½-½

(882) Petrosian-Sax
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 ♘c3 d6 6 d3 e5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♖b1 a5 9 a3 ♘d4 10 ♘e1 c6 11 b3 ♗e6 12 e3 ♘f5 13 ♘f3 h6 14 e4 ♘e7 15 d4 ♕c7 16 h3 a4 17 ♖e1 axb3 18 ♕xb3 exd4 19 ♘xd4 ♗c8 20 ♖d1 ♘d7 21 ♕c2 ½-½

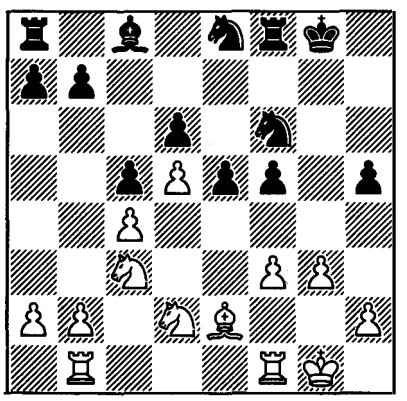
(883) Adorjan-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 0-0 8 c3 d6 9 h3 ♘b8 10 d4 ♘bd7 11 ♘bd2 ♗b7 12 ♗c2 ♖e8 13 ♘f1 ♗f8 14 ♘g3 g6 15 a4 c5 16 d5 c4 17 ♗g5 ♗g7 18 ♖a3 ♘c5 19 ♕e2 ♕c7 20 ♖ea1 ♘fd7 21 axb5 axb5 ½-½

(884) Petrosian-Velimirović
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 e4 0-0 6 ♘f3 d6 7 ♗e2 e5 8 ♗g5 h6 9 ♗h4 ♕d7 10 ♘d2 ♘e8 11 ♕a4 ♗f6 12 ♕xd7 ♘xd7 13 ♗xf6 ♘dxf6 14 ♖b1 ♘d7 15 f3 f5 16 exf5 gxf5 17 g3 ♘df6 18 0-0 h5 *(335)*

335



19 f4 e4 20 ♘d1 ♗d7 21 ♘e3 b6 22 a3 h4 23 gxh4 ♔f7 24 ♖fc1 ♖h8 25 ♘g2 ♘g7 26

♘f1 ♖ag8 27 ♖c3 ♘gh5 28 ♘g3 ♖g6 29 ♘xh5 ♘xh5 30 ♗xh5 ♖xh5 31 ♖g3 ♖h8 32 b4 ♖c8 33 b5 ♖xg3 34 hxg3 ♖a8 35 ♘e3 a6 36 bxa6 ♖xa6 37 ♔f2 ♖xa3 38 ♖xb6 ♖a2+ 39 ♔e1 ♖a1+ 40 ♔d2 ♖a2+ 41 ♔c1 ♖a3 42 ♖xd6 ♖xe3 43 ♖xd7+ 1-0

International Tournament
Bar, October-November 1980

1 **Petrosian** (+7 -0 =6) 10; 2 Smyslov 9; 3-5 Marjanović, Minić, Tringov 8; 6 Ivanović 7½; 7-8 Kurajica, Zivković 7; 9-10 Forintos, Jansa 6½; 11 Biyiasas 5; 12 Vuković 3½; 13-14 Lutovac, Zečević 2½.

(885) Zečević-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 d6 6 ♗e2 a6 7 a4 b6 8 f4 ♗b7 9 ♗f3 ♕c7 10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♘b3 ♗e7 12 ♕e1 e5 13 f5 ♖c8 14 ♕e2 h6 15 ♗e3 0-0 16 g4 d5 17 exd5 e4 18 ♗g2 ♘xd5 19 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 20 ♖f2 ♗h4 21 ♘d4 ♗xf2+ 22 ♕xf2 ♘e5 23 h3 f6 24 b3 ♖fe8 25 ♖e1 ♖cd8 26 b4 ♕c3 27 ♗d2 ♕c8 28 ♗xe4 ♗xe4 29 ♖xe4 ♕a8 30 ♖f4 ♖xd4 31 ♕xd4 ♘f3+ 32 ♖xf3 ♕xf3 33 ♕d3 ♕xd3 34 cxd3 ♖d8 0-1

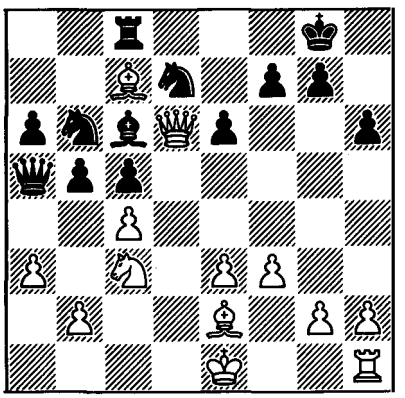
(886) Petrosian-Lutovac
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 ♗f5 3 ♘c3 e6 4 ♘f3 ♘c6 5 ♗f4 ♘f6 6 e3 ♘b4 7 ♖c1 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 c6 9 0-0 ♘bd5 10 ♗e5 ♗e7 11 h3 0-0 12 ♗b3 ♗g6 13 ♕e2 ♗d6 14 ♘a4 ♘e4 15 ♗xd6 ♘xd6 16 ♘e5 ♕g5 17 ♖fe1 ♗h5 18 ♕f1 f6 19 ♘d3 ♗g6 20 ♘ac5 ♖ae8 21 ♔h2 f5 22 f4 ♕e7 23 ♘e5 ♖d8 24 ♕f3 ♗e8 25 ♖e2 b6 26 ♘cd3 ♖c8 27 ♖ec2 ♗d7 28 ♘xc6 1-0

(887) Forintos-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 d6 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 ♕xc3 0-0 7 ♗g5 h6 8 ♗h4 c5 9 dxc5 dxc5 10 ♖d1 ♘bd7 11 ♕c2 ♕a5+ 12 ♖d2 b6 13 e3 ♗b7 14 f3 ♖fd8 15 ♗g3 a6 16 ♘e2 b5 17 ♘c3 ♗c6 18 ♗e2 ♘b6 19 ♗c7 ♖d7 20 ♖xd7 ♘fxd7 21 ♕d2 ♖c8 22 ♕d6 *(336)*

336



22 ... ♘xc4 23 ♕xc6 ♖xc7 24 ♕a8+ ♘f8 25 ♗xc4 bxc4 26 ♕b8 ♖d7 27 ♔e2 ♖d8 28 ♕a7 ♘g6 29 f4 ♘h4 30 g4 ♘g6 31 ♖c1 ♘f8 32 ♖c2 ♖d7 33 ♕b8 ♖d8 34 ♕a7 ♘d7 35 ♘e4 ♕b5 36 ♘c3 ♕c6 37 e4 ♔f8 38 ♖d2 ♔e8 39 ♔e3 ♖a8 40 ♖xd7 ♖xa7 41 ♖xa7 ♕b6 42 ♖a8+ ♔e7 43 ♘d1 ♕b7 44 ♖g8 ♕d7 45 ♘f2 ♕d4+ 46 ♔f3 ♕xb2 0-1

(888) Petrosian-Minić
Old Indian Defence

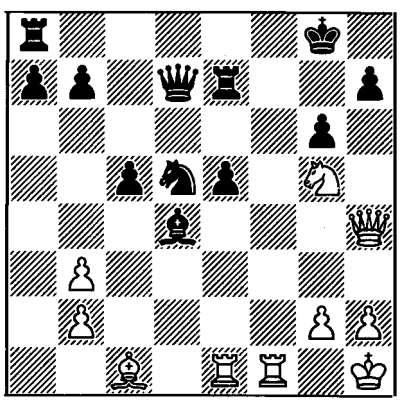
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 ♘bd7 4 e4 e5 5 ♘f3 c6 6 ♗e2 ♗e7 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♖e1 a6 9 ♗f1 ♖e8 10 b3 b5 11 ♗b2 ♗f8 12 d5 cxd5 13 cxd5 g6 14 ♘d2 ♘b6 15 a3 ♘fd7 16 b4 f5 17 a4 bxa4 18 ♘xa4 ♗h6 19 exf5 gxf5 20 ♘xb6 ♘xb6 21 ♘c4 ♘xc4 22 ♗xc4 ♕h4 23 ♕e2 ♗b7 24 g3 ♕h3 25 ♕d1 f4 26 ♗f1 ♕f5 27 ♗g2 fxg3 28 hxg3 ♖f8 29

♕e2 ♖ac8 30 ♗e4 ♕f7 31 ♖ad1 ♖c7 32 ♖d3 ♗c8 33 ♖f3 ♕e8 34 ♖xf8+ ♕xf8 35 ♕d3 ♖f7 36 ♗c1 ♗xc1 37 ♖xc1 ♗d7 38 ♕e3 ♗b5 39 ♔g2 ♕d8 40 ♖h1 ♕f6 41 ♖h6 ♕d8 42 ♔g1 ♔h8 43 ♕c1 ♗e8 44 ♕c2 ♖c7 45 ♖xh7+ ♖xh7 46 ♗xh7 a5 47 bxa5 ♕xa5 48 ♗e4 ♗f7 49 ♕d1 ♔g7 50 ♔g2 ♕b4 51 ♕g4+ ♔f8 52 ♔h3 ♕d2 53 ♕f5 ♔e7 54 ♕f3 ♕h6+ 55 ♔g2 ♕d2 56 g4 ♕g5 57 ♔g3 ♕c1 58 ♕e3 ♕g1+ 59 ♔h4 ♕a1 60 ♔g5 ♕a8 61 ♕b6 ♕g8+ 62 ♔h4 ♕h8+ 63 ♔g3 ♕c8 64 ♕a7+ ♔f8 65 ♕a3 ♔e7 66 g5 ♗h5 67 f3 ♕d8 68 ♕e3 ♔f8 69 ♔h4 ♗f7 70 ♕b3 ♕a5 71 ♕b8+ ♔e7 72 ♕b7+ ♔f8 73 ♕c8+ ♔g7 74 ♕c1 ♗xd5 75 ♗xd5 ♕xd5 76 ♕c7+ ♔g6 77 ♕c2+ ♔g7 78 ♕f5 ♕f7 ½-½

(889) Vuković-Petrosian
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 e4 g6 7 f4 ♗g7 8 e5 ♘fd7 9 ♘b5 dxe5 10 ♘d6+ ♔e7 11 ♘xc8+ ♕xc8 12 ♘f3 ♖e8 13 fxe5 ♔f8 14 e6 fxe6 15 d6 ♔g8 16 ♗c4 ♘c6 17 0-0 ♘b6 18 ♗b3 ♘d4 19 ♘g5 ♕c6 20 ♕g4 ♘xb3 21 axb3 ♕xd6 22 ♗f4 ♕d7 23 ♗e3 ♗d4 24 ♖ae1 ♖e7 25 ♔h1 e5 26 ♕h4 ♘d5 27 ♗c1 *(337)*

337



27 ... e4 28 ♘xe4 ♖ae8 29 ♘g5 ♖xe1 30 ♖xe1 ♖xe1+ 31 ♕xe1 ♕e7 32 ♕f1 b6 33 ♘f3 ♗f6 34 ♕c4 ♕e6 35 h4 ♔f8 36 ♗h6+ ♔e8 37 ♗c1 ♗e7 38 ♗g5 a5 39 ♗xe7 ♔xe7 40 ♘g5 ♕e1+ 41 ♔h2 ♕e5+ 42 g3 h6 43 ♘f3 ♕xb2+ 44 ♔h3 ♔d6 45 ♕g4 ♕f6 46 h5 g5 0-1

(890) Petrosian-Jansa
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 c3 0-0 5 ♘bd2 d6 6 e4 ♘bd7 7 ♗c4 e5 8 dxe5 dxe5 9 0-0 h6 10 ♗h4 ♕e8 11 ♖e1 ♘h5 12 a4 ♗f6 13 a5 ♕e7 14 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 15 ♗f1 ♖d8 16 ♕e2 ♘f4 17 ♕e3 g5 18 ♖ed1 ♖e8 19 g3 ♘g6 20 h3 ♘df8 21 ♘h2 h5 22 ♗e2 h4 23 ♗g4 ♔g7 24 ♘df1 ♘h7 25 ♖d3 ♗e6 26 ♗xe6 ♕xe6 27 ♘g4 ♘f6 28 ♕xg5 ♘xe4 29 ♕h6+ ♔g8 30 ♖ad1 ♘f6 31 ♘fe3 ♘xg4 32 ♘xg4 hxg3 33 ♖xg3 ♖ad8 34 ♖e1 ♕f5 35 h4 ♖e6 36 h5 ♕f4 37 hxg6 1-0

(891) Marjanović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘g8 5 c3 ♘e7 6 ♗d3 b6 7 ♘e2 ♕d7 8 0-0 ♗a6 9 ♗b1 c5 10 ♖e1 ♘bc6 11 ♘f3 ♖c8 12 ♘f4 g6 13 dxc5 bxc5 14 ♘d3 ♗xd3 15 ♗xd3 c4 16 ♗c2 ♗g7 17 ♗g5 h6 18 ♗f6 ♔f8 19 ♗a4 ♕c7 20 b3 cxb3 21 axb3 ♔g8 22 ♕c1 ♔h7 23 ♗xc6 ♘xc6 24 ♖a4 ♖b8 25 ♕a3 ♖b7 26 ♖h4 ♘e7 27 ♖h3 ♘c6 28 ♕a4 ♖b6 29 g4 ♔g8 30 ♖e3 ♕b7 31 b4 ♕a6 32 ♕d1 ♕c4 33 ♘d2 ♕f4 34 ♖ef3 ♕xg4+ 35 ♖hg3 ♕h5 36 ♖h3 ♕g4+ 37 ♖hg3 ½-½

(892) Zivković-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 g6 2 ♘c3 ♗g7 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 0-0 5

♘f3 d6 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 d3 ♘h5 8 e4 ♗g4 9 h3 ♗xf3 10 ♗xf3 ♘f6 11 ♗g2 ♘d7 12 ♗e3 ♘d4 13 ♘e2 ♘xe2+ 14 ♕xe2 c5 15 ♖fd1 ♕b6 16 ♖ab1 a5 17 a3 ♕b3 18 d4 cxd4 19 ♗xd4 ♗xd4 20 ♖xd4 ♖fc8 21 ♖c1 ♖c5 22 ♖d3 ♕b6 23 b3 ♖ac8 24 ♖e3 ♕c7 25 ♗f1 b5 26 ♖ec3 b4 27 ♖e3 bxa3 28 ♖a1 ♘b6 29 ♕e1 a4 30 b4 ♖c6 31 ♖exa3 ♕d7 32 ♔g2 ♕e6 33 ♗d3 ♘xc4 34 ♖xa4 ♘b2 35 ♖4a3 ♘xd3 36 ♖xd3 ♖c2 37 ♖e3 ♕c4 38 ♕b1 ♕d4 39 b5 ♕xe3 0-1

(893) Petrosian-Smyslov
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 dxc4 5 a4 ♗f5 6 e3 e6 7 ♗xc4 ♗b4 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♕e2 ♗g6 10 e4 0-0 11 ♗d3 ♗h5 12 e5 ♘d5 13 ♘xd5 cxd5 14 ♕e3 ♗g6 15 ♗xg6 fxg6 16 ♘g5 ♖e8 17 ♕h3 ♘f8 18 ♕b3 ½-½

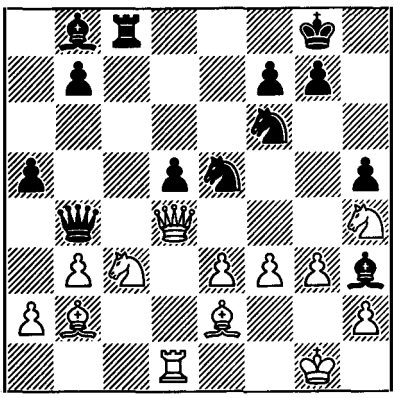
(894) Tringov-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 ♘c6 5 exd5 exd5 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♘b3 ♗d6 9 0-0 ♘e7 10 ♘bd4 0-0 11 ♖e1 ♕c7 ½-½

(895) Petrosian-Ivanović
English Opening

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 b3 c5 4 e3 ♘c6 5 cxd5 exd5 6 ♗b2 ♘f6 7 ♗b5 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 d4 ♗g4 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♘c3 ♖c8 12 ♗e2 ♗d6 13 ♖c1 ♗b8 14 ♖e1 ♖e8 15 g3 h5 16 ♘a4 ♕e7 17 ♘h4 ♘e5 18 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 19 ♘c3 ♕b4 20 ♕d4 a5 21 f3 ♗h3 22 ♖d1 *(338)*

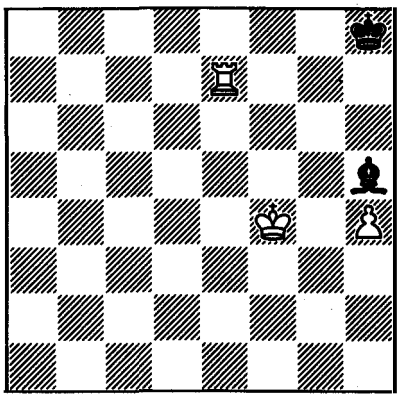
338



22 ... ♗a7 23 ♕xe5 ♖e8 24 ♕xf6 gxf6 25 ♘xd5 ♖xe3 26 ♘xb4 ♖xe2+ 27 ♗d4 ♗xd4+ 28 ♖xd4 axb4 29 ♖xb4 ♖xa2 30 ♖xb7 ♔g7 31 ♖b5 ♖b2 32 ♖xh5 ♖b1+ 33 ♔f2 ♖b2+ 34 ♔e1 ♖b1+ 35 ♔d2 ♖xb3 36 g4 ♗f1 37 ♔e1 ♗a6 38 ♔f2 ♗b7 39 ♖c5 ♔g8 40 ♔g3 ♔f8 41 ♖f5 ♔g7 42 ♖f4 ♗c8 43 ♖c4 ♗e6 44 ♖c5 ♖d3 45 ♖c2 ♖a3 46 ♖d2 ♗c8 47 ♖d8 ♖c3 48 ♖e8 ♔h6 49 ♖e7 f5 50 g5+ ♔xg5 51 ♖xf7 ♗e6 52 ♖g7+ ♔f6 53 ♖a7 ♗d5 54 ♖a6+ ♗c6 55 ♖a5 ♗d7 56 ♖d5 ♗e6 57 ♖d2 ♗f7 58 ♘g2 ♗h5 59 ♖f2 ♗f7 60 ♘f4 ♖c8 61 ♖b2 ♖c6 62 h4 ♖a6 63 ♖b8 ♖c6 64 ♖h8 ♔g7 65 ♖d8 ♔f6 66 ♘h3 ♔e7 67 ♖h8 ♗d5 68 ♖h7+ ♔f6 69 ♘f4 ♖c5 70 ♖h6+ ♔g7 71 ♖g6+ ♔f7 72 ♖d6 ♗a8 73 ♘h3 ♖c6 74 ♘g5+ ♔e7 75 ♖d5 ♔f6 76 ♖d8 ♖a6 77 ♖h8 ♔g7 78 ♖h7+ ♔g8 79 ♖d7 ♖a5 80 ♔f4 ♗c6 81 ♖c7 ♗e8 82 ♘e6 ♗h5 83 ♖g7+ ♔h8 84 ♖d7 ♖a6 85 ♘d4 ♖a3 86 ♖b7 ♖a4 87 ♔e5 ♖xd4 88 ♔xd4 ♗xf3 89 ♖e7 f4 90 ♔e5 ♗h5 91 ♔xf4

(diagram 339)

339



91 ... ♗g6 92 ♔g5 ♗h7 93 ♔h6 ♗g8 94 ♖b7 ♗c4 95 ♖h7+ ♔g8 96 ♖c7 ♗d3 97 ♖c8+ ♔f7 98 ♖c3 ♗e4 99 ♖g3 ♗c2 100 ♖g7+ ♔f8 101 ♖g2 ♗d3 102 ♖g3 ♗c2 103 ♔h5 ♔f7 104 ♖g1 ♗d3 105 ♖g5 ♗e2+ 106 ♔h6 ♗d3 107 ♖g7+ ♔f8 108 ♖g1 ♗c2 109 ♖g3 ♔f7 110 ♔h5 ♗d1+ 111 ♔g5 ♔g7 112 ♖c3 ♗e2 113 h5 ♗a6 114 h6+ ♔h8 115 ♔g6 ♗b7 116 ♖e3 ♗d5 117 ♖e8+ ♗g8 118 ♖e7 ♗d5 119 h7 ♗e4+ 120 ♔h6 ♗g6 121 ♖d7 ♗e8 122 ♖d6 ♗d7 123 ♖f6 1-0

1981

Four USSR Teams Tournament
Moscow, February 1981

Board 4, +1 –1 =4.

(896) Petrosian-Vasyukov
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 c6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♕c2 g6 5 b3 ♗g7 6 ♗b2 0-0 7 ♗g2 ♖e8 8 d3 ♘bd7 9 0-0 e5 10 cxd5 cxd5 11 ♘c3 a6 12 ♖ac1 b5 13 ♘b1 ♗h6 14 e3 ♖b8 15 ♘bd2 ♗b7 16 ♕b1 ♕b6 17 b4 ♕d6 18 a3 d4 19 e4 ♘b6 20 ♖c2 ♘a4 21 ♗h3 a5 22 bxa5 ♕d8 23 ♘b3 b4 24 axb4 ♗a6 25 ♘c5 ♘xc5 26 ♖xc5 ♖xb4 27 ♕c2 ♕b8 28 ♗c1 ♗xc1 29 ♖xc1 ♖b2 30 ♕d1 ♔g7 31 ♘e1 ♕b4 32 ♕f3 ♗b5 33 a6 ♖a2 34 ♗c8 h5 35 h3 ♖e7 36 h4 ♘g8 37 ♔g2 ♗xa6 38 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 39 ♖5c4 ♕b3 40 ♕e2 ♖a2 41 ♖4c2 ♖ea7 42 ♘f3 ♖7a5 43 ♕d1 ♘h6 44 ♖xa2 ♕xa2 45 ♘d2 ♘g4 46 ♖c2 ♕e6 47 ♘c4 ♖a4 48 ♖b2 ♕a6 49 ♕b3 ♖a1 50 ♕c2 ♖e1 51 ♖b1 ♖xb1 52 ♕xb1 ♕a4 53 ♔f1 f6 ½-½

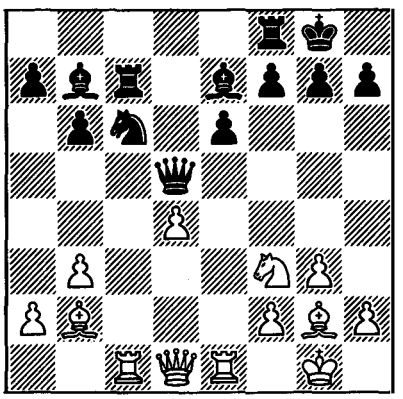
(897) Kuzmin-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 a3 ♗xc3+ 5 bxc3 dxe4 6 ♕g4 ♘f6 7 ♕xg7 ♖g8 8 ♕h6 ♖g6 9 ♕d2 b6 10 ♘e2 ♗a6 11 ♘f4 ♗xf1 12 ♔xf1 ♖g8 13 ♕e2 c5 14 ♗e3 ♘bd7 15 g3 ♕c7 16 ♔g2 ♖c8 17 dxc5 ♘xc5 18 a4 ♘cd7 19 ♖a3 ♕d6 20 ♖b3 e5 21 ♘h3 ♕c6 22 a5 ♘d5 23 axb6 axb6 24 ♕h5 ♕g6 25 ♕e2 ♘xc3 26 ♕d2 ♕c6 27 ♖a1 ♘b5 28 ♕d1 ½-½

(898) Petrosian-Dolmatov
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 e6 4 ♘f3 b6 5 ♗g2 ♗b7 6 0-0 ♗e7 7 b3 0-0 8 ♗b2 d6 9 e3 ♘c6 10 ♖e1 ♖c8 11 ♖c1 ♖c7?! (11 ... ♖e8) **12 d4!** (intending d4-d5 ±) **12 ... cxd4 13 exd4 d5 14 cxd5 ♘xd5** (14 ... exd5 ±) **15 ♘xd5 ♕xd5?** (15 ... exd5 ±) *(340)*

340



16 ♘e5! ± ♕xg2+?! (16 ... ♕d6 17 d5 ±) **17 ♔xg2 ±± ♘xe5+ 18 ♔f1 ♖xc1 19 ♗xc1 ♗a6+ 20 ♔g1 ♘d3 21 ♖e3 ♖c8 22 ♗d2 ♖d8 23 ♕c2! ♖xd4 24 ♕c7 ♗d8 25 ♕xa7** (25 ♕c6! ♔f8 26 ♗c3 ♖d5 27 ♖xd3!) **25 ... ♘c5 26 ♗c3 ♖d1+ 27 ♖e1 ♖d7 28 ♕b8 ♗b7 29 ♕e5 f6 30 ♕e2 ♗a6 31 ♕c2 ♗d3 32 ♕c1 e5 33 ♗b4 ♖d5 34 ♗xc5 ♖xc5 35 ♕e3 e4 36 ♖c1 ♖d5 37 ♔g2 b5 38 ♖c5 ♖d6 39 ♕f4 ♗e7 40 ♖c7 1-0**

(899) Vasyukov-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 ♕e2 ♘e7 4 ♘f3 c5 5 g3 ♘bc6 6 ♗g2 g6 7 0-0 ♗g7 8 ♖e1 b6 9 e5 h6 10 h4 ♘f5 11 c3 ♗a6 12 ♗f4 ♕d7 13 ♘bd2 0-0 14 ♖ad1 ♔h7 15 g4 ♘fe7 16 ♘f1 ♖h8 17 ♘g3 ♔g8 18 ♕d2 ♖d8 19 d4 c4 20 ♗h3 ♔f8 21 ♔h2 ♕c7 22 ♖g1 ♔e8 23 h5 g5 24 ♘xg5 hxg5 25 ♗xg5 ♔d7 26 f4 ♔c8 27 ♖df1 ♖df8 28 ♗f6 ♗xf6 29 exf6 ♔b8 30 g5 ♘g8 31 ♕e3 ♗c8 32 ♖f3 ♖e8 33 ♖h1 ♕d8 34 ♔g1 b5 35 a3 a5 36 ♗f1 b4 37 axb4 axb4 38 ♖h2 ♔b7 39 ♔h1 b3 40 ♔g1 ♗d7 41 ♘h1 ♘xf6 42 gxf6 ½-½

(900) Petrosian-Kuzmin
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 a5 6 ♗g2 0-0 7 0-0 ♖e8 8 d3 h6 9 a3 ♗c5 10 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 11 ♘d2 ♕d8 12 ♘e4 ♗f8 13 ♘c3 d6 14 ♖b1 ♗e6 15 b4 axb4 16 axb4 ♕c8 17 b5 ♘e7 18 e4 g6 19 ♗e3 ♗g7 20 ♕d2 ♔h7 21 ♖a1 ♕d7 ½-½

(901) Dolmatov-Petrosian
Alekhine's Defence

1 e4 ♘f6 2 e5 ♘d5 3 d4 d6 4 ♘f3 c6 5 ♗e2 g6 6 c4 ♘c7 7 exd6 ♕xd6 8 ♘c3 ♗g7 9 ♗e3 ♘ba6 10 ♕d2 ♗g4 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♖ad1 ♖ad8 13 ♕c1 b5 14 b3 bxc4 15 bxc4 ♕b4 16 a3 ♕a5 17 ♘e5 ♗xe5 18 ♗xg4 ♗g7 19 ♘e2 ♕a4 20 ♘f4 ♘e8 21 d5 ♘f6 22 ♗f3 cxd5 23 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 24 ♖xd5 ♘c7 25 ♖xd8 ♖xd8 26 c5 ♖d3 27 ♕b1 ♖b3 28 ♕d1 ♘e6 29 c6 ♖xa3 30 ♕d7 h5 31 ♕xe7 ♗f8 32 ♕d7 a5 33 g3 ♕b5 34 ♖c1 h4 35 ♕b7 ♕e5 36 c7 ♘xc7 37 ♗f4 ♕f6 38 ♖xc7 g5 39 ♖xf7 h3 40 ♖c7 1-0

International Tournament
Moscow, April 1981

1 Karpov 9; 2-4 Kasparov, Polugayevsky, Smyslov 7½; 5-6 Gheorghiu, Portisch 7; 7-8 Balashov, Belyavsky 6½; 9-10 Andersson, **Petrosian** (+1 –2 =10) 6; 11-13 Smejkal, Timman, Torre 5½; 14 Geller 4.

The 1981 Moscow 'Tournament of Stars' attracted, with only few exceptions, all the strongest players in the world. It is therefore easy to understand both the intensity of the struggle and the unusual evenness of the results.

Lyev Polugayevsky comments:

"When you play in a tournament and see it from the inside, you of course notice much that is inaccessible to the spectators sitting in the auditorium. It is also easy for me to talk about the participants in the Moscow Tournament, for the reason that I have several times met each of them at the chess board . . .

The performance of Ex-World Champion Petrosian must of course be considered a failure. He is accustomed to results of a different kind, but here he ended up with a negative score. At first his play went well, but his loss against me evidently had a psychological effect, and after this he failed to exploit several favourable situations. For example, in his game with Belyavsky, Petrosian obtained a splendid position, but he took absolutely no active measures, and after the adjournment he even lost. This was evidently no accident. In recent times the Ex-World Champion has begun excessively restricting his possibilities at the board. The game with Kasparov shows that, when there is no going back, and when Petrosian is pinned on the ropes, he can display wonderful examples of active defence, of active play. But when he is not threatened, he himself does not aim for anything, but passively solves his problems, or essentially does

not wish to solve them. Even in the fifth hour of play he does nothing active, but continues taking half-measures, and sometimes suffers as a result."

(902) Portisch-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 b3 c5 8 ♗b2 cxd4 9 exd4 d5 10 ♕e2 ♘c6 11 ♘bd2 ♖e8 12 ♖ac1 ♗f8 13 h3 ♖c8 14 ♖fd1 ♘d7 15 ♕e3 g6 16 cxd5 exd5 17 ♕f4 ♕f6 18 ♕xf6 ♘xf6 19 ♘e5 ♘b8 20 ♘b1 ½-½

(903) Petrosian-Torre
Slav Defence
(notes by Aronin)

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3

If White so wishes, he can restrict himself to the unpretentious Exchange Variation, 3 cxd5 cxd5, as played, for example, in this same tournament by Andersson against Smyslov.

3 ... ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e6 5 e3

Numerous victories by Botvinnik have shown that his invention in reply to 5 ♗g5 – 5 ... dxc4 6 e4 b5 – is perfectly viable, and so White more often plays 5 e3.

5 ... ♘bd7 6 ♗d3 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b5

Thus we have the Meran Variation, a discovery of the 1930s, and one of the sharpest and most complex in the Queen's Gambit. In itself, the choice of opening indicates that both players are aiming for a full-blooded struggle.

8 ♗d3 ♗b7

This is playable, but of course the most common continuation here is 8 ... a6 9 e4 c5, and now either 10 e5 or 10 d5.

9 a3

This strategic move is in general a favourite of Petrosian. Thus, for example, he has suggested and successfully employed a2-a3 in one of the variations of the Queen's Indian Defence. Objectively it is probably not as strong as 9 e4, but on the other hand it is less well studied. The idea, in particular, is to 'kill' the bishop at b7 after b2-b4, and in general to blockade Black's queenside. Therefore here Black should consider not 9 ... a6, as played, but the immediate 9 ... a5, preventing the important advance b2-b4.

9 ... a6 10 b4 ♗d6 11 ♘d2!

A thematic move, linked to the struggle for the critical squares e4, b3 and c5. White played less strongly in the game Furman-Khasin, Moscow, 1964: 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♗b2 ♕e7 13 ♘d2 a5 14 bxa5 ♖xa5 15 a4 b4 16 ♘ce4 ♘xe4 17 ♗xe4 ♘b6, with good counterplay for Black.

Petrosian improves on this variation, being prepared even to give up the right to castle.

11 ... a5 12 ♘ce4 ♗e7 13 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 14 bxa5 0-0 15 ♕c2 c5

Of course, Black could have taken on a5, but then it would have been very difficult for him to advance ... c5 (in view of the possible ♘*b3*).

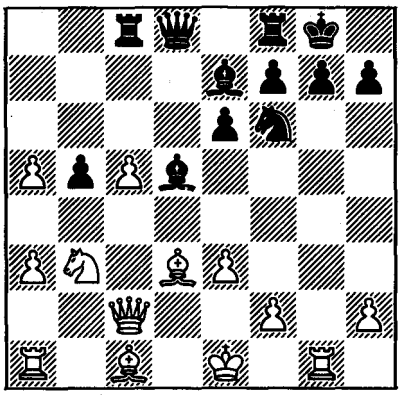
16 dxc5 ♖c8 17 ♘b3 ♗xg2 18 ♖g1 ♗d5

(diagram 341)

19 ♗b2

Petrosian himself considers that 19 ♗d2! was much stronger here, protecting the important pawn at a5. Of course,

341



Black would have regained the c5 pawn after the exchange on b3, but the retaining of the a5 pawn together with the weak black pawn on the b-file looks highly promising for White. Thus it can be concluded that Petrosian has outplayed his opponent in the opening, but now allows him good chances of equalizing. However, White's desire to develop the bishop at b2 is quite understandable: it is very actively placed here.

19 ... ♗xb3 20 ♕xb3 ♖xc5 21 a6!

A good idea. White diverts the enemy queen to a6, in order to be able to play a3-a4 with a pin.

21 ... ♕a5+ 22 ♔e2 ♕xa6 23 ♗d4

In the event of the immediate 23 a4, White would have had to reckon with 23 ... bxa4.

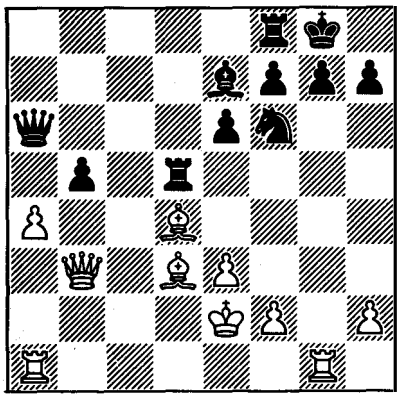
23 ... ♖d5

In the given position – the best move. It would have been wrong to play the rook to h5, when by 24 ♕b2! White obtains a strong position. But now 24 ♕b2? would be incorrect because of 24 ... e5! 25 ♗xe5 ♖xd3! 26 ♔xd3 b4+ (it is significant that in this variation after ... *e5* the black queen defends the knight at f6 a second time).

24 a4! *(342)*

Best, of course, since now Black cannot take on a4 because of 25 ♕xd5! But here he had a possibility of forcing complete equality.

342



24 ... ♕d6

An unfortunate move, after which White could again have obtained winning chances.

Instead Black should have played 24 ... e5! 25 axb5 ♕b7, when 26 ♖a7 ♕b8 27 ♖xe7 exd4 does not promise White any advantage. It follows that he has to retreat his bishop – 26 ♗b2, when Black continues 26 ... ♖fd8, and White has to defend his bishop at d3 with one of his rooks:

(a) 27 ♖ad1 ♕c8 (weaker is *27 ... ♕d7 28 e4* and *29 ♗xe5*, whereas now *28 e4* can be met by *28 ... ♖c5*), and Black threatens an unpleasant invasion at h3 followed by ... ♕h5+ and ... ♕xh2. It appears that White can use his b-pawn to 'patch things up', but after 28 b6 ♕b7! this pawn cannot be saved. 28 ♗c4 fails to 28 ... ♖xd1 29 ♖xd1 ♕g4+ 30 ♔e1 ♖xd1+ and 31 ... ♕xc4, when White loses a piece, and 28 ♗c2 is also bad, since there follows 28 ... ♖xd1 29 ♖xd1 (after *29 ♗xd1 ♕d7* all the invasion squares on the d-file cannot

be protected).*

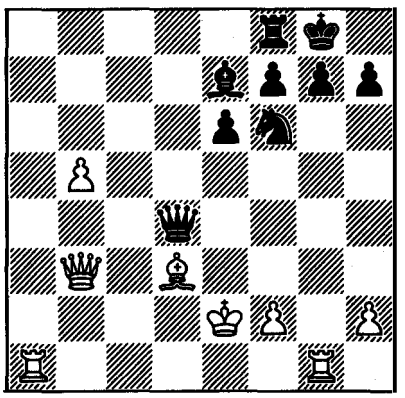
(b) 27 ♖gd1! ♕c8 28 b6! (now White has this move, since *28 ... ♕b7* fails to *29 ♖a7*) 28 ... ♕g4+ 29 ♔e1 ♕g1+ 30 ♔e2 (not *30 ♗f1 ♘e4 31 ♖xd5 ♕xf2+ 32 ♔d1 ♕xf1+ 33 ♔c2 ♖c8+*, when Black wins) 30 ... ♕g4+, and the game ends in a draw by perpetual check.

25 axb5 ♖xd4

Torre is almost correct in sacrificing the exchange for a pawn, so as then to pick up a second one.

26 exd4 ♕xd4 *(343)*

343



27 ♖a4

This natural move allows the opponent to force a draw. In my opinion, White could have gained good chances here by 27 ♕c4! ♕e5+ 28 ♔f3 (an excellent square for the king, where it is quite safe) 28 ... ♕xh2 29 ♖h1 ♕e5 (if *29 ... ♕b8 30 ♖ac1!*). Of course, it would be something of an exaggeration to state that White's position is won, but he undoubtedly has quite good winning chances. The white pawn will now advance to b7 and will tie up the opponent's forces, after which White's heavy pieces can invade at a8 and c8.

It is probable that the Ex-World Champion was in time trouble, and after he misses this possibility the game quickly ends in a draw.

27 ... ♕e5+ 28 ♔f1 ♕xh2 29 ♗e2 ♗d6 30 b6 ♗c5 31 ♖g2 ♕h1+ 32 ♖g1 ♕h2 33 ♖g2 ♕h1+ 34 ♖g1 ♕h2 Draw agreed

A highly interesting, fighting game, in which both grandmasters demonstrated their will to win.

It should also be mentioned that at the end of the game Torre had no chance of winning. For example, if instead of 28 ... ♕xh2 Black had tried 28 ... ♗c5, then after 29 b6! ♕xh2 30 ♖a2 ♕h3+ 31 ♖g2 ♘d5 32 b7 ♘f4 White would have refuted Black's idea by 33 ♗xh7+!.

(904) Timman-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 d4 ♗b7 5 a3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗b5+ c6 9 ♗d3 c5 10 ♕a4+ ♕d7 11 ♕c2 ♘xc3 12 bxc3 ♘c6 13 ♗b2 ♖c8 14 c4 cxd4 15 exd4 f6 16 ♗xh7 ♘a5 17 ♗d3 ♗d5 18 ♘d2 ♕c7 19 h3 ♘xc4 20 ♗xc4 ♗xc4 21 ♖c1 b5 22 ♘xc4 bxc4 23 ♕g6+ ♔f8 24 0-0 ♕b7 25 ♖c2 ♕d5 26 ♖e1 ♖h6 27 ♕e4 ♕xe4 28 ♖xe4 ♔f7 29 ♖e3 ♖h5 30 ♖ec3 ♖a5 31 ♖xc4 ♖xc4 32 ♖xc4 ♗xa3 33 ♗xa3 ♖xa3 ½-½

(905) Petrosian-Andersson
Catalan Opening

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* Here the analysis breaks off. After 29 ... ♕g4+ Black's threats look dangerous: 30 ♔e1 ♕g1+ 31 ♔e2 ♖xd1 32 ♗xd1 ♘e4, or 30 ♔f1 ♕h3+ 31 ♔e2 ♖xd1 32 ♗xd1 ♘e4. (Translator's note)

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 dxc4 5 ♘f3 c5 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 ♘e5 ♗d7 8 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 9 ♗xc6+ bxc6 10 ♕a4 cxd4 11 ♕xc6+ ♘d7 12 ♕xc4 ♗c5 13 ♘d2 0-0 14 ♘f3 ♖c8 15 ♗d2 ♗b6 16 ♕d3 ♘c5 17 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 18 ♘xd4 ½-½

(906) Smyslov-Petrosian
Pirc Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 g3 ♗g7 4 ♗g2 0-0 5 0-0 d6 6 ♘c3 ♘bd7 7 a4 a5 8 e4 e5 9 dxe5 dxe5 10 b3 ♖e8 11 ♗a3 ♗f8 12 ♗xf8 ♔xf8 13 ♖e1 ♔g7 14 ♕d2 c6 15 ♖ad1 ♕e7 16 ♕d6 ♕xd6 17 ♖xd6 ♘b6 18 ♘d2 ♗e6 ½-½

(907) Geller-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 ♘f3 d6 4 ♗e2 ♘d7 5 0-0 e5 6 c3 ♘gf6 7 ♘bd2 0-0 8 ♖e1 ♖e8 9 ♗f1 ♘b6 10 h3 c6 11 a4 a5 12 ♕c2 ♘fd7 13 ♘c4 ♕c7 14 ♗e3 exd4 15 ♗xd4 ♘xc4 16 ♗xc4 ♘e5 17 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 18 ♖ad1 ♗xd4 19 cxd4 ♗e6 20 ♕c3 ♗xc4 21 ♕xc4 ♖xe4 22 ♖xe4 d5 23 ♕d3 dxe4 24 ♕xe4 ♖d8 25 ♖d3 ♖d5 26 ♖b3 ♔g7 27 g3 ♕d7 28 h4 f6 29 ♕f4 ♖xd4 30 ♕b8 ♖b4 31 ♖xb4 axb4 32 a5 ♔f7 33 a6 bxa6 34 ♕xb4 ♔g7 35 ♕b6 ♕d1+ 36 ♔h2 ♕f3 37 b4 g5 38 hxg5 fxg5 39 ♔g1 ♕d1+ 40 ♔h2 ♕c2 41 ♕d4+ ♔f7 42 ♕d7+ ½-½

(908) Petrosian-Smejkal
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 d5 5 e3 0-0 6 c3 ♘bd7 7 ♗e2 b6 8 a4 a5 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♖e1 ♖e8 11 ♕b3 e5 12 dxe5 ♘xe5 13 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 14 ♘f3 ♖e8 15 ♖ed1 ♕e7 16 ♘d4 ♕c5 17 ♗f3 ♘e4 18 ♗f4 ♗e5 19 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 20 ♕a3 ♕xa3 21 ♖xa3 ♖e7 22 h4 ♔g7 23 ♘e2 h6 24 ♘f4 c6 25 ♖b3 ♘c5 26 ♖xb6 ♘xa4 27 ♖b3 ♗a6 28 ♖d2 ♘c5 29 ♖b6 ♖c7 30 ♗e2 ♗xe2 31 ♘xe2 ♘d7 32 ♖b3 ♘c5 33 ♖b6 ♘d7 34 ♖b3 ♘c5 35 ♖a3 ♖b8 ½-½

∫ (909) Kasparov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗b5+ c6 9 ♗d3 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 c5 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♕c2 g6 13 e4 ♘c6 14 ♗h6 ♖e8 15 ♖fd1 ♕c7 16 ♕e2 ♖ed8 17 ♕e3 e5 18 d5 ♘a5 19 c4 ♘b3 20 ♖a2 f6 21 h4 ♗c8 22 ♖b1 ♘d4 23 ♘xd4 cxd4 24 ♕g3 ♗f8 25 ♗d2 ♗d6 26 ♖f1 ♕g7 27 a4 a5 28 ♖b2 ♗c5 29 f4 ♗d7 30 h5 ♗xa4 31 h6 ♕c7 32 f5 g5 33 ♗xg5 fxg5 34 ♕xg5+ ♔f8 35 ♕f6+ ♔e8 36 ♖a1 ♕e7 37 ♕e6 ♖d6 38 ♕g8+ ♕f8 39 ♕g3 ♕xh6 40 ♖xa4 ♕c1+ 41 ♔f2 ♕xb2+ 42 ♔f3 ♔f7 0-1

On the conclusion of this game, Petrosian 'dropped in' at the Press Centre, and of course immediately joined the discussion on the most stormy encounter of the 8th round. The Ex-World Champion was obliged to answer numerous questions, and to support his conclusions with appropriate variations.*

After 38 ♕g8+ ♕f8 could Kasparov have forced a draw? After all, there are opposite-colour bishops on the board.

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* For Kasparov's detailed comments on this game, the reader is referred to *The Test of Time* p.58 (Pergamon, 1986). (Translator's note)

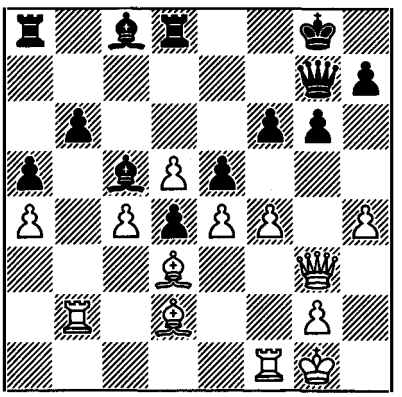
Petrosian quickly replied:

But there are also other pieces. I think that if there was a draw, it would not have been an easy one. For example, 39 ♕xf8+ ♔xf8 40 ♖xa4 ♖xh6 41 g3 ♔g7 42 ♖h2 ♖xh2 43 ♔xh2 ♔f6. Black then exchanges his h-pawn for the white g-pawn, and his king reaches f4 – White's defence is not easy. Note that Black's bishop is much stronger than its white opponent, and his passed a- and d-pawns are much superior to the blockaded white d- and f-pawns.

After 35 f6 (instead of 35 ♕f6+?) it would appear that White would have won?

Of course, 35 f6 was stronger, but it should be borne in mind that at this point Kasparov had very little time left on his clock. I should point out that I too committed a significant inaccuracy, in underestimating my opponent's attacking potential.

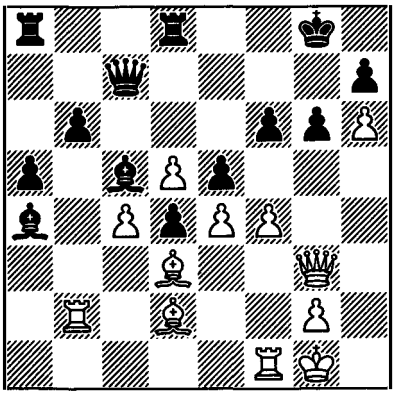
344



Here I played 29 ... ♗d7, whereas 29 ... h6! was much stronger, e.g. 30 h5 g5 31 fxg5 fxg5 32 ♔h1 ♖f8 33 ♗e2, when the exchange sacrifice 33 ... ♖f4! is now perfectly possible.

Incidentally, 29 ... h6 would also have forestalled another interesting attacking possibility for White.

345



Here there followed 32 f5. I also considered 32 fxe5 fxe5 33 ♗g5 ♖e8 34 ♗f6 ♖ac8 35 ♖f5 ♗d6 36 c5! bxc5 37 ♗c4!. A highly amusing position. Black is completely defenceless against the threat of 38 ♖xe5 ♖xe5 39 ♗xe5 ♗xe5 40 d6+! and ♕xe5.

And where else could Kasparov have played more strongly?

27 a4 was a significant inaccuracy. White should not have made such a serious weakening of his queenside.

(910) Petrosian-Balashov
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕c7 13 ♕d2 ♖d8 14 dxc5 dxc5 15 ♕f4 ♘a6 16 ♕xc7 ♘xc7 17 ♗xf6 gxf6 18 ♘e1 ♗xg2 19 ♔xg2 ♔f8 20 ♔f3 ♔e7 21 e3 ♘e8 22 ♔e2 ♖xd1 23 ♖xd1 ♘d6 24 ♘d3 ♘e4 25 ♖c1 ♖d8 ½-½

(911) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 b6 3 ♘c3 ♗b7 4 d4 e6 5

a3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗b5+ c6 9 ♗d3 ♘xc3 10 bxc3 c5 11 0-0 0-0 12 ♕c2 g6 13 e4 ♕c7 14 ♕e2 ♖d8 15 h4 ♘c6 16 ♗e3 ♗f6 17 e5 ♗g7 18 h5 ♖d7 19 hxg6 hxg6 20 ♖ad1 cxd4 21 cxd4 ♕d8 22 ♗e4 ♘e7 23 ♘g5 ♘f5 24 ♕g4 ♗d5 25 ♗xf5 gxf5 26 ♕h5 f6 27 ♕h7+ ♔f8 28 ♘h3 ♕e7 29 exf6 ♕xf6 30 ♗g5 ♕f7 31 ♘f4 ♗f6 32 ♕h6+ ♔e7 33 ♖c1 ♖ad8 34 ♖fe1 ♗xg5 35 ♕xg5+ ♕f6 36 ♘g6+ ♔f7 37 ♘e5+ ♔e7 38 ♘g6+ ♔f7 39 ♘e5+ ♔e7 40 ♕xf6+ ♔xf6 41 ♘xd7+ ♖xd7 42 f3 b5 43 ♔f2 ♖b7 44 ♖h1 ♖b6 45 ♖c7 ♖a6 46 f4 1-0

(912) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♗g5 ♗e7 5 e3 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 9 e4 ♘f6 10 ♘c3 c5 11 e5 ♘d5 12 ♖c1 ♖d8 13 ♘xd5 ♖xd5 14 ♗d3 ♘c6 15 ♗e4 ♖d8 16 ♗xc6 bxc6 17 ♖xc5 ♗a6 18 ♕c2 ♖ab8 19 b3 ♖b5 20 ♖xb5 ♗xb5 21 ♔d2 c5 22 ♔e3 ♖d5 23 ♖d1 g5 24 h3 ♕c7 25 ♕b2 a5 26 a3 cxd4+ 27 ♖xd4 ♖c5 28 ♔d2 ♗f1 29 b4 axb4 30 axb4 ♖b5 31 ♖g4 ♖d5+ 32 ♔e1 ♗d3 33 h4 ♗f5 34 ♖d4 ♖xd4 35 ♕xd4 ♕c2 36 hxg5 ♗d3 ½-½

(913) Belyavsky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♕g4 ♗f8 6 a4 ♘c6 7 ♗b5 ♗d7 8 ♗g5 ♘ge7 9 ♘f3 h6 10 ♕h3 ♘b4 11 ♖c1 a6 12 ♗e2 c5 13 0-0 ♕c7 14 dxc5 bxc5 15 ♖fe1 ♖g8 16 ♗d2 ♘bc6 17 ♗d3 g6 18 b3 ♗g7 19 ♕g3 ♘b4 20 h4 ♖b8 21 ♗f1 ♘f5 22 ♕f4 ♗f8 23 ♘d1 ♗c8 24 ♘e3 ♘xe3 25 ♕xe3 ♘c6 26 ♗d3 ♘b4 27 ♗f1 ♘c6 28 ♘h2 h5 29 ♘f3 ♘e7 30 g3 ♘f5 31 ♕e2 ♗b7 32 ♗g2 ♗e7 33 ♗g5 a5 34 ♗xe7 ♔xe7 35 ♘g5 ♖h8 36 ♕d2 ♕b6 37 ♖b1 ♔f8 38 ♔h2 ♔g7 39 ♗h3 d4 40 ♕f4 ♕c6 41 ♘e4 ♕c7 42 ♘d6 ♕e7 43 ♗xf5 gxf5 44 c3 ♗d5 45 b4 dxc3 46 b5 ♔h7 47 ♖bc1 ♖hg8 48 f3 ♖bd8 49 ♖xc3 f6 50 ♘c4 ♗a8 51 exf6 ♕xf6 52 ♕e5 ♕g6 53 ♘d6 ♖g7 54 ♖xc5 ♗xf3 55 b6 ♕h6 56 ♖c2 f4 57 ♖g1 ♕g6 58 ♖d2 ♖f8 59 ♖b2 ♕g4 60 b7 fxg3+ 61 ♕xg3 ♖b8 62 ♖b5 ♖d7 63 ♖xa5 ♕xg3+ 64 ♖xg3 ♗d5 65 ♖a6 ♗xb7 66 ♖b6 ♖c7 67 a5 e5 68 ♖b2 ♖d7 69 ♘e4 ♖d1 70 ♖g1 ♖d4 71 ♘g5+ ♔h8 72 ♘f7+ ♔h7 73 ♘g5+ ♔h8 74 ♘f3 ♖f4 75 ♖b6 ♔h7 76 ♘g5+ ♔h8 76 ♘h3 1-0

(914) Petrosian-Gheorghiu
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘e2 d5 7 a3 ♗xc3+ 8 bxc3 b6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 0-0 ♗a6 11 f3 ♗xd3 12 ♕xd3 ♘c6 13 ♘g3 ♕d7 14 ♗b2 ♖ad8 15 ♖ad1 cxd4 16 cxd4 ♘e8 17 e4 ♘d6 18 ♗c1 ♘c4 19 f4 f6 ½-½

USSR Team Championship
Moscow, May 1981

Board 1, +2 -1 =6.

(915) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 d5 3 c4 e6 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♖c1 c6 9 ♗d3 ♘d7 10 cxd5 exd5 11 0-0 ♗e7 12 ♗b1 ♖e8 13 ♕d3 g6 14 ♖ce1 ♘f8 15 ♕d2 ♔g7 16 ♘e5 f6 17 ♘d3 ♗f5 18 ♘f4 ♗xb1 19 ♖xb1 ♗d6 20 ♘d3 a5 21 a3 a4 22 ♕c2 ♕a5 23 b3 axb3 24 ♖xb3 ♖e7 25 a4 h5 26 ♖fb1 ♖a7 27 h4 ♘e6 28 ♕d1 ♔f7 29 ♕f3 ♕c7 30 g3 ♘g7 31 e4 dxe4 32 ♘xe4 ♘f5 33 ♘b2 ♕d7 34 ♖d1 ♕e6 35 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 36 d5 cxd5 37 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 38 ♖xd5 ½-½

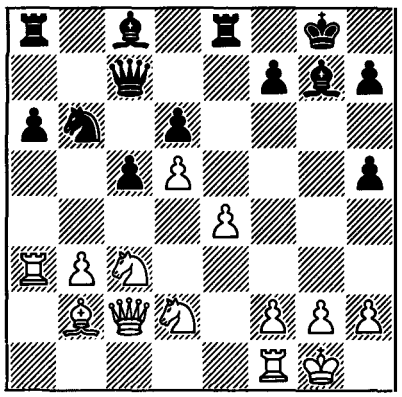
(916) Tal-Petrosian
Ruy Lopez

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘c6 3 ♗b5 a6 4 ♗a4 ♘f6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♖e1 b5 7 ♗b3 d6 8 c3 0-0 9 h3 ♘b8 10 d4 ♘bd7 11 ♘bd2 ♗b7 12 ♗c2 ♖e8 13 ♘f1 ♗f8 14 ♘g3 g6 15 a4 c5 16 d5 c4 17 ♗g5 ♗g7 18 ♕d2 ♕e7 19 ♘h2 ♕f8 20 ♖f1 h5 21 ♘f3 ♘h7 22 ♗e3 ♗f6 23 ♘g5 ♘xg5 24 ♗xg5 ♕e7 25 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 26 ♘e2 ♕h8 27 ♕e3 ♘c5 28 f4 ♕h6 29 ♕f3 exf4 30 ♘xf4 ♕g7 31 axb5 axb5 32 ♘e2 ♖xa1 33 ♖xa1 ♗c8 34 ♖a8 ½-½

(917) Petrosian-Lutikov
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 3 d5 d6 4 c4 e6 5 ♘c3 exd5 6 cxd5 a6 7 a4 g6 8 ♘d2 ♘bd7 9 e4 ♗g7 10 ♗e2 0-0 11 0-0 ♖e8 12 ♖a3 ♖b8 13 a5 ♕c7 14 ♕c2 ♖a8 15 b3 b5 16 axb6 ♘xb6 17 ♗b2 ♘h5 18 ♗xh5 gxh5 *(346)*

346



19 ♘d1 f6 20 b4 ♖a7 21 bxc5 ♕xc5 22 ♖c3 ♕a5 23 ♘e3 ♗d7 24 ♖a1 ♘a4 25 ♖c4 ♖b7 26 ♗c3 ♕b6 27 ♖axa4 ♗xa4 28 ♕xa4 ♕b5 29 ♕a1 ♖eb8 30 g3 h4 31 ♔g2 hxg3 32 hxg3 ♗h6 33 ♘df1 ♖e8 34 ♗xf6 ♖f7 35 e5 dxe5 36 ♖g4+ ♗g7 37 ♗xe5 ♖ee7 38 ♖xg7+ ♖xg7 39 ♗xg7 ♖xg7 40 ♕e5 1-0

(918) Taimanov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 dxc5 ♕xd1 8 ♖xd1 ♗xc5 9 a3 ½-½

(919) Petrosian-Nei
Slav Defence

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 e3 ♘bd7 6 ♕c2 dxc4 7 ♗xc4 b5 8 ♗d3 a6 9 ♘e4 ♕b6 10 b3 ♗b7 11 ♗b2 ♘xe4 12 ♗xe4 ♘f6 13 0-0 ♖c8 14 ♖ac1 ♗e7 15 ♗d3 0-0 16 ♕e2 ♖fd8 17 a3 c5 18 dxc5 ♗xc5 19 b4 ♗e7 20 ♗d4 ♕d6 21 ♖cd1 ♕c6 22 ♕b2 ♕e8 23 ♖fe1 ♗xf3 24 gxf3 ♘d5 25 ♗e4 f5 26 ♗xd5 ♖xd5 27 ♗e5 ♖xd1 28 ♖xd1 ♖d8 29 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 30 ♕d4 ♗f6 31 ♗xf6 ♕g6+ 32 ♔f1 ♕xf6 33 ♕d7 g5 34 ♕c8+ ♔f7 35 ♕xa6 ♕e5 36 ♕b7+ ♔g6 37 ♔g2 h5 38 ♕a8 g4 39 h3 ♕d5 40 ♕g8+ ♔f6 41 ♕f8+ ½-½

(920) Agzamov-Petrosian
Benoni Defence

1 d4 c5 2 d5 d6 3 e4 g6 4 ♘f3 ♗g7 5 h3 ♘f6 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 ♗e3 e6 8 ♗e2 (8 dxe6 ♗xe6 9 ♘g5!?) **8 ... exd5 9 exd5 ♘a6 10 0-0** ♘c7 **11 a4 b6** (weakness at d5) **12 ♗c4 a6 13 ♖b1 ♗d7** (13 ... ♖b8 14 b4 ∞) **14 ♕e2** (14 b4 b5 ∓) **14 ... ♖e8 15 ♖fd1 ♘e4 16 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 17 ♘d2 ♖e8 18 ♗b3 b5 ∓ 19 axb5 axb5 20 c3 c4** (20 ... ♗f5 21 ♖bc1 ♗c8 intending ... ♗b7) **21 ♗c2 ♘xd5 22 ♘xc4 ♗c6 23 ♘d2 ♘xe3** (23 ... ♘f4!? 24 ♕g4 ♘xg2 25 ♗g5 – intending ♗e4 ∞ – 25 ... ♕c8! ∓) **24 fxe3 ♕b6 25 ♘f1 ♗e5 26 ♔h1 b4 27 ♗b3!?** (27 c4 ∓; 27 cxb4 ∓) **27 ... ♖e7 28 ♕d3 ♕b7 29 ♕d2** (29 ♗d5 ♗xd5 30 ♕xd5 ♕xd5 31 ♖xd5 bxc3 32 bxc3 ♖c8 ∓) **29 ... ♖b8 30 ♘h2 h5**

31 ♖f1 ♔g7 32 ♘f3 ♗xf3 33 ♖xf3 bxc3 34 bxc3 ♕e4 35 ♕c2 ♕xc2 36 ♗xc2 ♖c8! 37 e4 ♗xc3 38 ♗b3 ♖b7 39 ♖ff1 h4! 40 ♗d5 ♖bc7 (40 ... ♖xb1 41 ♖xb1 ♗d4 ∓∓) **41 ♖b7?** (41 ♖fd1!? intending ♖bc1) **41 ... ♖xb7 42 ♗xb7 ♖c7 43 ♗d5** (43 ♖c1 ♖xb7 44 ♖xc3 ♔f6 ∓∓) **43 ... ♗d4 ∓∓ 44 ♗b3 f6 45 ♗d1 ♔h6 46 ♗g4 ♔g5 47 ♖d1 ♖c4 48 ♖f1 ♗c5 49 ♗f3 f5 50 exf5 gxf5 51 ♖d1 f4! 52 ♔h2 ♔f6 53 ♔h1 ♖c3 54 ♔h2 ♔e5 55 ♖d5+ ♔e6 56 ♖d1 ♗e3 57 ♖a1 ♖c5 58 ♖d1 d5 59 ♗h5 d4 60 ♗g6 ♖c3 61 ♗h7 ♔d5 62 ♗g6 ♔c5 63 ♗d3 ♖a3 64 ♗g6 ♔c4 65 ♗f7+ ♔b4 66 ♗g6 ♖a2 67 ♔h1 ♔c3 68 ♖d3+ ♔b2 69 ♖d1 ♖a1 70 ♖xa1 ♔xa1 71 g3 fxg3 72 ♔g2 ♔b2 73 ♔f3 ♔c3 74 ♗e4 ♗g5 75 ♔e2 ♗e7 76 ♗f5 ♗c5 77 ♗e4 d3+ 78 ♔f3 ♗b6 79 ♗c6 d2 80 ♗a4 ♔b2 0-1**

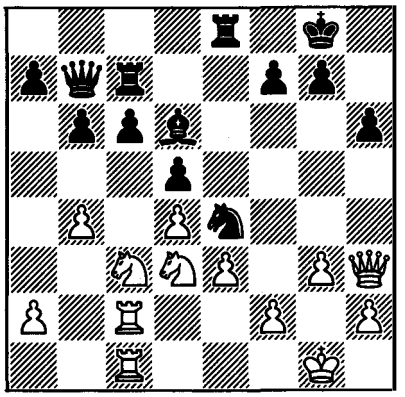
(921) Petrosian-Kupreichik
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 g3 g6 3 ♗g2 ♗g7 4 0-0 0-0 5 d4 d6 6 a4 ♘c6 7 a5 a6 8 d5 ♘a7 9 ♖e1 c6 10 e4 e6 11 dxe6 ♗xe6 12 c3 ♖e8 13 ♘bd2 d5 14 exd5 ♗xd5 15 ♖xe8+ ♕xe8 16 ♘f1 ♖d8 17 ♗e3 ♘b5 18 ♘1d2 ♘g4 19 ♗b6 ♖d7 20 ♕f1 ♘e5 21 ♖e1 ♖e7 22 ♘xe5 ♖xe5 23 ♖xe5 ♕xe5 24 ♕d3 h5 25 ♗f1 ♗e6 26 ♕d8+ ♗f8 27 c4 ♘d6 28 ♘f3 ♕f5 29 ♘d4 ♕e5 30 ♘f3 ♕f5 31 ♘d4 ♕e5 ½-½

(922) Petrosian-Georgadze
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♕d2 ♗e6 11 ♖d1 c6 12 g3! ± ♘d7 13 ♗g2 ♕c7 14 0-0 ♗e7 15 ♖c1 ♖ac8 16 ♘e1 ♕d6 17 ♘d3 ♗f5 18 ♖fd1 ♖fe8 19 ♕e2 ♕b8?! (19 ... ♖c7!?) **20 ♕f1 ♗d6 21 ♗h3 ♗xh3 22 ♕xh3 ♘f6 23 b4 ± ♘e4 24 ♖c2 ♖c7 25 ♖dc1 ♕b7??** (25 ... ♖ee7!) *(347)*

347



26 ♘xd5 cxd5 27 ♖xc7 ♗xc7 28 ♕d7 ♖c8 29 ♘e5 ♘d6 30 ♖c2? (30 ♖c6 ♕b8 31 b5! ±±) **30 ... a5! 31 b5 a4! 32 ♘c6 ♔f8 33 ♕e7+ ♔g8 34 ♕d7 ♔f8 35 ♘b4?** (35 ♕e7+ =; 35 ♘e5 ∞) **35 ... a3 36 ♔f1** (time trouble) **36 ... g6 37 ♔g1?** (37 g4!?) **37 ... h5 38 h4 ♔g7 39 ♔f1 ♘e8 40 ♕e7??** (40 ♕xd5 ∓) **40 ... ♖b8 ∓∓ 41 ♘c6 ♗d6 42 ♕g5 ♘c7 43 e4 f6 44 ♕e3 ♖e8 45 e5 fxe5 46 dxe5 ♗c5 47 ♕g5 ♘e6 0-1**

(923) Panchenko-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♕e2 ♗e7 10 ♖e1 h6 11 ♗d2 a6 12 a4 0-0 13 ♖ad1 ♗d7 14 ♗c1 ♕c7 15 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 16 ♖xd4 ♗xa4 17 ♘e5 ♗b5 18 ♗xb5 axb5 19 ♕xb5 ½-½

International Tournament
Oberwart, August 1981

1 Nemet 8; 2-6 Abramović, Cserna, **Petrosian** (+6 –0 =3), Radulov, Spasov 7½;

7-11 Bukal, Danner, Lalić, Lukacs, Martinović 7 . . . (238 competed).

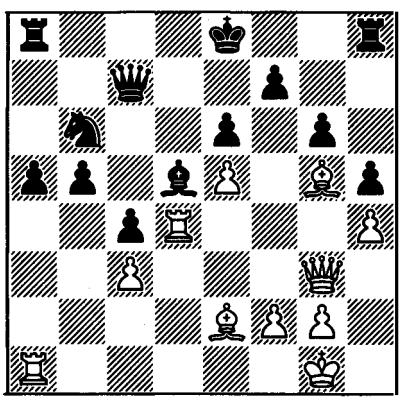
(924) Petrosian-Martinović
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 e6 4 ♘c3 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♘bd7 8 e4 ♗g7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♘e8!? 11 ♔h1 (11 a4) **11 ... f5 12 exf5 gxf5 13 a4 ♘e5?** (13 ... f4 14 ♗g4 ♘e5 15 ♗xc8 ♕xc8 16 ♘f3 =) **14 f4! ♘g4 15 ♘f3 ♕e7?** (15 ... ♘c7 intending ... b6, ... ♗b7; weak pawn at d5) **16 ♕e1 ♗xc3 17 bxc3 ♘ef6 18 ♖a2!** (intending 18 ... ♘e3 19 ♗c4 ±±) **18 ... ♖e8 19 c4! ±± ♗d7 20 h3 ♘e3 21 ♖g1 ♕g7 22 ♕h4 ♘e4 23 g4!** (23 ♗xe3 ♘c3 ∞) **23 ... fxg4 24 ♗xe3 ♘c3 25 ♘h2! ♕e7 26 ♕xe7 ♖xe7 27 ♗xg4 ♗xg4 28 ♖b2! ♖xe3 29 ♘xg4 ♖xh3+ 30 ♔g2 ♖d3 31 ♖xb7 ♖f8 32 ♔h2 ♖d2+ 33 ♔h1 ♔h8 34 ♘f6 1-0**

(925) Gazarek-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 e4 b5 6 e5 ♘d5 7 a4 e6 8 axb5 ♘xc3 9 bxc3 cxb5 10 ♘g5 ♗b7 11 ♕h5 g6 12 ♕g4 ♗e7 13 ♗e2 ♘d7 14 h4 h5 15 ♕g3 ♘b6 16 0-0 a5 17 d5 ♗xd5 18 ♖d1 ♕c7 19 ♖d4 ♗xg5 20 ♗xg5 *(348)*

348

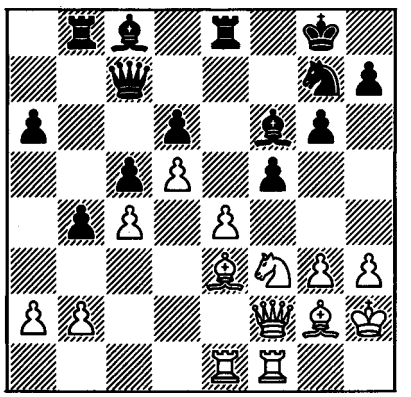


20 ... ♔d7 21 ♖ad1 ♔c6 22 ♗c1 ♕e7 23 ♗g5 ♕d7 24 ♗c1 ♔b7 25 ♕e3 ♖hd8 26 ♗a3 ♕c6 27 ♗f1 ♔a6 28 f3 ♖d7 29 ♖4d2 ♘a4 30 ♖a1 ♕b6 31 ♖d4 ♘c5 32 ♗xc5 ♕xc5 33 ♔h1 ♗c6 34 ♕f4 ♖xd4 35 cxd4 ♕e7 36 ♕d2 a4 37 ♖b1 ♕xh4+ 0-1

(926) Petrosian-Vukić
Old Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 ♘bd7 4 ♘f3 e5 5 g3 c6 6 e4 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 a6 9 h3 ♕c7 10 ♗e3 (10 a4 a5 ±) **10 ... b5 11 ♘d2 b4?!** (11 ... ♖e8) **12 ♘e2 c5??** (12 ... a5) **13 d5 ± ♖b8 14 ♘c1!** (intending f2-f4; intending a2-a3) **14 ... g6 15 ♘d3 ♘h5 16 ♔h2 ♘g7 17 ♕e2 f5 18 f4 ♗f6 19 ♖ae1 exf4 20 ♗xf4 ♖e8 21 ♕f2 ♗d4 22 ♗e3 ♘e5 23 ♘xe5 ♗xe5** (23 ... dxe5 24 ♗xd4 exd4 [*24 ... cxd4 25 ♖c1 intending c4-c5* ±±] 25 e5 ♖xe5 26 ♕f4 ♖e7 27 ♖xe7 ±±) **24 ♘f3! ♗f6** *(349)*

349



25 ♗g5! fxe4 (25 ... ♕f7 26 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 27 e5 dxe5 28 ♕xc5 ±) **26 ♗xf6 ±± exf3 27 ♖xe8+ ♘xe8 28 ♗g5 h6 29 ♕xf3** (29 ♗xh6 ♔h7 30 ♕xf3 ♔xh6 31 ♕f8+ ±±) **29 ... ♗f5 30 ♗xh6 ♔h7 31 ♗g5 b3 32 axb3 ♘g7 33 g4 1-0**

(927) Tielmann-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 g3 0-0!? 5 ♗g2 d6 6 ♘f3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 ♘c6 8 0-0 ♘a5 9 ♕d3 (9 ♗g5!? ♘xc4 10 e4 h6 11 ♗h4 g5 12 ♘xg5 with attack) **9 ... b6 10 ♘d2 ♖b8 11 ♘b3 ♗a6 12 ♘xa5 bxa5** (intending ... d5) **13 ♗c6!** (13 ♗a3 ♘d5 ∓) **13 ... ♕c8** (13 ... d5 14 ♗b5 =) **14 ♗a3 ♖b6 15 ♗b5 ♗xb5 16 cxb5 a6 17 bxa6** (17 c4 axb5 18 cxb5 ♕b7 ∓) **17 ... ♕xa6 18 ♕xa6 ♖xa6 = 19 ♖ab1?!** (19 c4 =) **19 ... ♖c6! 20 ♖fc1 ♖c4! 21 ♖b5 ♖a8 ∓ 22 ♔g2?** (22 f3! ♘d5?! 23 e4 ♘xc3 24 ♖b2) **22 ... ♔f8 23 f3 ♘d7!** (23 ... ♘d5? 24 e4 ♖xc3 25 exd5 ♖xa3 26 ♖xc7) **24 e4 ♖a4 25 ♖b3 ♖b8! ∓** (25 ... ♘b6? 26 ♗xd6+) **26 ♖cb1** (26 ♖xb8+ ♘xb8 27 ♖b1 ♘d7 28 ♖b3 ♔e7 intending ... ♘b6-c4 ∓∓) **26 ... ♖xa3! 27 ♖xb8+ ♘xb8 28 ♖xb8+ ♔e7 29 ♖a8 ♖xa2+ 30 ♔h3 ♖c2! 31 ♖xa5 ♖xc3 32 ♔g4 ♖c4 33 d5 exd5?** (33 ... ♖c5 ∓∓) **34 ♖xd5 c5 ∓ 35 ♔f4 ♔e6** (35 ... ♖d4 36 ♖h5 h6 37 ♔e3) **36 ♖d3 ♖d4 37 ♖a3 f5 ∓∓ 38 ♖a7 fxe4 39 fxe4 d5 40 ♖a6+ ♔d7 41 ♖a7+** (41 ♔e5!? dxe4 42 ♖a7+ ♔c6?! 43 ♖xg7 e3 44 ♔f5 ♖e4 ∓∓; 44 ♖e7!?; 42 ... ♔e8! ∓∓) **41 ... ♔c6 42 ♖xg7 ♖xe4+ 43 ♔f3 c4 44 ♖xh7 ♖e8 45 ♖h6+ ♔c5 46 ♖h7 d4 47 g4 d3 48 ♖d7 ♔b4 49 g5 ♔c3 50 g6 ♔d2 0-1**

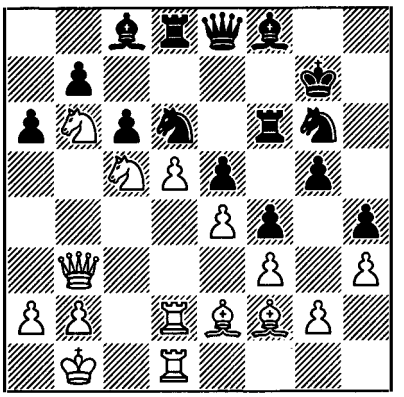
(928) Petrosian-Bukal
Benko Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 b5 4 cxb5 a6 5 bxa6 ♗xa6 6 ♘c3 g6 7 e4 ♗xf1 8 ♔xf1 d6 9 g3 ♗g7 10 ♔g2 0-0 11 ♘f3 ♘bd7 12 ♖e1 ♕b6 13 ♕e2 ♖fb8 14 e5 dxe5 15 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 16 ♕xe5 ♖d8 17 ♕f4 ♕b7 ½-½

(929) Petrosian-Vigh
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 e4 d6 4 d4 ♗g7 5 f3 0-0 6 ♗e3 ♘c6 7 ♘ge2 a6 8 ♘c1 ♖b8 9 ♘b3 e5 10 d5 ♘e7 11 ♕d2 ♘e8 12 0-0-0 f5 13 c5 ♘f6 14 ♔b1 ♗d7 15 h3 f4 16 ♗f2 g5 17 ♗c4 ♔h8 18 ♘e2 ♘e8 19 ♖c1 h5 20 ♕a5 ♘g6 21 ♗d3 ♖f7 22 ♕c3 ♗c8 23 cxd6 ♘xd6 24 ♘c5 h4 25 ♖hd1 ♕e8 26 ♕b3 ♗d7 27 ♖d2 ♗f8 28 ♘c3 c6 29 ♖cd1 ♖d8 30 ♘3a4 ♗c8 31 ♘b6 ♔g7 32 ♗e2 ♖f6 *(350)*

350



33 ♘xc8 ♖xc8 34 ♘xb7 ♖b8 35 dxc6 ♕xc6 36 ♘a5 ♕e8 37 ♕d5 ♘f7 38 ♗c5 ♕a4 39 ♘b3 ♗d6 40 ♗xd6 ♖xd6 41 ♕a5 ♕xa5 42 ♘xa5 ♖db6 43 ♗c4 ♔f6 44 b3 ♖c8 45 ♖d7 ♘e7 46 ♔a1 ♖c5 47 ♘b7 ♖cc6 48 ♗xf7 1-0

(930) Nikolić-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 ♘xd4 ♘c6 6 ♘xc6 bxc6 7 ♗d3 ♘f6 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♖e1 a5 10 ♕e2 a4 11 c4 0-0 12 ♖b1 ♖e8 13 ♗c2 ♗b7 14 e5 ♘d7 15 b4 c5 16 bxc5 ♘xc5 17 ♗a3 ♗a6 18 ♕e3 d4 19 ♕h3 d3 20 ♗d1 ♕d4 21 ♗b2 ♕d7 22 ♗c3 ♖ab8

23 ♖xb8 ♖xb8 24 ♕g4 a3 25 ♖e3 ♘a4 26 ♗xa4 ♕xa4 27 h4 ♕c2 28 ♘e4 ♗b7 29 ♘f6+ ♔h8 30 ♖g3 g6 31 h5 ♗xf6 32 hxg6 ♕xc3 33 exf6 fxg6 34 ♕xe6 ♖f8 35 ♖xd3 ♕a1+ 36 ♔h2 ♕xf6 37 ♕xf6 ♖xf6 38 f3 ♗a6 39 ♖c3 ♖c6 40 c5 ♗c8 41 ♔g3 ♗e6 42 ♖c2 ♔g7 43 ♔f4 ♔f6 44 g4 h5 45 gxh5 gxh5 46 ♖c3 h4 47 ♔e3 h3 48 ♔f2 ♔e5 49 ♔g3 ♔d4 50 ♖xa3 ♖xc5 51 ♖a4+ ♔e5 52 ♖e4+ ♔f6 0-1

(931) Petrosian-Cserna
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 0-0 5 b3 b6 6 ♗b2 ♗b7 7 e3 ♖e8 8 ♗e2 d5 9 0-0 ♘bd7 10 ♖ad1 ♘e4 11 cxd5 exd5 12 ♘b5 c6 13 ♘bd4 ♖c8 14 ♘f5 ♗f8 15 d3 ♘g5 16 ♘d2 ♘e6 17 ♘g3 c5 18 ♕b1 d4 19 ♗f3 ♖c7 20 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 21 ♘f3 ♘b8 22 exd4 ♘xd4 23 ♘xd4 cxd4 24 ♖fe1 ♖xe1+ 25 ♖xe1 g6 26 ♖c1 ♘a6 27 ♖c4 ♗g7 28 h3 ♘c5 29 ♕c2 ♖c7 30 ♘e4 ♘e6 31 ♖xc7 ♕xc7 32 ♕xc7 ♘xc7 33 ♘d6 a6 34 ♗c1 ♘d5 35 a3 ♗f8 36 ♘c4 f5 37 ♘e5 ♗g7 38 ♘f3 ♘c7 39 ♔f1 ♔f8 40 a4 ♔e7 41 ♔e2 ♘e6 42 ♘g5 ♘xg5 43 ♗xg5+ ♔d6 44 ♗d8 b5 45 axb5 axb5 46 ♔f3 ♗e5 47 g4 ♔e6 48 ♗g5 ♔d5 49 gxf5 gxf5 50 ♗f4 ♔e6 51 ♗d2 ♔f6 ½-½

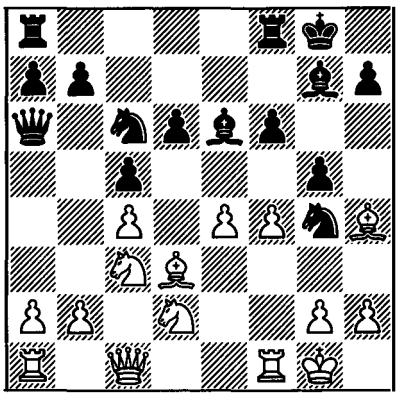
International Tournament
Vršac, September 1981

1 Sax 11½; 2 Smejkal 11; 3 **Petrosian** (+6 –1 =8) 10; 4-6 Campora, Kurajica, Matulović 8½; 7 Ftacnik 8; 8 Popović, Velimirović 7½; 10-12 Chandler, P.Nikolić, Rajković 7; 13 Cebalo 6½; 14 Veličković 6; 15 Kapelan 4½; 16 Simić 1.

(932) Petrosian-Veličković
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 c5 3 d5 g6 4 ♘c3 ♗g7 5 e4 0-0 6 ♗d3 d6 7 ♗g5 e6 8 dxe6 (8 ♕d2!?) **8 ... ♗xe6 9 f4?!** (9 ♘ge2) **9 ... ♘c6 10 ♘f3 ♕b6 11 ♕c1 ♕a6 12 ♘d2** (12 b3 h6 13 ♗h4 ♘h5 ∓) **12 ... ♘g4 13 0-0 f6** (13 ... ♗d4+ 14 ♔h1 ♘f2+ 15 ♖xf2 ♗xf2 16 f5 ♗d7 [*16 ... ♘e5 17 fxe6 ♘xd3 18 ♕f1*] 17 ♘d5 with initiative) **14 ♗h4 g5** *(351)*

351



15 ♘b5 (15 fxg5 fxg5 ∓) **15 ... ♕b6** (15 ... gxh4 16 ♘c7 ±) **16 ♗g3 gxf4 17 ♗xf4 a6 18 ♘c3** (18 ♘xd6? ♘ce5 ∓∓) **18 ... ♘ge5 = 19 ♗xe5 ♘xe5** (19 ... fxe5 with play on the h6-c1 diagonal) **20 ♕c2 ♗h6 21 ♘d5 ♗xd5 22 exd5 ♘xd3 23 ♕xd3 ♕xb2 24 ♘f3!** (with initiative – b-file and weak f5 square) **24 ... f5! 25 ♖ab1 ♕g7** (25 ... ♕xa2 26 ♖xb7 ±) **26 ♘h4 f4 27 ♘f5** (27 ♖b6 ♕f6 ∓) **27 ... ♕f6 28 ♘xh6+ ♕xh6 29 ♖xb7 ♖ae8! 30 ♕f3 ♕g5 31 ♖b3 ♕g7 32 ♖d3 ♔h8?** (32 ... ♖e5) **33 ♔h1 ♕e5 34 ♖a3 ♕d4 35 ♖xa6 ∓** (time trouble) **35 ... ♖e4 36 ♕d1 ♕xc4 37 ♖xd6 ♕xa2 38 ♖d7 ♕e2 39 d6 ♕xd1 40 ♖xd1 c4 41 ♔g1 c3?** (41 ... ♔g8!) **42 ♖c7! ±± ♖ee8 43 ♖xc3 ♔g7 44 ♔f2 ♖d8 45 ♔f3 ♖f6 46 d7 ♖f7 47 ♖cd3 ♔g8 48 ♖d4 ♔g7 49 ♖1d3 ♔g8 50 ♔e4 ♔g7 51 ♖d5 ♔g8 52 ♖3d4 ♔g7 53 ♔e5 h6 54 ♔e6 ♔g6 55 g3 1-0**

(933) Sax-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 ♘f6 4 ♘gf3 b6 5 c3 ♗e7 6 ♗e2 c5 7 0-0 ♗a6 8 ♖e1 ♕c7 9 ♘f1 ♘c6 10 ♗g5 0-0 ½-½

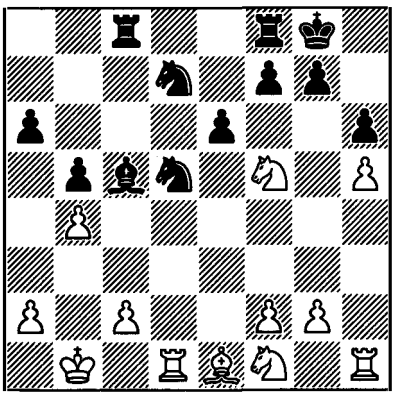
(934) Petrosian-Rajković
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♘bd7 8 e4 ♗g7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♖e8 11 a4 ♘e5 12 ♖a3 g5 13 ♕c2 ♘fd7 14 ♘d1 ♘f8 15 f3 (15 ♗b5!? ♖e7 16 ♖e1 ±) **15 ... ♘fg6 16 g3 ♗h3 17 ♖e1 ♖c8 18 ♘f2 ♗d7 19 ♘f1** ± (intending f3-f4) **19 ... c4! 20 ♗e3 ♘d3!? 21 ♘xd3 cxd3 22 ♕xd3 ♗xb2 23 ♖b3 ♗f6 24 ♖xb7 ♗xa4 25 ♕a6 ♗c2!** (25 ... ♗d7 26 ♕xd6 ±±) **26 ♗b5!?** (26 ♕xa7 ♖a8 27 ♕b6 g4; 26 ♖xa7 ♗c3 ∞) **26 ... ♘e5! 27 ♘d2** (27 ♗xe8 ♘xf3+ 28 ♔f2 ♕xe8 29 ♔xf3 ♕xe4+ 30 ♔f2 [*30 ♔e2? ♕g2+ 31 ♗f2 ♖e8* ++] 30 ... ♗d3 31 ♕xd6 ♗xf1 32 ♔xf1 ♕h1+ =) **27 ... ♖e7 28 ♖xe7 ♗xe7 29 ♖c1 ♖c7 30 ♗xa7 ♘d3! 31 ♖f1?** (31 ♗b6 ♘xc1 32 ♕a5 ±) **31 ... ♘b4 32 ♕a5 ♖b7!** ± **33 ♕xb4 ♖xa7 34 ♗c6 ♕a5 35 ♕xa5 ♖xa5 36 ♘c4 ♖a2 37 ♘e3 ♗f6 38 ♘xc2 ♖xc2** = **39 ♖d1 ♗e5 40 ♗d7 h5 41 ♖f1 h4 42 f4 ♗d4+ 43 ♔h1 hxg3 44 hxg3 ♖f2 45 ♖d1 ♗e3 46 fxg5 ♗xg5 47 ♖d3 ♖e2 ½-½**

(935) Matulović-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♗f5 5 ♘g3 ♗g6 6 h4 h6 7 ♘f3 ♘d7 8 h5 ♗h7 9 ♗d3 ♗xd3 10 ♕xd3 e6 11 ♗d2 ♘gf6 12 ♕e2 (12 0-0-0 ♗e7 13 ♔b1 a5 14 ♘e4 a4 15 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 16 ♘e5 ♕b6 17 a3 ♖d8 18 ♗c1 c5 19 ♕g3 ♖g8 20 dxc5 ♕xc5 21 ♖xd8+ ♗xd8 22 ♖d1 ½-½, Barczay-Tal, Tallinn, 1981) **12 ... ♕c7 13 ♖h4? ♗e7** (13 ... 0-0-0) **14 0-0-0 ♘d5** = **15 ♖hh1** (15 ♖g4 ♘7f6 ∓) **15 ... c5** (intending ... c4) **16 dxc5 ♘xc5 17 ♕b5+?** (17 ♔b1 intending ♘e4 =) **17 ... ♕d7 18 ♕xd7+ ♘xd7 19 ♘f1?** (19 ♘e4!?) **19 ... ♖c8 20 ♔b1 ♗c5 21 ♗e1** (21 ♘e3 ♘xe3 ∓) **21 ... b5** ∓ **22 ♘d4 a6 23 ♘f5? 0-0 24 b4?** (24 ♘5g3!?) *(352)*

352



24 ... ♘7f6 25 ♘xh6+ gxh6 26 bxc5 ♖xc5 27 ♖h3 ♖fc8 28 ♖g3+ ♔h7 29 ♖f3? (29 ♖c1 ♘e4 ∓) **29 ... ♖xc2** ++ **30 ♘e3 ♖2c7 31 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 32 ♖a3 ♖g8 33 g3 ♖g5 34 ♖xa6 ♖xh5 35 ♗d2 ♖f5 36 ♖f1 ♖f3 37 ♖a5 b4 38 ♖h1 ♖xf2 39 ♗xh6 ♔g6 40 ♖a8 ♖cc2 41 ♖g8+ ♔f5 42 g4+ ♔e4 0-1**

(936) Petrosian-Cebalo
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘f3 ♗xc3+ 7 bxc3 d6 8 e4 e5 9 d5 ♘e7 10 ♘d2 ♘g6 11 h4 h5 12 g3 ♕a5 13 ♕c2 ♗d7 14 a4 0-0-0 15 ♘f1 ♖de8 16 ♖a3 ♘e7 ½-½

(937) Simić-Petrosian
Sicilian Defence

1 e4 c5 2 ♘f3 d6 3 d4 cxd4 4 ♘xd4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♗e2 a6 7 0-0 ♕c7 8 f4 ♗e7 9 ♗e3 0-0 10 ♕e1 b5 11 ♗f3 ♗b7 12 e5 ♘e8 13 a3 ♘d7 14 ♕g3 ♖d8 15 ♗xb7 ♕xb7 16 ♔h1 dxe5 17 fxe5 ♖c8 18 ♗g5 ♗xg5 19 ♕xg5 h6 20 ♕e7 ♘c5 21 ♕xb7 ♘xb7 22 ♘e4 ♘c5 23 ♖fe1 ♘xe4 24 ♖xe4 ♘c7 25 a4 ♘d5 26 axb5 axb5 27 c3 b4 28 cxb4 ♖c4 29 ♖d1 ♖xb4 30 ♖e2 ♖fb8 31 ♖dd2 ♘f4 32 ♖f2 ♖c4 33 h3 g5 34 ♘f3 ♖b7 35 ♔h2 ♔g7 36 g3 ♘g6 37 ♖fe2 ♘e7 38 ♖d4 ♖xd4 39 ♘xd4 ♖b4 40 ♘f3 ♔g6 41 ♔g2 ♘f5 42 g4 ♘e7 43 ♘e1 ♘d5 44 ♘d3 ♖d4 45 ♖d2 ♖xd3 0-1

(938) Petrosian-Chandler
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 c5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 e6 4 e3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 d4 cxd4 7 exd4 ♗b4 8 ♗d2 ♘c6 9 ♗d3 ♗e7 10 ♖c1 0-0 11 h4 h6 12 ♗b1 f5 13 ♗e3 ♕d6 14 ♘xd5 ½-½

(939) Ftacnik-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 ♘f3 d5 2 d4 ♘f6 3 c4 c6 4 e3 g6 5 ♘c3 ♗g7 6 ♗d3 0-0 7 0-0 ♗g4 8 h3 ♗xf3 9 ♕xf3 e6 10 ♕e2 ♘bd7 11 ♖d1 ♖e8 12 b3 ♕e7 13 ♗b2 a6 14 ♕c2 ♖ac8 15 ♖ac1 ♖c7 16 ♗f1 ½-½

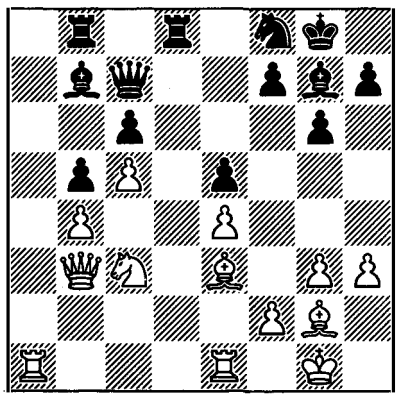
(940) Petrosian-Kapelan
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 ♘f3 ♘f6 5 ♗f4 0-0 6 e3 b6 7 ♖c1 ♗b7 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗g3 c5 10 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 11 dxc5 bxc5 12 ♗c4 ♕b6 13 ♗xd5 exd5 14 ♕xd5 ♖d8 15 ♕b3 ♕a5+ 16 ♔e2 ♘c6 17 ♖hd1 ♗f6 18 ♖d2 ♖xd2+ 19 ♘xd2 ♖e8 20 ♕b7 ♘d4+ 21 ♔d1 ♘e6 22 ♕b3 ♖d8 23 ♖c2 h5 24 h3 ♕a6 25 ♕c4 ♕b7 26 f3 ♗xb2 27 ♔e2 ♗f6 28 ♘b3 ♗e7 29 ♗e5 ♖d5 30 ♗c3 ♖g5 31 ♔f1 ♖d5 32 ♖d2 ♖xd2 33 ♘xd2 ♕b8 34 f4 ♗f8 35 ♕d5 ♕b5+ 36 ♔f2 ♕a4 37 ♕b3 ♕d7 38 ♕c4 ♕d8 39 ♔e2 ♕e8 40 ♗e5 ♕c6 41 ♕e4 ♕a6+ 42 ♕c4 ♕b7 43 ♔f2 ♗e7 44 ♕e4 ♕a6 45 ♕d5 ♕a4 46 ♔e2 ♕a6+ 47 ♔e1 ♕a3 48 ♔e2 ♕a6+ 49 ♔f2 ♕a4 50 ♕b3 ♕a6 51 a4 ♕c6 52 ♕b5 ♗h4+ 53 g3 ♕d5 54 ♘f3 ♗e7 55 ♔e2 ♕a2+ 56 ♘d2 ♗f8 57 ♕b3 ♕xb3 58 ♘xb3 f6 59 ♗b8 c4 60 ♘d2 ♘c5 61 ♘xc4 ♘xa4 62 ♗xa7 f5 63 e4 ½-½

(941) Smejkal-Petrosian
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 d6 3 d4 g6 4 ♘f3 ♘d7 5 g3 ♗g7 6 ♗g2 ♘gf6 7 0-0 0-0 8 e4 a6?! 9 ♖e1 ♖b8 10 h3 b5? (10 ... exd4 11 ♘xd4 ♘e5 12 b3 c5 intending ... b5) 11 c5! ♗b7? (11 ... b4 12 ♘a4 ♗b7 13 cxd6 cxd6 14 d5 ±) 12 dxe5 ♘xe5 13 ♘xe5 dxe5 14 ♕c2 c6?! (14 ... ♗c6 ±) 15 b4 ♕c7 16 a4 ♖fd8 17 ♗e3 ♘d7 (intending ... ♘f8-e6-d4) 18 ♕b3! ♘f8 19 axb5 axb5 *(353)*

353



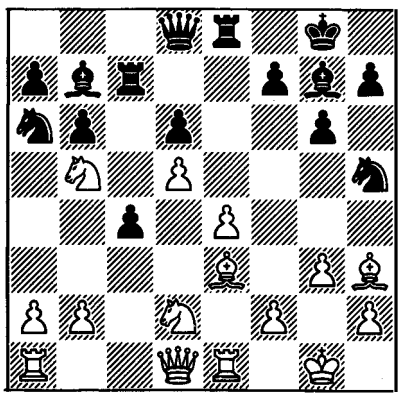
20 ♘d5 ±± ♕d7 (20 ... cxd5 21 exd5 ±±) 21 ♖ed1 ♕e6 22 ♗g5! ♖e8 (22 ... f6 23 ♘xf6+) 23 ♕e3 cxd5 24 exd5 ♕c8 25 c6 ♗a8 26 ♖a7 h5 27 d6 ♗xc6 28 ♖c7 ♕f5

29 ♗xc6 ♘e6 30 ♗xe8 ♘xg5 31 ♗d7 ♕f6 32 ♔g2 ♗f8 33 h4 ♘e6 34 ♗xe6 ♕xe6 35 d7 ♖d8 36 ♕e4 ♔g7 37 ♕d5 ♗xb4 38 ♖c8 ♗e7 39 ♕xe6 fxe6 40 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 41 ♖b1 ♔f6 42 ♖xb5 1-0

∫(942) Petrosian-Kurajica
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 b6 4 e4 ♗b7 5 d3 d6 6 g3 g6 (6 ... d5!?) **7 ♗g2 ♗g7 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♖e1** (intending d3-d4) **9 ... c5 10 d4 ♘a6** (10 ... ♘c6!? 11 d5 ♘d4 12 dxe6 [*12 ♘xd4 cxd4 13 ♘e2 e5 14 ♗g5 intending ♘c1-d3* ±] 12 ... fxe6 [*12 ... ♘xf3+ 13 ♗xf3* ±] 13 ♘xd4 cxd4 14 ♕xd4 ♘xe4 15 ♕e3 ±) **11 d5** ± **exd5** (11 ... e5 ±) **12 cxd5 ♖e8 13 ♗f4 c4?** (13 ... ♘c7!?) **14 ♘d2 ♘h5** (14 ... ♖c8 15 ♘b5 ±±) **15 ♗e3 ♖c8 16 ♗h3! ♖c7 17 ♘b5** *(354)*

354



17 ... ♗xb2 18 ♘xc7 ♕xc7 19 ♕a4 ♘f6 20 ♖ab1 c3 21 ♖xb2! cxb2 22 ♕d4! ♘d7 (22 ... ♕c1 23 ♕xf6 ♕xe1+ 24 ♗f1 ±±) **23 ♕xb2** ±± **♘ac5 24 ♖c1 ♘e5 25 ♕a3 ♗c8 26 ♗g2 f5 27 f4 ♘f7 28 ♗d4 ♕e7 29 ♗a1 h6 30 ♖e1 ♗a6 31 ♕c3 ♕f8 32 e5 dxe5 33 fxe5 ♘a4 34 ♕e3 ♔h7 35 e6 ♘d6 36 e7 ♕f7 37 ♕e5 ♘c4 38 ♘xc4 ♗xc4 39 d6 ♘c5 40 ♗c6 1-0**

(943) Petrosian-Velimirović
English Opening

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 c5 5 e3 ♘c6 6 b3 0-0 7 ♗b2 ♖e8 8 ♗e2 ♗xc3 (8 ... e5 9 ♘d5 ±; 8 ... d5!?) **9 ♕xc3 e5 10 0-0 d5?! 11 cxd5 ♘xd5 12 ♕xc5 ♗f5** (intending ... ♖c8) **13 ♗c4!? ♗e4 14 ♗xd5 ♗xd5 15 ♘e1!? ♖c8 16 ♕b5 a6 17 ♕e2** ± **♕h4 18 f3 f5 19 ♘d3 ♖cd8 20 ♖ae1** (20 ♘f2 intending e3-e4; 20 ♖ac1 intending ♖c5) **20 ... a5 21 ♗c3 ♖d6 22 e4 fxe4 23 fxe4 ♗xe4 24 ♘xe5 ♗d5 25 ♕b5** (25 ♘g6 ♕xe1!) **25 ... ♖ed8 26 ♘xc6 bxc6** (26 ... ♗xc6 27 ♕f5 ±±) **27 ♕e2** (time trouble; 27 ♕xa5 ♖g6 28 ♖e2 ♗xg2 29 ♖xg2 ♖xg2+ 30 ♔xg2 ♕g4+ =) **27 ... h6 28 ♕e7 ♕g4** (28 ... ♕xe7 29 ♖xe7 ±±) **29 ♖f2 ♔h7 30 h3 ♕g6 31 ♔h2** (31 ♗xa5 ♖8d7! [*31 ... ♖a8 32 ♗c3 ♖xa2 33 ♗xg7* ±±] 32 ♕h4 ♖a7 ∞) **31 ... ♖6d7 32 ♕h4 ♖f8 33 ♖ee2 ♖df7 34 ♕g3 ♕h5** (34 ... ♕xg3+ 35 ♔xg3 ♖xf2 36 ♖xf2 ♖xf2 37 ♔xf2 a4 38 bxa4 ±±; 34 ... ♖xf2!? 35 ♖xf2 ♖xf2 36 ♕xf2 a4!?) **35 ♖xf7 ♖xf7 36 ♖e8 ♕f5 37 ♖e2 a4 38 bxa4 ♗xa2 39 ♕e5 ♕g6 40 ♕e4 ♗d5 41 ♕xg6+** ±± **♔xg6 42 a5 ♖a7 43 ♖e5 ♔f7 44 g4 g6 45 h4 ♖d7** (45 ... ♖e7 46 ♖xe7+ ♔xe7 47 h5! gxh5 48 gxh5 ♗f3 49 ♔g3 ♗e2 [*49 ... ♗xh5 50 a6*] 50 ♔f2) **46 ♔g3 ♗c4 47 ♖e4 ♖d3+ 48 ♔f4 ♗b5** (48 ... ♗d5 49 ♖e3 ±±) **49 ♖e3 ♖d5 50 ♖f3 h5 51 ♔e4+ ♔e7 52 g5 ♗e2 53 ♖f6 ♗d3+ 54 ♔f4 ♔d7 55 ♔e3 ♗f5 56 ♖f7+ ♔e6 57 ♖f6+ ♔d7 58 ♔f4 ♗d3** (58 ... ♖c5!? – intending ... ♖c4-a4 – 59 a6 ♖c4+ 60 d4! ♖xc3 61 a7 ♖a3 62 ♖f8! c5 63 dxc5 ♖a4+ 64 ♔e5 ♗e4 65 ♖f4 ±±) **59 ♗e5 ♔e7 60 ♗c7 ♗b5 61 ♗b6! ♖xd2 62 ♖xg6 ♖g2 63 ♗c5+ ♔f7 64 ♖f6+ ♔g8 65 ♖d6 ♖c2** (65 ... ♖g4+ 66 ♔f5 ♖xh4 67 g6) **66 ♗e3 ♔f7 67 ♔f5 ♔e7 68 ♖d2 ♖c3 69 ♗d4 ♖f3+ 70 ♔g6 ♔e6 71 ♔xh5 ♖f4 72 ♗b2 c5 73 g6 ♗c6 74 ♔g5 1-0**

(944) Nikolić-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 ♘c6 8 ♕e2 cxd4 9 ♖d1 ♗e7 10 exd4 0-0 11 ♘c3 ♘d5 12 ♗d3 ♘cb4 13 ♗b1 b6 14 ♕e4 g6 15 ♗h6 ♖e8 16 ♘e5 ♗b7 17 ♕f3 f5 18 ♕g3 ♗h4 19 ♕h3 ♖c8 20 ♖a3 ♗f6 21 ♖e1 a5 22 ♘b5 ♗a6 23 ♕g3 ♗h4 24 ♕b3 ♗f6 25 ♕d1 ½-½

(945) Petrosian-Popović
English Opening

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 e4 ♘xc3 6 dxc3 ♕xd1+ 7 ♔xd1 ♘d7 8 ♗e3 e5 9 ♗c4 f6 10 ♔e2 ½-½

(946) Campora-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♘e2 dxe4 5 a3 ♗e7 6 ♘xe4 ♘c6 7 ♗e3 ♘f6 8 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 9 ♕d2 0-0 (9 ... e5 10 d5 [*10 0-0-0 exd4* =] 10 ... ♘e7 =) **10 0-0-0 ♘e7** (intending 11 ... ♘d5, 11 ... ♘f5) **11 ♘c3 ♘f5** (11 ... ♘d5 =) **12 ♘e4 ♗e7 13 ♗g5?! b6 14 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 ∓ 15 ♘g3?!** (15 ♕c3; 15 f3) **15 ... ♘h4! 16 ♗d3** (16 ♖g1 ♗b7 17 f3 ♖fd8 18 ♕e3 ∓) **16 ... ♗b7 17 f3 ♖ad8 18 ♗e4?** ∓ (18 ♕f2 ∓) **18 ... ♗xe4 19 fxe4 ♖d7 20 ♖hg1 ♖fd8 21 ♕e3 c5 22 c3?** ∓∓ (22 dxc5!? ∓) **22 ... cxd4 23 cxd4 ♖xd4 24 ♖xd4 ♕c5+ 25 ♔b1 ♕xd4 26 ♕xd4 ♖xd4 27 ♖c1 g6 28 ♖c7 ♘xg2 29 ♖xa7 f5 30 exf5 exf5 31 ♔c2 f4 32 ♘e2 ♘e1+ 33 ♔c3 ♖d3+ 34 ♔c4 f3 35 ♘f4 f2 0-1**

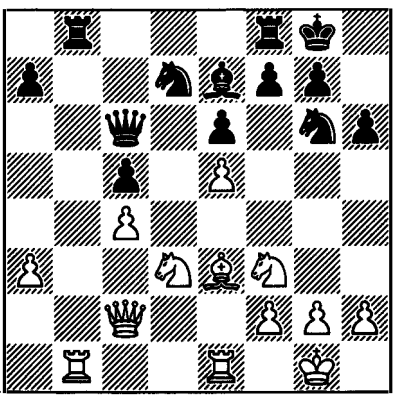
International Tournament
Tilburg, October 1981

1 Belyavsky 7½; 2 **Petrosian** (+3 –0 =8) 7; 3-4 Portisch, Timman 6½; 5 Ljubojević 6; 6-8 Andersson, Kasparov, Spassky 5½; 9-10 Larsen, Sosonko 4½; 11 Hübner 4; 12 Miles 3.

(947) Timman-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 ♗d2 ♕d7 6 ♘f3 ♗f8 7 ♗e2 ♗a6 8 0-0 c5 (8 ... c6; 8 ... ♘e7) **9 dxc5 bxc5 10 b3!? ♘e7 11 ♘a4 ♘g6 12 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 13 c4** (13 ♕e2 ♕c6? 14 c4 ±; 13 ... c4! =; 13 h4! f6 14 exf6 gxf6 15 h5 ±) **13 ... dxc4** (13 ... d4? 14 ♘b2 intending ♘d3 ±) **14 bxc4** = (14 ♖c1!? – intending ♖xc4 – 14 ... cxb3 15 ♕xb3 ♗e7 16 ♕c4 ♕c6! 17 ♘d4 ♕b7 18 ♖b1 ♘xe5! ∞) **14 ... ♗e7 15 ♖b1 0-0 16 ♕c2 ♕c6 17 a3 ♘b8! 18 ♘b2** (better 18 ♘c3 ♘d7 19 ♖fe1 =) **18 ... ♘d7 19 ♘d3 ♖ab8 20 ♖fe1 h6 21 ♗e3?** (21 ♗c3 ♘b6 22 ♘b2 =; 21 ♘f4 =) *(355)*

355



21 ... ♖b6?! (21 ... ♖xb1! 22 ♕xb1 [*22 ♖xb1 ♕e4!* ∓] 22 ... ♖b8 intending ... ♕b7 ∓ – pressure on the b-file and against e5) **22 ♖bd1 ♖fb8 23 ♗c1 ♖a6 24 ♖e3 ♘b6 25 ♘b2!** = **♘a4 26 ♘xa4 ♕xa4 27 ♕xa4 ♖xa4 28 ♖c3 ♖d8 29 ♖e1 ♔f8 30 g3 ♔e8 31 ♔g2 ½-½**

(948) Petrosian-Larsen
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 c5 5 dxc5 0-0 6 a3 ♗xc5 7 ♘f3 b6 8 ♗g5 ♗b7 9 e3 ♗e7 10 ♗d3 h6 11 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 12 0-0 ♘c6 13 ♘e4 ♗e7 14 ♖fd1 ♕c7 15 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 16 ♕e2 ♘a5 17 ♘ed2 d5 18 b4 ♘xc4 19 ♘xc4 dxc4 20 ♖xc4 ♕b8 21 h3 ♗f6 22 a4 ♖xc4 23 ♗xc4 ♖d8 24 ♖xd8+ ♕xd8 25 ♕c2 ♕d6 26 ♕b3 g5 27 b5 ♔g7 28 ♕c2 ♕b4 29 ♘d2 ♕c3 30 ♕d1 ♕a1 31 ♕xa1 ♗xa1 32 ♗e2 ♔f6 33 ♘c4 ♗e5 34 f3 ♗g3 35 ♗d3 ♗d5 36 ♔f1 h5 37 ♘d2 ♔e7 38 ♔e2 h4 39 ♗c4 ♗b7 40 ♗d3 f5 41 e4 ♗c8 42 ♘c4 ♔f6 43 ♗c2 ♗f4 44 ♔f2 ♗d7 45 ♗d3 ♗e8 46 ♔f1 ♗h5 47 ♔f2 g4 48 fxg4 fxg4 49 hxg4 ♗xg4 50 ♗e2 ♗g3+ 51 ♔e3 h3 52 gxh3 ♗xh3 53 a5 bxa5 54 ♘xa5 ♗c7 55 ♘c4 e5 56 ♔f3 ♔e7 57 ♘e3 ♗c8 58 ♘f5+ ♔d7 59 ♔e3 ♗b6+ 60 ♔d3 ♔c7 61 ♘e7 ♗e6 62 ♘d5+ ♔d6 63 ♔c4 ♗f2 64 ♔b4 ♗e1+ 65 ♔c4 ♗a5 66 ♗d1 ♗h3 67 ♘e3 ♗e6+ 68 ♘d5 ♗b6 69 ♗e2 ♗h3 70 ♘b4 ♗g2 71 ♗d3 ♗f3 72 ♘d5 ♔e6 ½-½

(949) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 b6 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♘e7 7 h4 ♗a6 8 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 9 h5 h6 10 ♕g4 ♖g8 11 ♕e2 ♘b8 12 ♘f3 ♘bc6 13 g4 ♕d7 14 ♘h4 ½-½

(950) Petrosian-Miles
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 c5 5 ♗d3 ♘c6 6 ♘e2 cxd4 7 exd4 d5 8 0-0 dxc4 9 ♗xc4 0-0 10 a3 ♗e7 11 ♕d3 b6 12 ♖d1 ♗b7 13 ♕h3! ♖e8 14 ♗a2 (14 d5 exd5 15 ♘xd5 ♕c8 =) **14 ... ♘b8** (14 ... ♖c8 15 d5! ±) **15 ♘f4** (intending d4-d5) **15 ... ♗d6 16 d5 e5** (16 ... exd5 17 ♘fxd5 ±) **17 ♘h5 ♘xh5** (17 ... ♘bd7 18 ♗g5 ±) **18 ♕xh5 ♘d7 19 ♗g5 f6** (19 ... ♘f6 20 ♕h4 h6 21 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 22 ♕xf6 gxf6 23 ♘e4 ♗e7 24 ♘g3 ±) **20 ♗e3 ♕e7 21 ♖ac1 ♔h8 22 ♘b5 ♘f8 23 h3** (23 ♕g4! intending h4-h5) **23 ... ♖ec8 24 ♕g4 ♕d8 25 h4 a6 26 ♘xd6 ♕xd6 27 h5 h6 28 ♗b1** (28 ♕b4! ♕xb4 29 axb4 b5 30 d6 ±±) **28 ... ♖xc1 29 ♗xc1 ♖d8 30 ♗e3 ♗c8** (30 ... ♗xd5 31 ♗e4 ♕c6 32 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 33 ♕f3) **31 ♕f3** (time trouble) **31 ... ♗d7 32 ♕e2?!** (32 g4! intending ♗e4) **32 ... ♗b5 33 ♕g4 ♗e8 34 f3 ♗f7 35 ♗e4 ♗e6 36 ♕h4 ♗g8 37 ♕f2 ♘d7 38 ♖c1 ±± b5 39 ♖c6 ♕f8 40 g4!** (40 ♖xa6 f5 41 ♗d3 ♗xd5) **40 ... ♘b8 41 ♖c5 ♘d7 42 ♖c7 b4** (42 ... ♗xd5 43 ♗xd5 ♕d6 44 ♖xd7 ±±) **43 a4 ♗xd5 44 ♗xd5 ♕d6 45 ♖xd7 ♕xd7 46 ♗e4!?** (46 ♗b3 f5) **46 ... ♕xa4 47 ♔g2 ±± ♕d1 48 ♗c2 ♕d5 49 ♕e2 b3 50 ♗e4 ♕e6 51 ♔g3 ♕c8 52 ♕f1! ♖d6 53 ♕a1! ♕c4 54 ♕a3! ♖d1 55 ♕e7 a5 56 ♕e8+ ♕g8 57 ♕b5 ♖a1 58 ♗d5 ♕d8 59 ♗xb3 ♖e1 60 ♔f2 ♖h1 61 ♔g2 ♖e1 62 ♗f2 ♖b1 63 ♗c2 ♖a1 64 ♕c4 ♕g8 65 ♕d3 a4** (66 ♗b1 zugzwang) **1-0**

(951) Hübner-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

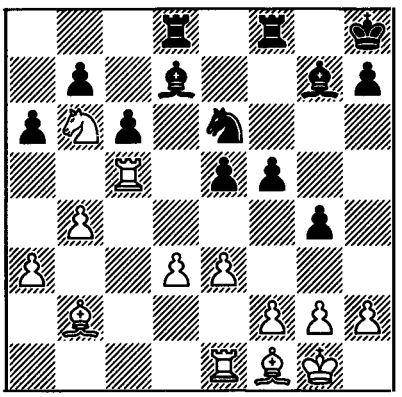
1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 d4 ♗g4 6 ♗d3 ♘f6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 ♘bd2 0-0 9 ♖e1 ♖e8 10 ♘f1 ♗f8 11 ♖xe8 ♕xe8 12 ♗g5 ♘bd7 13 ♘g3 g6 14 h3 ♗e6 15 ♕d2 ♗g7 16 ♗h6 ♘f8 17 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 18 ♘g5 h6 19 ♘xe6+ ♕xe6 20 ♕a5 c6 ½-½

⅀ (952) Petrosian-Sosonko
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 b3?! ♘f6 3 ♗b2 ♘c6 4 e3 ♗e7?! (4 ... g6 intending ... ♗g7) **5 a3 0-0 6 ♕c2 d5 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♘f3 ± ♗f6** (8 ... f6 9 ♗d3 ±) **9 d3** (9 ♘c3!?) **9 ... g6 10 ♘bd2 ♗g7 11 ♖c1 g5** (11 ... ♖e8!? intending ... ♘d4) **12 ♘c4 ♕e7 13 b4 a6 14 ♘fd2**

f5 15 ♗e2 g4 16 ♘b3 ♔h8? (16 ... b6!) **17 ♘ca5 ♘xa5 18 ♘xa5 ♕f7?** (18 ... c6) **19 0-0 c6 20 ♘c4** (the e5 pawn is weak) **20 ... ♕e7 21 ♖fe1!** (intending e3-e4) **21 ... ♗d7 22 ♗f1 ♘c7 23 ♘b6 ♖ad8 24 ♕c5! ♕xc5 25 ♖xc5 ♘e6** *(356)*

356

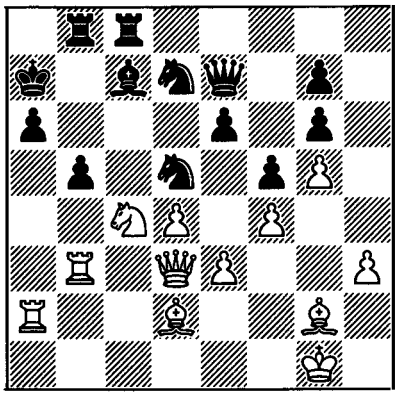


26 ♖xe5! ± (26 ♖a5 e4 27 ♗xg7+ ♘xg7! 28 dxe4 fxe4 =; 28 d4±) **26 ... ♗xe5 27 ♗xe5+ ♔g8 28 d4** (intending ♗c4, d4-d5) **28 ... ♗e8 29 ♘c4** (29 ♗c4 ♗f7! [*29 ... ♔f7 30 e4*] 30 ♗f6 ♖de8! 31 ♘d7 ♘xd4! =) **29 ... b5 30 ♘d6 ♗d7 31 ♖c1** (31 f3!?) **31 ... ♘g5 32 ♘b7 ♖c8?** (32 ... ♖a8!?) **33 ♗d3 ♖a8 34 ♔f1 ♗e6 35 ♗f4!** (time trouble; 35 ♖xc6 ♗d5 36 ♖c7 ♖f7; 36 ♖b6 ♖fb8) **35 ... ♘f7 36 ♔e2** (36 ♖xc6 ♗d5 intending ... ♖fc8) **36 ... ♗d5 37 ♗xf5 ♘e5 38 ♗xe5 ♖xf5 39 ♘d6 ♖ff8 40 e4 ♗c4+ 41 ♘xc4 bxc4 42 ♖xc4 a5 43 ♗d6 ♖fe8 44 e5 axb4 45 ♗xb4 1-0**

(953) Kasparov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 e3 ♗g4 5 ♗xc4 e6 6 h3 ♗h5 7 ♘c3 a6 8 g4 ♗g6 9 ♘e5 ♘bd7 10 ♘xg6 hxg6 11 ♗f1!? ± (11 g5 ♘d5 12 ♘xd5 exd5 13 ♗xd5 c6 intending ... ♕xg5 =) **11 ... c6 12 ♗g2 ♕c7 13 0-0 ♗e7 14 f4 ♘b6 15 g5 ♘fd7!** (15 ... ♘fd5 16 e4 ±) **16 ♕g4 0-0-0** (16 ... 0-0? 17 h4 intending h4-h5 ±) **17 ♖b1 ♔b8 18 b4 ♘d5 19 ♘a4 f5!** (19 ... ♘xb4? 20 ♗d2 ♘d5 [*20 ... ♕a5 21 ♘c5!* ±] 21 e4 f5 ±) **20 ♕g3** (20 gxf6 gxf6 21 ♕xe6 ♖de8) **20 ... ♘xb4** ∞ **21 ♗d2 ♘d5 22 ♖fc1 ♔a7 23 ♕e1 ♗a3 24 ♖c2 ♕d6 25 ♖b3 ♕e7 26 ♕e2** (26 e4!? fxe4 27 ♕xe4) **26 ... ♖b8?!** (26 ... ♖a8!? intending ... ♖hc8, ... b5) **27 ♕d3 ♗d6 28 ♘b2! ♖hc8 29 ♘c4 ♗c7 30 a4 b5! 31 axb5 cxb5 32 ♖a2** *(357)*

357



32 ... ♔b7! (32 ... bxc4?? 33 ♖xa6+! ±±) **33 ♗b4 ♕e8 34 ♗d6** (34 ♘d6+!? ♗xd6 35 ♗xd6 ♖a8 36 e4) **34 ... ♖a8 35 ♕b1 ♔c6!! 36 ♖ba3?** ∓∓ (36 ♗xc7 bxc4 37 ♖b7 ♖xc7 38 ♖xa6+ ♖xa6 39 ♕b5+ ♔d6 40 ♕xa6+ ♔e7 41 ♗xd5 ♖xb7 42 ♗xb7 ♕b8 =) **36 ... bxc4 37 ♖xa6+ ♖xa6 38 ♖xa6+ ♗b6 39 ♗c5 ♕d8 40 ♕a1 ♘xc5 41 dxc5 ♔xc5 42 ♖a4 0-1**

(954) Petrosian-Portisch
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕c7 13 ♕d2 ♖d8 ½-½

(955) Andersson-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 b6 3 g3 ♗b7 4 ♗g2 e6 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 d4 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ½-½

(956) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Reti Opening

1 ♘f3 d5 2 g3 b6 3 ♗g2 ♗b7 4 0-0 e6 5 d3 ♘f6 6 ♘bd2 ♘bd7 7 ♖e1 ♗c5 8 h3 ♘f8 9 c4 ♘g6 10 cxd5 exd5 ½-½

(957) Ljubojević-Petrosian
Petroff's Defence

1 e4 e5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘xe5 d6 4 ♘f3 ♘xe4 5 d4 ♗e7 6 ♗d3 d5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♖e1 ♗f5 9 ♘bd2 ♘xd2 10 ♕xd2 ♗xd3 11 ♕xd3 0-0 12 ♗f4 a6 13 ♖e2 ♕d7 14 ♖ae1 ♖ae8 15 c3 ♗d8 16 ♖xe8 ♖xe8 17 ♖xe8+ ♕xe8 18 ♕f5 ½-½

1982

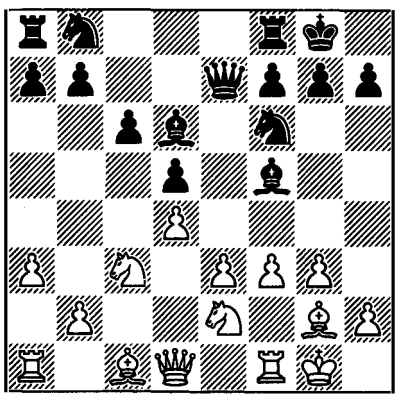
International Tournament
Bugojno, May 1982

1 Kasparov 9½; 2-3 Ljubojević, Polugayevsky 8; 4-5 Hübner, Spassky 7½; 6-8 Andersson, Larsen, **Petrosian** (+2 –1 =10) 7; 9 Ivanović 6; 10 Timman 5½; 11-12 Kavalek, Najdorf 5; 13 Gligorić 4½; 14 Ivkov 3½.

(958) Petrosian-Timman
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♘e2 d5 6 a3 ♗e7 7 cxd5 exd5 8 g3 c6 9 ♗g2 ♗f5?! 10 0-0 (10 f3!?, 10 h3!?) **10 ... ♗d6 11 f3 ♕e7?** (11 ... ♖e8!? 12 e4 dxe4 13 fxe4 ♗xe4 14 ♖xf6 ♗xg2 15 ♖xd6 ♕xd6 16 ♔xg2 ♘d7 ±) *(358)*

358



12 e4 dxe4 13 fxe4 ♗xe4 14 ♖xf6 ♗xg2 15 ♖xd6 ♕xd6 16 ♔xg2 ± ♘d7 17 ♗f4 ♕g6 18 ♕b3 ♘b6? (18 ... b6) **19 ♗c7! ±± ♕d3 20 ♗xb6 ♖fe8 21 ♘g1!?** (21 ♘f4 ♕d2+ 22 ♔h3 axb6 23 ♕xb6 ±) **21 ... axb6** (21 ... ♕d2+!? intending ... axb6) **22 ♖f1 ♕xd4 23 ♕xf7+ ♔h8 24 ♕xb7 ♖f8 25 ♘f3 ♕c5 26 ♕d7 ♖ad8 27 ♕g4 ♖f7 28 ♖f2 h6 29 h4 ♖d3 30 h5 b5 31 ♘e2 ♕f5 32 ♕xf5 ♖xf5 33 ♘f4 ♖e3 34 ♖d2 ♔h7 35 ♖d8 ♖c5 36 ♘h4 ♖ce5 37 ♖c8 ♖e8 38 ♖xc6 b4 39 a4 ♖d8 40 ♘f5 ♖e5 41 ♘d6 1-0**

(959) Hübner-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d8 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♘b3 ♘f6 9 ♘fxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 c3 ♗c5 12 ♗e3 ♕c7 13 ♗b3 0-0 14 ♕f3 ♗d7 15 ♖fe1 ♗d6 16 h3 e5 17 ♘c2 ♗c6 18 ♕e2 h6 ½-½

(960) Petrosian-Andersson
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 e3 ♗e7 8 ♗b5+ c6 9 ♗d3 c5 10 ♘xd5 ♕xd5 11 dxc5 ♗xc5 12 e4 (12 ♗b5+) **12 ... ♕d8 13 ♗b5+ ♗c6 14 ♕e2 ♗xb5 15 ♕xb5+ ♕d7 16 ♕e2 0-0 17 0-0 ♕b7?!** (17 ... ♘c6 =) **18 ♖d1 ♘d7 19 ♗g5! ♖fe8 20 b4 ♗e7** (20 ... ♗f8 21 e5 intending ♕b5 ±) **21 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 22 e5! h6 23 ♖d4?!** (23 ♘d2, heading for d6; 23 ♘d4 – intending ♘b5 – 23 ... a6 24 ♖ac1 ±) **23 ... ♘f8 24 ♖ad1 ♖c8 25 h4 ♖d7 26 ♖xd7 ♘xd7 27 ♘d4 a6 ½-½**

(961) Gligorić-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 d5 5 ♗d3 0-0 6 ♘f3 b6 7 0-0 ♗b7 8 a3 ♗d6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 b4 a6 11 ♕b3 ♘bd7 12 a4 ♖e8 13 ♗a3 g6 14 b5 a5 15 ♖ac1 ♕e7 16 ♗xd6 cxd6 17 ♖c2 ♖ac8 18 ♖fc1 ♘f8 19 ♘e2 ♖xc2 20 ♖xc2 ♘e6 21 ♘c3 ♔g7 22 ♖c1 ♖c8 23 ♕b2 ♔g8 24 ♗f1 ♖e8 25 ♕a2 ♔g7 26 g3 ♖c8 27 ♕b2 ♘f8 28 ♗h3 ♖c4 29 ♘d2 ♖c7 30 ♗g2 ♘e6 31 ♘e2 ♖xc1+ 32 ♘xc1 ♘g5 33 ♘d3 ½-½

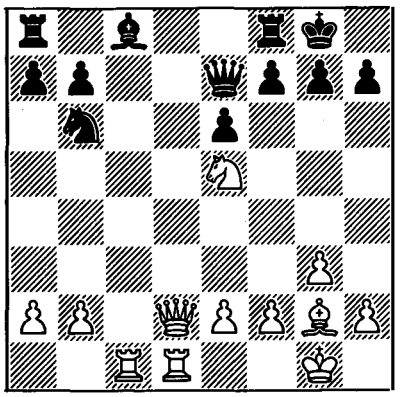
(962) Petrosian-Ivanović
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗e7 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 e3 b6 8 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♕d2 ♗e6 11 ♖d1 c6 12 g3 ♕d6 (12 ... ♘d7) **13 ♗g2 ♗f5 14 0-0 ♘d7 = 15 ♕e2 ♖fe8 16 ♖d2 ♖ac8 17 ♖fd1 ♖c7 18 ♕f1 ♗e7** (18 ... ♕e6!?) **19 ♗h3 ♕e6 20 ♗xf5 ♕xf5 21 ♔g2 ± ♘f6 22 ♕d3 ♕c8 23 a3 ♗d6 24 ♖c2 ♘e4 25 ♖dc1 ♖ee7 26 ♕d1 ♘f6 27 ♘e1 h5 28 ♘f3 g6 29 ♕d3 ♔g7 30 b4 ♘e4 31 ♕e2 ♘f6 32 ♘a4 ♘e4 33 ♘b2!** (intending ♘d3; weak points at e5, c6) **33 ... c5 34 dxc5 bxc5 35 bxc5 ♗xc5 36 ♕d3 ♕f5? 37 ♘d1!?** (37 ♖xc5! ♘xc5 [*37 ... ♖xc5 38 ♖xc5 ♘xc5 39 ♕d4+ ±±*] 38 ♕d4+ ♕f6 39 ♖xc5 ♕xd4 40 exd4 ♖xc5 41 dxc5 ♖b7 [*41 ... ♖e2 42 ♘a4!* ±±] 42 ♘a4! ±±) **37 ... ♔h7 38 a4??** (38 ♘h4 intending f2-f3 ±±) **38 ... ♗b6 39 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 40 ♖xc7 ♗xc7 41 ♕a6 ♗b6 ½-½**

(963) Kasparov-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 ♗xd2+ 6 ♕xd2 0-0 7 ♗g2 d5 8 0-0 dxc4 9 ♘a3 c5 10 dxc5 ♕xc5 11 ♖ac1 ♘c6 12 ♘xc4 ♕e7 13 ♘fe5 ♘xe5 14 ♘xe5 ♘d5 15 ♖fd1 ♘b6 *(359)*

359

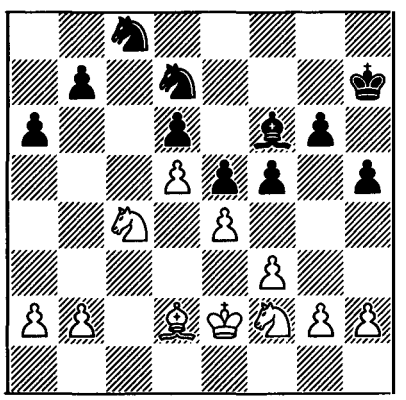


16 ♕a5 g6 17 ♖d3 ♘d5 18 e4 ♘b6 19 ♗f1 ♖e8 20 ♖dd1 ♖f8 21 a3 ♔g7 22 b3 ♔g8 23 a4 ♖d8 24 ♕c5 1-0

(964) Petrosian-Ivkov
Modern Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘c6 5 ♗e3 e5 6 d5 ♘ce7 7 c5 f5 8 cxd6 cxd6 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗xd7+ ♕xd7 11 f3 ♘f6 12 ♘h3 h6?! (12 ... fxe4 13 fxe4 ♘g4 14 ♕f3 [*14 ♗d2 0-0* ∓] 14 ... ♖f8 15 ♕g3 ♘xe3 16 ♕xe3 ♘g8 ∞) **13 ♘f2 0-0 14 ♕a4! ± ♕xa4 15 ♘xa4 ♖ac8 16 ♘c3 a6 17 ♔e2 ♔h7?** (intending ... h5, ... ♗h6; 17 ... ♔f7) **18 ♖ac1 ♘d7 19 ♘b1! ♖xc1 20 ♖xc1 ♖c8 21 ♘a3! ♖xc1 22 ♗xc1 h5 23 ♘c4 ♘c8 24 ♗d2! ♗f6** (24 ... ♗h6 25 ♗b4 ±) *(360)*

360



25 ♘a5 b6 26 ♘c6! ♔g7 27 ♗e3 ♔f7 28 ♘d3 ♔e8 29 a4 ♗d8 30 ♘db4 a5 31 ♘a2! ±± (intending ♔d3-c4-b5-a6 ±±) 31 ... f4 32 ♗f2 g5 33 ♔d3 ♘f8 34 h3 ♘g6 35 ♘c3 ♗f6 36 ♔c4 ♔d7 37 ♔b5 ♔c7 38 ♔a6 g4 39 hxg4 hxg4 40 fxg4 ♗h4 41 ♘d1! ♗xf2 (41 ... ♗g3 42 ♗xg3 fxg3 43 ♘e3 ±±) 42 ♘xf2 ♘ce7 (42 ... ♘h4 43 g5 intending ♘h3-g1-f3) 43 ♘xe7 ♘xe7 44 g5 ♘g6 45 ♘g4 ♘h4 46 ♔a7 ♘g6 47 ♘h2 ♘h4 48 ♘f3 ♘g6 49 b3 ♘f8 (50 ♘h4) **1-0**

(965) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♗e4 10 ♖d1 ♗f6 11 ♗f4 d6 12 ♘e1 ♗xg2 13 ♔xg2 ♘c6 ½-½

(966) Petrosian-Najdorf
Catalan Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 g3 e6 3 ♗g2 d5 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 0-0 0-0 6 d4 dxc4 7 ♕c2 a6 8 ♕xc4 b5 9 ♕c2 ♗b7 10 ♗f4 ♘c6 11 ♖d1 ♘b4 12 ♕c1 ♕c8 13 ♗g5 ♘bd5 14 ♘bd2 h6 15 ♗xf6 ♘xf6 16 ♘b3 ♗d6 17 ♕e3 ♗d5 18 ♘e5 ♕b7 19 ♘a5 ♕b6 20 ♘ec6 ♖fe8 21 ♖ac1 ♗xg2 22 ♔xg2 e5 23 ♖c2 ♘d7 24 a3 exd4 25 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 26 ♖xd4 ♘b6 27 e4 g5 28 ♘b7 ♗f8 29 ♘c5 ♘c4 ½-½

(967) Petrosian-Spassky
Catalan Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 d5 4 ♗g2 ♗e7 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 0-0 ♘bd7 7 b3 b6 8 cxd5 ♘xd5 9 ♗b2 ♗b7 10 ♘c3 c5 11 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 12 ♕d2 ♖c8 13 dxc5 ½-½

(968) Larsen-Petrosian
Grünfeld Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 d4 d5 4 e3 g6 5 ♘f3 ♗g7 6 ♗e2 0-0 7 0-0 b6 8 b4 e6 9 a4 dxc4 10 ♗xc4 ♘d5 11 ♕b3 ♘xc3 12 ♕xc3 ♗b7 13 ♗e2 ♘d7 14 ♗a3 ♖c8 15 ♖ab1 ♖e8 16 ♕b3 ♕c7 17 ♖fd1 ♖ed8 18 h3 ♕b8 19 a5 ♕c7 20 ♖dc1 ♗a8 21 b5 ♕b8 22 axb6 ♘xb6 23 ♗e7 ♖e8 24 ♗h4 cxb5 25 ♕xb5 ♗d5 26 ♗g3 ♕b7 27 ♖c5 ♗f8 28 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 29 ♖a1 ♖a8 30 ♔h2 ♘c8 31 ♕xb7 ♗xb7 32 ♗a6 ♗xf3 33 gxf3 ♗d6 34 f4 ♘e7 35 ♗b7 ♖b8 36 ♗e4 ♘c8 37 ♔g2 ♔g7 38 ♗h4 f6 39 d5 ♖b4 40 ♗d3 exd5 41 ♖a6 ♖b6 42 ♖a5 d4 43 ♔f3 dxe3 44 fxe3 f5 45 ♗d8 ♖c6 ½-½

(969) Petrosian-Kavalek
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 d5 4 ♘c3 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 0-0 6 e3 ♘bd7 7 a3 c6 8 ♕c2 b6 9 cxd5 cxd5 10 ♗d3 ♗b7 11 0-0 ♖c8 12 ♘d2 h6 13 ♗h4 ♘h5 14 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 15 ♕a4 a6 16 ♕b4 ♕d8 17 ♖fc1 a5 18 ♕b3 ♘hf6 19 ♖c2 ♕e7 20 ♖ac1 ♖fd8 21 ♗b5 ♖c7 22 f4 ♖dc8 23 ♘f3 ♕d8 24 h3 ♘b8 25 ♗d3 ♘bd7 26 ♔h2 ♘e8 27 ♘e5 ♘d6 28 ♘xd7 ♖xd7 29 ♘a4 ♖xc2 30 ♖xc2 ♘c8 31 ♕c3 ♖e7 32 b4 axb4 33 ♕xb4 ♖c7 34 ♖b2 ♗c6 35 ♘c3 ♖a7 36 a4 ♕f8 37 ♔g1 ♕xb4 38 ♖xb4 ♔f8 39 ♔f2 ♔e7 40 f5 ♘d6 41 fxe6 ½-½

(970) Ljubojević-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 c4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 cxd5 5 ♗f4 ♘c6 6 e3 e6 7 ♘f3 ♗d6 8 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 ♗d7 11 ♖c1 ♖fc8 12

♕e2 ♗e8 13 a3 ♘e7 14 ♖c2 ♖c7 15 ♖fc1 ♖ac8 16 ♗b5 ½-½

USSR Team Cup
Kislovodsk, June 1982

Board 1, +2 -1 =4.

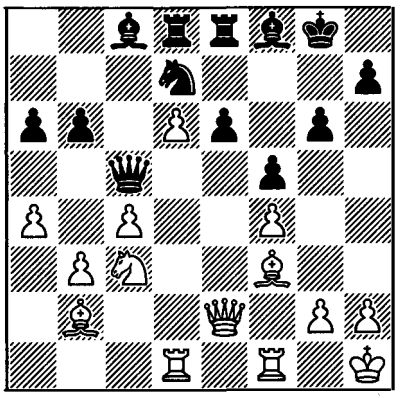
(971) Psakhis-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♗xd2+ 7 ♘bxd2 d6 8 e4 0-0 9 0-0 e5 10 d5 ♘b8 11 b4 a5 12 a3 ♘a6 13 ♕b3 ± ♗g4 14 ♖fc1 (14 ♘h4!) **14 ... c6 15 ♘e1 axb4 16 axb4 c5! = 17 b5 ♘b4 18 ♘f1 ♖fb8** (intending ... ♕d8, ... ♖xa1, ... ♖a8 =) **19 ♘e3 ♗d7 20 ♖a4 ♖xa4 21 ♕xa4 ♕d8 22 ♖a1 ♘e8!** (intending ... ♘c7, ... ♖a8; intending ... ♘c7-a8-b6, attacking the weak c4 pawn) **23 ♘1c2 ♘xc2 24 ♕xc2 ♖a8 25 ♖a4 ♘c7 26 h4 ♖xa4 27 ♕xa4 ♕a8 28 ♕d1?** (28 ♕xa8+ =) **28 ... ♘e8 29 ♔h2 ♘f6 30 ♕f3 h5?!** (30 ... ♕d8 31 ♗h3 ♗xh3 32 ♔xh3 g6 intending ... ♔g7, ... ♕a5 ∓) **31 ♗h3 ♗xh3 32 ♔xh3 ♕a1 33 ♔g2 ♕b1 34 ♘f5! ♘xe4 35 ♘e7+ ♔f8 36 ♘g6+ ♔g8** (36 ... ♔e8 37 ♕f5 =) **37 ♘e7+ ½-½**

(972) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e6 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 b6 4 e4 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 d6 6 ♗c2 c5 7 d4 cxd4 8 ♘xd4 ♗e7 9 0-0 0-0 10 b3 a6 11 ♗b2 ♘c6 12 ♘xc6 ♗xc6 13 ♕d3 g6 14 a4 ♕c7 15 f4 ♖ad8 16 ♕e2 ♖fe8 17 ♖ad1 ♗b7 18 ♔h1 ♕c5 19 e5 ♘d7 20 ♗e4 ♗c8 21 exd6 ♗f8 22 ♗f3 f5 *(361)*

361



23 b4 ♕xb4 24 ♘d5 ♕c5 25 ♘c7 ♘b8 26 ♘xe8 ♖xe8 27 ♕d3 1-0

(973) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗e7 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗f4 c6 6 ♕c2 g6 7 e3 ♗f5 8 ♕d2 (8 ♗d3 ♗xd3 9 ♕xd3 ♘f6 =) **8 ... ♘f6 9 f3 c5 10 ♗b5+ ♘c6 11 dxc5 ♗xc5 12 ♘a4 ♗e7 13 ♗h6 ♗d7! 14 ♗xc6?!** (14 ♘e2 ±) **14 ... ♗xc6 15 ♘c3 ♗c5 16 0-0-0 ♕e7!** (intending ... ♘g8) **17 h4 0-0-0 18 ♘ge2 ♘e8!** (intending ... ♘c7-e6 to contest the d4 square) **19 ♘d4 ♘c7 20 ♔b1 ♘e6 21 ♘ce2 ♔b8 22 ♘xe6 ♕xe6 23 ♕c3 ♗b6 24 ♘d4 ♕d7 25 g4 ♖he8 26 ♖c1?!** (26 ♕d3 intending ♗g5, h4-h5 ±) **26 ... ♖c8 27 ♕d3 ♔a8 28 ♗g5 ♕d6 29 h5 ♕e5 30 ♗f4 ♕e7 31 hxg6 ½-½**

(974) Sveshnikov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

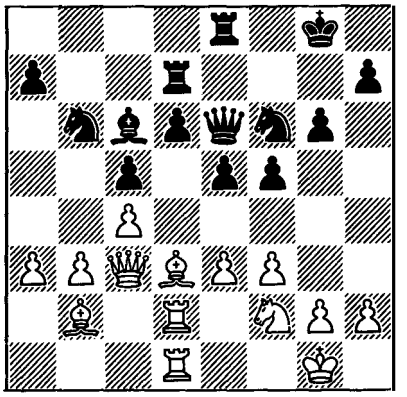
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e3 ♘f6 4 ♗xc4 e6 5 ♘c3 a6 6 ♘ge2?! c5 7 0-0 b5 8 ♗d3?! (better 8 ♗b3 intending ♘f4 to pressure e6, d5) **8 ... ♘bd7 9 ♘g3 ♗b7 10 ♘ce4 cxd4 ∓** (10 ... h5!?) **11 exd4 ♗e7 12 ♗f4?!** (12 ♗e3 intending ♖c1, to use the weakened c5

square) **12 ... 0-0 13 ♖c1 ♘d5 14 ♗d6 f5 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 ♘d2** (16 ♘c5 ♘xc5 17 dxc5 ♘f4 ∓; 17 ... ♖ac8 ∓) **16 ... ♘f4 17 ♘f3 ♕d6?!** (17 ... ♕b4! ∓; 17 ... ♖ac8! ∓, with play against the weak d4 pawn) **18 ♗c2! ♖ac8 19 ♗b3 g6** (19 ... ♖xc1 20 ♕xc1 ♗xf3 21 gxf3 g6 intending ... ♘f6 ∓) **20 ♖e1 ♖xc1 21 ♕xc1 ♗xf3 22 gxf3 ♘b6?** (22 ... ♘f6! ∓) **23 ♕e3 ♘c4?!** (23 ... ♔f7 ∓) **24 ♗xc4 bxc4 25 ♖c1 ♘h3+ 26 ♔g2 f4 27 ♕e5!** (27 ♘e4?? fxe3 28 ♘xd6 ♘f4+ intending ... e2 ∓∓) **27 ... ♕xe5 28 dxe5 fxg3 29 hxg3?!** (29 ♔xh3 gxf2 30 ♔g3 =; 29 ... gxh2 30 ♔g2 =) **29 ... ♘g5 30 f4 ♘f7 31 ♖xc4 ♖b8** (31 ... ♖a8 32 ♖c6 ♘d8 33 ♖c7 a5 ∓) **32 ♖c6 ♖xb2 33 ♖xe6 ♖xa2 34 ♖e8+ ♔g7 35 g4 ♖e2?** (time trouble; 35 ... ♖a5 ∓) **36 ♖e7 ♔f8 37 ♖a7 g5 38 ♔f3 ♖e1 39 ♖xa6 gxf4 40 e6 ♖xe6?** = (40 ... ♘g5+ 41 ♔xf4 ♘xe6+ ∓) **41 ♖xe6 ♘g5+ 42 ♔xf4 ♘xe6+ 43 ♔f5 ♔f7 44 f4 ♘c5 45 g5 ♘b7 46 ♔g4** (intending f4-f5 =) **½-½**

(975) Petrosian-Bronstein
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b4 5 e3 ♗b7 6 ♗d3 c5 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♘a4 ♕e7!? 9 a3 ♗a5 10 ♖b1 ♘e4 (10 ... ♘c6 11 d5 ±; 10 ... ♘a6 11 d5 ±) **11 b3 f5 12 ♕e2 ♗c6 13 ♕c2! ♘a6 14 ♘e5 ♗b7 15 ♗e2!** (intending f2-f3, ♘d3) **15 ... ♖ac8 16 f3 ♘f6 17 ♘d3 ♗c6?** (17 ... d5!? ∞) **18 ♘c3 ♗xc3** (18 ... cxd4 19 exd4 b5 20 b4 bxc4 21 ♘c5 ±) **19 ♕xc3 ± d6 20 ♗b2 ♘b8 21 ♖fd1 ♘bd7 22 ♖d2?!** (22 dxc5 bxc5 23 ♖d2 intending ♖bd1 ±; 22 ... dxc5 ±) **22 ... ♖fe8?** (22 ... cxd4 23 exd4 [*23 ♕xd4 e5 ∞*] 23 ... ♗b7 intending 24 ... ♘d5, 24 ... b5 ∞) **23 dxc5 bxc5?!** (23 ... dxc5 ±) **24 ♖bd1 ♖ed8 25 ♕a5 e5 26 ♘f2 ♘b6?** (26 ... ♘f8 intending ... ♘e6, ... f4) **27 ♕c3 ♖d7 28 ♗d3 ♕e6** (28 ... e4 29 fxe4 ±) **29 ♕c2 g6?** (29 ... e4 30 fxe4 fxe4 ±) **30 ♕c3 ♖e8** *(362)*

362

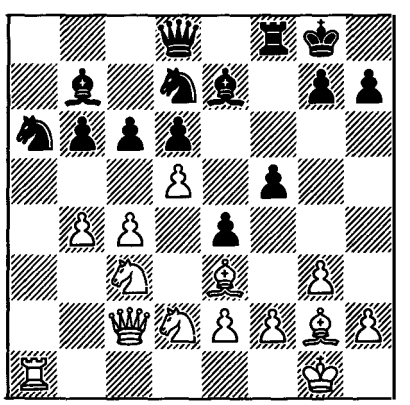


31 f4! ♖de7 32 ♗f1 ♘c8 33 fxe5 dxe5 34 ♕a5 ♘d7 35 b4 ±± ♖f7 36 bxc5 (intending ♖d6) **36 ... ♕e7 37 ♘d3** (intending ♘b4) **37 ... ♗e4 38 c6! ♗xc6 39 ♘b4 ♕e6 40 c5 ♗e4 41 ♖c1 ♖ef8 42 ♗c4 1-0**

(976) Petrosian-Kholmov
Bogo-Indian Defence

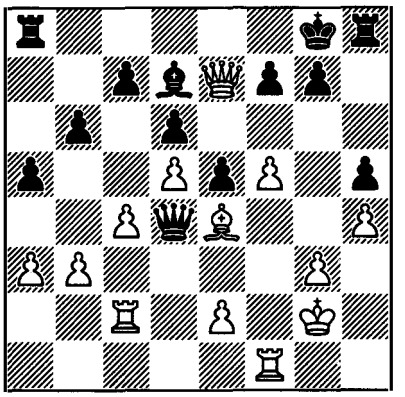
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 a5 5 g3 b6 6 ♗g2 ♗b7 7 0-0 0-0 8 ♗f4 (8 ♗g5 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 ♘e4 =) **8 ... ♗e7 9 ♘c3 ♘e4 10 ♘a4!?** (10 ♕c2) **10 ... ♖a7?!** (10 ... d6 =) **11 ♕c2 d6 12 d5!** ± **♘c5** (12 ... exd5 13 ♘d4 ♘f6 14 ♘b5 ♖a8 15 cxd5 ±) **13 ♘c3** (13 ♘xc5 bxc5 14 e4 ±) **13 ... e5 14 ♗e3 ♘bd7** (14 ... f5 15 a3 intending b2-b4 ±) **15 b3 f5 16 a3 c6 17 ♘d2!** ±± **e4 18 b4 axb4 19 axb4 ♖xa1 20 ♖xa1 ♘a6** *(363)*

363



21 ♖xa6! ♗xa6 22 dxc6 ♘f6 23 b5 (23 ♕a2! ♕c8 24 b5; 23 ... ♗c8 24 ♗xb6 ±±) **23 ... ♗c8 24 ♘d5?!** (24 ♘a4 ±±) **24 ... ♘xd5 25 cxd5 ♗g5 26 ♗d4??** (26 c7 ♕e7 27 ♗xg5 ♕xg5 28 ♘c4 ±±) **26 ... ♗xd2 27 ♕xd2 ♕c7 ± 28 ♕e3 ♕a7 29 ♕b3 h5 30 h3 h4 31 gxh4** (intending ♕g3 ±±) **31 ... f4 32 ♗xe4 ♕e7 33 ♕f3 ♕xh4 34 ♗xb6 ♗xh3 35 ♗d4 ♕g5+** (35 ... ♔f7!? – intending ... ♕g5+, ... ♖h8 – 36 ♕a3 ♔g8 37 ♕xd6 ±±) **36 ♔h2 ♗g4 37 ♕g2 ♕h6+ 38 ♔g1 ♗xe2 39 b6 f3 40 ♕g4 ♖f4 41 ♕e6+ 1-0**

364



Interzonal Tournament
Las Palmas, July 1982

1 Ribli 9; 2 Smyslov 8½; 3 Suba 8; 4-5 **Petrosian** (+3 –1 =9), Tukmakov 7½; 6-7 Larsen, Timman 6½; 8-10 Mestel, Pinter, Psakhis 6; 11-13 Bouaziz, L.Karlsson, Sunye Neto 5½; 14 Browne 3.

(977) Tukmakov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 ♘e4 7 ♗d2 ♗f6 8 0-0 0-0 9 ♖c1 d6 10 d5 ♗xc3 11 ♗xc3 ♘xc3 12 ♖xc3 e5 13 ♘d2 ♘d7 14 f4 a5 15 f5 ♘f6 16 ♘e4 ♗c8 17 ♕d2 ♗d7 18 b3 h6 19 h4 ♔h7 20 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6 21 ♗e4 h5 22 a3 ♖h8 23 ♔g2 ♔g8 24 ♕g5 ♕h6 25 ♕e7 ♕d2 26 ♖c2 ♕d4

(diagram 364)

27 ♔f3 ♗e8 28 f6 ♖h6 29 fxg7 ♔xg7 30 e3 ♕c5 31 b4 axb4 32 axb4 ♕xb4 33 ♔g2 1-0

(978) Timman-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 a4

By transposition, one of the variations of the Slav Defence has been reached.

5 ... ♗g4 6 ♘e5 ♗h5 7 f3 ♘fd7

This immediate reaction is essential: after 7 ... e6 8 g4 ♗g6 9 h4 Black has serious difficulties.

8 ♘xc4 e5
9 ♘xe5?!

It is not clear whether Timman was prepared for this rarely-occurring variation, but this move is not recommended by theory. Thus *ECO* gives as evidence the following game: 9 ♘xe5 ♘xe5 10 dxe5 ♘d7 11 f4 ♗c5 12 g3 ♗g4 13 ♗g2 ♕b6 14 ♗d2 a5 15 ♘e4 f5!, and Black has compensation for his slight material deficit (Osnos-Bronstein, USSR, 1973).

9 ... ♘xe5 10 dxe5 ♘d7!? 11 f4

The game Farago-Kostić (Belgrade, 1982) went 11 ♘e4?! ♘xe5 12 ♕xd8+ ♖xd8 13 ♘g3 ♗b4+ 14 ♔f2 ♗c5+! 15

♗e3 ♗xe3+ 16 ♔xe3 ♘c4+ 17 ♔f4 ♗g6 with a clear advantage to Black.

11 ... ♗b4
12 ♕c2 ♕e7

Black wants to play 13 ... f6, and after 14 exf6 ♘xf6 to seize control of the squares e3 and e4.

13 e4 g5!

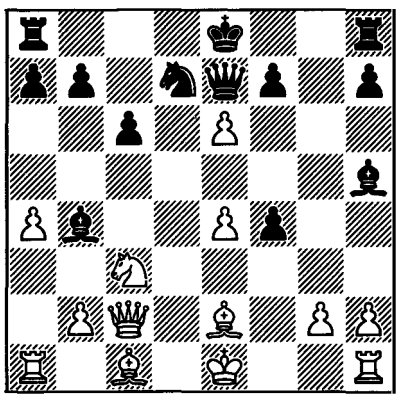
The only move.

14 ♗e2

If 14 g4 then after 14 ... ♗xg4 15 ♖g1 h5 16 h3 ♕c5! 17 ♖g3 gxf4 Black has an overwhelming position.

14 ... gxf4!
15 e6? *(365)*

365



An oversight: 15 ♗xh5 ♕h4+ 16 ♕f2 ♕xh5 17 ♗xf4 ♘xe5 18 ♕d4 (*18 0-0?? ♗c5*) 18 ... ♗xc3 19 ♕xc3 or 19 bxc3 would have retained for White a slight advantage.

15 ... ♕h4+
16 ♔f1

Timman had probably overlooked that after 16 g3 fxg3 17 exd7+ ♔e7 he would stand badly.

16 ... ♗xe2+
17 ♕xe2 fxe6

The unfortunate position of the white king decides the outcome.

18 ♕f2 ♕e7 19 e5 ♘xe5 20 ♗xf4 ♖f8 21 ♖d1 ♗c5 White resigns

(979) Petrosian-Larsen
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 b6 6 ♗g2 ♗b7 7 0-0 ♗xd2 8 ♕xd2 0-0 9 ♘c3 d6 10 ♖fe1 ♘bd7 11 e4 ♖fd8 12 ♘h4 ♕f8 13 ♖ad1 a6 14 b3 ♖ab8 15 ♕c2 e5 16 ♘f5 g6 17 ♘e3 c6 18 b4 h5 19 a3 h4 20 dxe5 dxe5 21 ♖d2 ♕e7 22 ♖ed1 ♘f8 23 ♘a4 ♖xd2 ½-½

(980) Smyslov-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 c4 dxc4 4 e3 e6 5 ♗xc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 dxc5 ♕xd1 8 ♖xd1 ♗xc5 9 b3 ♘bd7 10 ♗b2 b6 11 ♘e5 ♗b7 12 ♗f1 ♘xe5 13 ♗xe5 ♔e7 ½-½

∫ (981) Petrosian-Psakhis
English Opening
(notes by Vladimirov)

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 g3 b6 5 e4 ♗b7 6 ♕e2 d6

Psakhis is aiming for his favourite 'hedgehog' position. Knowing the result of the game, it would be easy to conclude that against the Ex-World Champion this was not a very happy choice. But even if all attendant circumstances are disregarded, was the simple developing move 6 ... ♘c6, hindering the advance d2-d4, really inferior?

However, Psakhis could hardly have

anticipated that Petrosian had prepared, specially for him, a forceful surprise . . .

7 d4 cxd4
8 ♘xd4 g6?

It is hard to believe, but this move is virtually the decisive mistake!

The simple 8 ... ♗e7 did not appeal to Psakhis because of 9 ♗g2 0-0 10 0-0 with the unpleasant threat of e4-e5.

The correct move order has been demonstrated by Kasparov: 8 ... a6 9 ♗g2 ♕c7 10 0-0 ♘bd7. Nevertheless, even here Black still faces some difficulties, for example:

(a) 11 ♗e3 ♖c8 12 ♖ac1 (*12 b3 b5*) is too committal – 12 ... ♕xc4!? 13 ♕d2 ♕b4! (but not *13 ... ♕c7 14 ♘d5 ♕b8 15 ♖xc8+ ♗xc8 16 ♘c6 ♕b7 17 ♘xf6+ ♘xf6 18 ♖c1*, or *15 ... ♕xc8 16 ♖c1* with the idea of ♘*c7*+) 14 a3 ♕a5, and White's compensation for the sacrificed pawn is unclear.

(b) 11 a4 ♖c8 12 b3 ♗e7 13 f4 0-0 14 f5, and White has the initiative.

9 ♗g2 a6

Black can no longer complete his development by normal means: 9 ... ♗g7 10 0-0 a6 (*10 ... 0-0 11 ♖d1 a6 12 e5*) 11 ♖d1! (only not *11 e5 ♗xg2 12 exf6 ♕xf6 13 ♔xg2 ♕xd4*) 11 ... ♕c7 (*11 ... ♕c8* is the lesser evil, but such moves are not made willingly) 12 ♘db5! with a decisive advantage. Thus the move ... g6 has proved to be a waste of a tempo.

10 0-0 ♘bd7 11 ♖d1 ♕b8 12 a4!

It transpires that Black has a very difficult position. I do not recall whether such a plan of advancing the a-pawn has been employed in similar situations. One thing is clear: in the given position this plan looks exceptionally effective, since the white pieces are ideally placed.

12 ... ♗g7
13 a5 0-0

On 13 ... bxa5 Petrosian would not have been in a hurry to retake the pawn, but would have continued 14 ♘b3.

14 axb6 ♘xb6
15 ♘b3

Black's position makes a pitiful impression: backward pawns at a6 and d6, restless queen, lack of strong points for his knights . . .

15 ... ♖a7

The freeing attempt 15 ... d5 does not work: 16 cxd5 exd5 17 ♗f4! (but not *17 exd5 ♘bxd5 18 ♘xd5 ♗xd5 19 ♖xd5 ♕xb3 20 ♖d3 ♖ae8!*) 17 ... ♕e8 18 ♘a5, and Black loses material.

16 ♗f4 e5 17 ♗e3 ♗c8 18 ♘a5 ♖a8

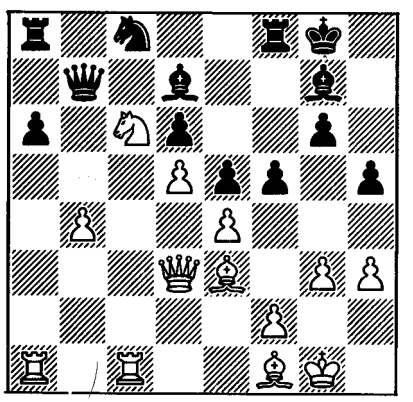
One gains the impression that White alone is playing, whereas Black can merely wait and see which plan the opponent will choose for realizing his advantage.

19 ♕d3 ♗e6 20 b3 ♘c8 21 h3 h5 22 b4 ♕c7 23 ♘d5

Petrosian decides to lay siege to the a6 pawn.

23 ... ♘xd5 24 cxd5 ♗d7 25 ♖dc1 ♕b8 26 ♘c6 ♕b7 27 ♗f1 f5 *(366)*

366



How would you continue?

28 ♕xa6!

This is stronger than 28 ♖xa6, which can be met by 28 ... fxe4.

28 ... ♖xa6 29 ♗xa6 ♗xc6 30 ♗xb7 ♗xb7 31 ♖c7 ♖f7 32 ♖ac1

Now Black must either allow the capture on c8, after which the b-pawn will be unstoppable, or else give up the exchange.

32 ... ♗a6
33 b5!

33 ♖xc8+ would also have won, but when there is a good move, why not look for an even better one . . .

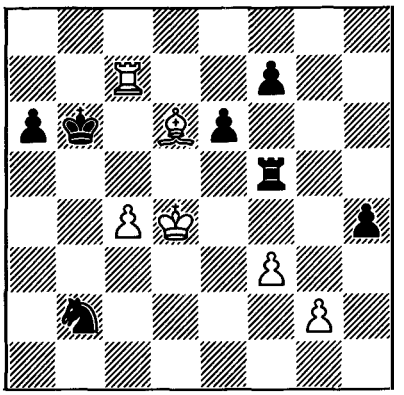
33 ... ♗xb5
34 ♖xc8+ ♔h7

And without waiting for his opponent's reply, Psakhis stopped the clocks. After 35 ♖1c7 Black would not have lasted long at all.

(982) Mestel-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d8 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♘b3 ♘f6 9 ♕e2 ♗e7 10 ♖d1 a6 11 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 12 ♖xd4 ♕b6 13 c3 ♗d7 14 ♘e5 ♗b5 15 a4 ♗xc4 16 ♘xc4 ♕c5 17 ♗e3 ♕h5 18 ♕xh5 ♘xh5 19 ♘d6+ ♗xd6 20 ♖xd6 ♘f6 21 ♗d4 ♖d8 22 ♖xd8+ ♔xd8 23 ♖d1 ♔e7 24 ♗c5+ ♔e8 25 f3 h5 26 h4 ♖g8 27 c4 ♘d7 28 ♗d6 g5 29 hxg5 ♖xg5 30 ♔f2 ♘c5 31 ♗c7 ♘xa4 32 ♖d8+ ♔e7 33 ♖b8 ♔d7 34 ♗f4 ♖f5 35 ♖xb7+ ♔c6 36 ♖c7+ ♔b6 37 ♗d6 ♘xb2 38 ♔e3 h4 39 ♔d4 *(367)*

367



39 ... ♘xc4 40 ♔xc4 h3 41 gxh3 ♖xf3 42 ♖e7 ♖xh3 43 ♖xf7 ♖h4+ 44 ♔d3 ♔c6 45 ♗f4 a5 46 ♗e3 e5 47 ♖a7 a4 48 ♖a5 ♔d6 49 ♗f2 ♖g4 50 ♗e1 ♖d4+ 51 ♔e3 ♖c4 52 ♗g3 ♖c3+ 53 ♔f2 ♖c5 54 ♖xa4 ♔e6 55 ♔f3 ♔f5 56 ♗f2 ♖c3+ 57 ♗e3 ♖b3 58 ♖c4 ♖a3 59 ♔e2 ♖b3 60 ♗d2 ♔e6 61 ♗c3 ♔d5 62 ♖c8 ♖a3 63 ♔d3 e4+ 64 ♔d2 ♖b3 65 ♖e8 ♖b1 66 ♖e5+ ♔d6 67 ♖xe4 ♖h1 68 ♔d3 ♔d5 69 ♖e5+ ♔d6 70 ♔c4 ♖c1 71 ♖f5 ♔e6 72 ♖f6+ ♔e7 73 ♖a6 ♔d7 74 ♔d4 ♖c2 75 ♖h6 ♖c1 76 ♗b4 ♖c6 77 ♖h7+ ♔e6 78 ♗c5 ♔f5 79 ♔d5 ♖a6 80 ♖f7+ ♔g6 81 ♖f1 ♖a5 82 ♔d6 ♖a6+ 83 ♔e7 ♖a4 84 ♔e6 ♖e4+ 85 ♔d5 ♖a4 86 ♗d6 ♔g5 87 ♗e5 ♔g4 88 ♗d4 ♖a5+ 89 ♔e4 ♖a4 90 ♖g1+ ♔h4 91 ♔e5 ♔h3 92 ♗e3 ♖g4 93 ♖d1 ♔g2 94 ♗f4 ♖g8 95 ♔e4 ♖e8+ 96 ♗e5 ♔f2 97 ♖d2+ ♔e1 98 ♖a2 ♖e7 99 ♔f4 ♔d1 100 ♗d4 ♖e2 101 ♖a3 ♖e8 102 ♔f3 ♔d2 103 ♗e3+ ♔c2 104 ♔e2 ♖d8 ½-½

(983) Petrosian-Sunye
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 e3 d5 4 b3 c5 5 ♗b2 ♘c6 6 ♗d3 cxd4 7 exd4 g6 8 0-0 ♗g7 9 ♗a3 ♘e4 10 c3 f5 11 ♗b5 ♗d7 12 ♕e2 ♖c8 13 ♗xc6 ♖xc6 14 ♕e3 ♕b6 15 ♖e1 h5 16 ♗b2 0-0 17 ♘a3 f4 18 ♕d3 e5 19 ♖ac1 ½-½

(984) Browne-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘c3 e5 4 e3 exd4 5 exd4 ♘f6 6 ♗xc4 ♗e7 7 ♘f3 0-0 8 0-0 ♘bd7 9 ♗b3 ♘b6 10 ♖e1 c6 11 ♗g5 ± ♘bd5 (11 ... ♘fd5!? 12 ♗xe7 ♘xe7) 13 **♘xd5 cxd5 13 ♘e5! ♗e6 14 ♘d3!** (intending 15 ♘f4 with pressure on d5; intending 15 ♘c5) **14 ... ♘e4 15 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 16 f3 ♘f6 17 ♘c5** (17 ♕d2!) **17 ... ♖ac8 18 ♖e3 ♖c6 19 ♕d2 b6 20 ♘xe6 ♖xe6 21 ♖ae1 ♖xe3 22 ♕xe3 ♕b4** (22 ... ♕xe3 23 ♖xe3 ♖e8 24 ♖xe8+ ♘xe8 25 ♗xd5 ♘d6 =; 24 ♖c3! ± - weak d5 pawn + c-file) **23 ♕c3 ♕d6** (23 ... ♕xc3 24 bxc3 ±) **24 ♖e5 h6 25 ♔f2?!** (25 g4 intending ♔g2, h2-h4, g4-g5) **25 ... ♖d8 26 h4 ♔f8 27 a3** (27 g4? ♘d7) **27 ... ♖d7 28 ♕b4??** (28 g3 ±) **28 ... ♕xb4 29 axb4 ♘g8!** = (intending ... ♘e7) **30 ♖xd5 ♖xd5 31 ♗xd5 ♘e7!** (intending ... ♘c8-d6) **32 ♗e4 ♘c8 33 ♔e3 g5 34 hxg5 hxg5 35 f4 gxf4+ 36 ♔xf4 f6 37 ♗d3 ♘d6 38 ♔g4 ♔g7 39 g3 ♔f7 40 ♔h5 ♔g7 41 g4 ½-½**

(985) Petrosian-Pinter
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 c5 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♗g2 ♘c6 6 d4?! cxd4 7 ♘xd4 ♘db4 8 ♘xc6 ♕xd1+ 9 ♔xd1 ♘xc6 10 ♗xc6+ bxc6 11 ♘c3 = g6?! (11 ... e5) **12 ♗e3 ♗g7 13 ♖c1 ♗e6 14 b3 h5** (14 ... ♗xc3 15 ♖xc3 =) **15 h4 0-0?** (15 ... ♗xc3) **16 ♘a4!** ± (to exploit the weak c5 square) **16 ... ♖fd8+ 17 ♔e1 ♗e5 18 ♖g1!** (intending f3, ♔f2) **18 ... ♗d5 19 f3 f5 20 ♔f2 ♔f7 21 ♖c2 ♗d6 22 ♖e1 ♖dc8 23 ♖d1 ♖d8 24 ♖cd2** (intending ♗c5xd6, ♘c3, e2-e4) **24 ... ♖dc8 25 ♖d3 ♗e6 26 ♗c5 ♗c7 27 ♖c1 ♗a5 28 ♖c2 ♖d8 29 ♖xd8 ♗xd8 30 ♗d4 ♗d7 31 ♘c5 ♗e8 32 ♘d3 ♔e6 33 ♖c4 ♗b6 34 ♖b4 ♖b8 35 e4?!** (time trouble; 35 a4!? - intending 36 a5 ♗c7 37 ♘c5+ ♔f7 38 ♖xb8 ♗xb8 39 ♘a6 ±± - 35 ... ♔d7 [*35 ... ♔d5 36 e3; 35 ... ♗xd4+ 36 ♖xd4* ±± - *weakness at c5*] 36 a5 ♗c7 37 ♖a4 ±) **35 ... fxe4 36 fxe4 ♖d8 37 ♘f4+** (37 ♔e3? ♖xd4 38 ♖xd4 ♔f6 ∓) **37 ... ♔f7 38 ♗xb6 axb6 39 ♖xb6?** (39 ♔e3! b5 [*39 ... ♖b8 40 ♘d3* ±] 40 ♖d4 ±) **39 ... ♖d2+ 40 ♔e3 ♖xa2 41 ♖b7 ♖a5 42 ♘d3** (42 b4 ♖a3+ 43 ♘d3 [*43 ♔d4 ♖xg3* =] 43 ... ♔f6 44 ♔d4 e5+! 45 ♘xe5 ♖xg3 =) **42 ... ♖b5 = 43 ♖xb5 cxb5 44 ♔f4 ♔f6 45 b4 ♗c6 46 ♘e5 ♗e8 47 ♘f3 ♗d7 48 ♘e5 ♗e8 ½-½**

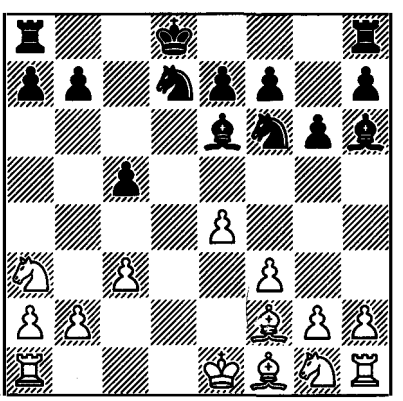
(986) Ribli-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♘c3 b6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 ♗b7 7 e3 g5 8 ♗g3 ♘e4 9 ♕c2 ♗xc3+ 10 bxc3 ♘xg3 11 hxg3 ♘c6 12 ♘d2 ♕e7 13 ♘b3 f5 14 ♗d3 ♕f6 15 f3 ♘e7 16 a4 h5 17 a5 g4 18 ♕f2 ½-½

(987) Petrosian-Bouaziz
Modern Defence

1 d4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 c3 d6 4 ♗g5 c5? (4 ... ♘f6; 4 ... ♘d7) **5 dxc5 dxc5 6 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 7 ♘a3! ♗h6!? 8 ♗h4!** (8 ♗xh6 ♘xh6 ±) **8 ... ♗e6 9 f3** (intending ♗f2, g2-g4, h2-h4) **9 ... ♘f6 10 ♗f2 ♘bd7** (10 ... ♘fd7!? intending ...b6, ... ♔c8, ... a6, ... ♔b7) *(368)*

368



11 h4 a6 12 g4 ♘e8 13 ♘h3! ♘c7 14 ♘c4 ♔c8 (14 ... ♗xc4 15 ♗xc4 e6 ±; 14 ... b5 15 ♘a5 ±) **15 ♘g5! ♖b8 16 ♘e3** (intending f3-f4) **16 ... b5** (16 ... f6 17 ♘xe6 ♘xe6 18 ♘d5 intending g4-g5, ♖d1, ♗h3 with attack) **17 f4 ♗xg5** ±± (17 ... f6 18 ♘xe6 ♘xe6 19 g5 intending ♘d5, ♗h3 with attack) **18 hxg5 ♘b6 19 b3 ♗d7 20 f5 ♗c6 21 ♗g2 ♔b7 22 ♗g3!** (intending ♗e5) **22 ... f6 23 ♘d5 ♘bxd5 24 exd5 ♘xd5 25 ♗xb8 1-0**

(988) Suba-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 c4 c6 2 e4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 d4 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗b4 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗d2 ♘c6 9 ♗d3 ♘f6 10 0-0 ♗e7 11 ♕e2 0-0 12 ♖ad1 ♘b4 13 ♗b1 b6 14 ♖fe1 ♗b7 15 ♘e5 ♖c8 16 ♕e3 g6 17 ♕h3 ♘h5 18 ♗h6 ♘g7 19 a3 ♘d5 20 ♘e4 ♖c7 21 ♗a2 ♖c2 22 ♕b3 ♖c7 23 ♕h3 ♖c2 24 ♕b3 ♖c8 25 ♕h3 ♖c2 26 ♗b3 ½-½

(989) Petrosian-Karlsson
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♘c3 ♘e4?! 8 d5 (8 ♕c2!?) **8 ... ♘xc3 9 ♗xc3 ♗f6 10 ♖c1 0-0 11 0-0** (11 d6 c5!; 11 h4!? intending ♘g5) **11 ... d6 12 ♘d2** (12 ♘d4!? ♗xd4 13 ♕xd4 e5 14 ♕d2 intending f2-f4 ±) **12 ... ♗xc3 13 ♖xc3 ♔h8!** (13 ... e5 14 f4 ±) **14 ♕c2?** (14 e4 ♘d7 15 f4 ±) **14 ... ♘d7 15 e4 a6 16 ♖d1?** (16 a3 a5 17 b3 ± intending f2-f4, intending b3-b4) **16 ... ♕e7 17 ♘f1? ♘c5 18 ♘e3? a5! 19 b3 e5 ∓ 20 ♕b1?! ♖ae8 21 ♗h3 g6!** (intending ... f5 ∓) **22 ♖d2 ♕g5 23 a3??** (23 ♔g2; 23 ♖c1 intending ♖f1) **23 ... a4 24 b4 ♘b3 ∓ 25 ♖b2 f5 26 exf5 ♗c8! 27 ♗g2 gxf5 28 ♘f1 f4! ∓∓ 29 ♕e1 ♕h5** (29 ... ♖e7 intending ... ♖ef7, ... h5-h4 ∓∓) **30 f3 ♘d4 31 g4 ♗xg4?!** (31 ... ♕f7; 31 ... ♕g6 intending 32 ... b5, to create a weakness at d5) **32 fxg4 ♕xg4 33 ♕e4! ♖g8 34 h3?** (34 ♔h1! intending ♖h3) **34 ... ♕d1 35 ♔h2 ♕a1 36 ♕b1 ♕xb1 37 ♖xb1 e4 38 ♖e1 e3 39 ♘xe3 fxe3??** (time trouble; 39 ... ♖g3! 40 ♘f5 ♖xe1 41 ♘xg3 fxg3+ ∓ intending ... ♖a1, ... ♘b3, to surround the weak a3 pawn) **40 ♖exe3 ♖ef8 ½-½**

International Tournament
Tilburg, September-October 1982

1 Karpov 7½; 2 Timman 7; 3-4 Andersson, Sosonko 6½; 5-6 **Petrosian** (+3 –2 =6), Smyslov 6; 7-9 Browne, Nunn, Portisch 5; 10-11 Hübner, Torre 4½; 12 Larsen 2½.

(990) Petrosian-Andersson
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 0-0 6 ♗g2 d5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 ♗g5 dxc4 9 ♘fd2 ♗xd2 10 ♘xd2 h6 11 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 12 e3 e5 13 d5 ♘e7 14 ♘xc4 ♖d8 15 e4 c6 16 ♖e1 b5 17 ♘a5 ♖b8 18 ♕e2 ♗b7 19 ♘xb7 ♖xb7 20 ♖ac1 a6 ½-½

(991) Karpov-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 dxe4 4 ♘xe4 ♘d7 5 ♗c4 ♘gf6 6 ♘g5 e6 7 ♕e2 ♘b6 8 ♗b3 h6 9 ♘5f3 a5 10 a3 a4 11 ♗a2 c5 12 c3 ♗d7 13 ♘e5 cxd4 14 cxd4 ♗e7 15 ♘gf3 0-0 16 0-0 ♗e8 17 ♗d2 ♘bd5 18 ♖fc1 ♕b6 19 ♗c4 ♗c6 20 ♖e1 ♘c7 21 ♘xc6 bxc6 22 ♗f4 ♘cd5 23 ♗e5 ♖fd8 24 ♖ad1 ♗d6 25 ♖d2 ♗xe5 26 dxe5 ♘d7 27 g3 ♘f8 28 ♖ed1 ♖d7 29 ♕e4 ♖b7 30 ♖c2 ♖ab8 31 ♖dd2 ♘e7 32 ♔g2 ♕a5 33 h4 ♖d7 34 ♗e2 ♖d5 35 ♖d4 ♖xd4 36 ♕xd4 ♘d5 37 ♖xc6 ♕a8 38 ♖c4 ♕b7 39 ♖c2 ♘b6 40 ♗b5 ♘g6 41 ♕d6 ♕a8 42 ♗c6 1-0

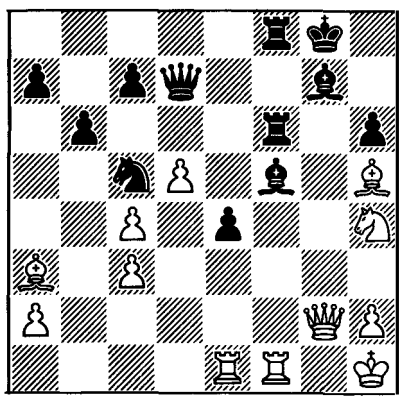
(992) Petrosian-Hübner
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 e3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 e4 6 ♘g1!? 0-0 7 a3 ♗d6 8 d3 (8 ♕c2!?; 8 ♘e2!?) **8 ... exd3 9 ♗xd3 b6 10 ♘f3 ± ♖e8 11 ♕c2 h6 12 0-0 ♗b7 13 ♖d1?!** (13 e4 ±) **13 ... ♘e5 14 ♗e2 ♘xd5 15 cxd5 ♕f6 16 ♖b1** (16 ♕b3 – intending ♗d2-c3 ± – 16 ... a5 17 ♗d2 ♗a6! ∓) **16 ... c6 17 ♗d2 cxd5 18 ♘d4** (18 ♗c3 d4!?) **18 ... ♖ac8 19 ♗c3 ♗b8 20 ♕f5! ♕xf5 21 ♘xf5 f6 22 h4?!** (22 ♗h5!? ♖xc3! [*22 ... g6 23 ♗xe5 fxe5 24 ♗xg6* ±] 23 ♗xe8 ♖c8 24 f4 [*24 ♘e7+ ♔f8 25 ♘xc8 ♔xe8 26 ♖bc1 ♔d8* ∓; 24 ♗*h5 g6 25 ♘e7+ ♔f7 26 ♘xc8 gxh5* ∓] 24 ... ♖xe8 25 fxe5 fxe5 ±) **22 ... ♘c4 23 ♖bc1 ♗e5 24 ♗xe5 ♖xe5 25 ♗xc4 ♖xc4 26 ♖xc4 dxc4 ½-½**

(993) Petrosian-Torre
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♗g5!? h6 6 ♗e3 (6 ♗f4) **6 ... ♘g4 7 ♗c1 e5 8 d5** (8 dxe5!? dxe5 9 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 11 h3 ±; 8 ... ♘xe5! =) **8 ... f5 9 ♗e2 ♘f6 10 exf5 gxf5 11 f4?** (11 ♘f3 =; 11 ♗h5+!? ∞) **11 ... 0-0 12 ♘f3 ♘e4! 13 fxe5 ♘xc3 14 bxc3 dxe5 15 0-0 ♕d6?** (15 ... c5 ∓) **16 ♔h1 ♘a6 17 ♘h4 ♘c5 18 ♗h5!** (intending ♗g6 ±) **18 ... ♖f6 19 ♗a3 ♗d7 20 ♕e2 b6?! 21 ♖ae1 e4 22 g4! ♖af8 23 gxf5 ♗xf5 24 ♕g2! ♕d7** *(369)*

369



25 ♘xf5?? (25 ♖g1 ♗h3 [*25 ... ♗h7 26 ♗g6!* ±±; *25 ... ♘d3 26 ♗xf8 ♖xf8 27 ♘xf5 ♖xf5 28 ♗g4* ±±] 26 ♕g3 ♖f1 [*26 ... ♘d3 27 ♗xf8 ♖xf8 28 ♖e2 ♘f4 29 ♖e3* ±±] 27 ♖exf1 ♖xf1 28 ♖xf1 ♗xf1 29 ♗xc5 bxc5 30 ♗g4! ♕d8 31 ♗e6+ ♔h8 [*31 ... ♔h7 32 ♕g6+ ♔h8 33 ♗f5* ±±] 32 ♘g6+ ♔h7 33 ♕f4! intending ♕f5 ±±) **25 ... ♖xf5 26 ♖xf5 ♕xf5 27 ♗xc5 bxc5 28 ♗g6 ♕f3 29 ♗xe4 ♕xg2+ 30 ♗xg2 ♗xc3 31 ♖e3 ♗b2 32 ♖g3+ ♔h8 ½-½**

(994) Portisch-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 e3 d6 6 ♘ge2 h5?! 7 d4!? (7 h3 h4 ∞; 7 ... f5 8 d4 h4 ∞) **7 ... h4 8 d5 ♘b8** (8 ... ♘ce7 9 e4 f5 10 ♗e3 ±) **9 e4 ♗g4 10 ♕a4+** (10 ♕b3 ♘d7!) **10 ... ♔f8** (10 ... ♕d7 11 ♕xd7+ ♘xd7 12 h3 [*12 f3? h3*] 12 ... ♗xe2 intending ...♗h6; 11 ♕b3! ±) **11 ♘g1 ♘a6 12 f3 ♗d7 13 ♕c2 ♘b4 14 ♕e2 a5 15 ♗e3 ♘f6 16 0-0-0 ♗h6** ∞ **17 ♗h3 ♔g7 18 ♗xd7 ♘xd7 19 ♘h3** (intending ♘f2-d3, intending f3-f4) **19 ... ♗xe3+ 20 ♕xe3 ♘b6 21 c5?** (21 b3 a4 22 ♔b2 ±; 21 ♕e2! intending ♘f2, f3-f4 ±) **21 ... ♘d7 22 cxd6** (22 a3 ♘xc5 23 axb4 axb4 24 ♘b1 ♖a2 ∓∓) **22 ... cxd6 23 ♔b1?!** (23 ♘g5 intending f3-f4, with pressure against f7 and e6) **23 ... ♖c8 24 ♘f2 ♘b6 25 b3?** (25 ♕e2 =; 25 ♘d3 =) **25 ... a4 26 ♖c1 axb3 27 axb3 ♘d7!** (intending ... ♘c5 with initiative – play on the a-file) **28 ♘d3 ♕a5 29 ♘xb4 ♕xb4 ∓∓ 30 ♘a2 ♕a3 31 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 32 ♖c1 ♖a8! 33 ♖c2 hxg3 34 hxg3 ♘c5 35 f4 ♖a4! 26 fxe5 ♖xe4 37 ♕c3 ♖xe5 38 ♘c1 ♘e4 39 ♕c8 ♖xd5 40 ♖h2 ♖h5?** (time trouble; 40 ... ♘d2+ 41 ♖xd2 ♖c5) **41 ♖xh5 gxh5 42 ♕xb7 d5 43 ♕c7 ♕b4 ∓∓ 44 ♕e5+ ♔g6 45 ♕e8 ♘f6! 46 ♕c6** (46 ♕e2 ♘e4! ∓∓) **46 ... ♕e4+ 47 ♕c2 ♔g5 48 ♘d3 ♕e3! 49 b4 ♘e4 50 b5 ♘d2+ 51**

♔a2 ♕a7+ 52 ♔b2 ♘c4+ 53 ♔c3 ♕a1+ 54 ♘b2 ♕e1+ 55 ♔b3 ♕xg3+ 0-1

(995) Petrosian-Timman
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 g3 ♗a6 5 b3 ♗b4+ 6 ♗d2 ♗e7 7 ♗g2 0-0 8 0-0 c6 9 ♗c3 d5 10 ♘e5 ♘fd7 11 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 12 ♘d2 ♖c8 13 ♖e1 c5 14 cxd5 exd5 15 ♕b1 ♘f6 16 ♕b2 ♖e8 17 a3 ♕d7 18 ♖ac1 ♖c7 19 e3 ♖ec8 20 dxc5 bxc5 21 ♗e5 ♖b7 22 h3 ♖b6 23 ♕a1 ♗b7 24 ♖ed1 ♕e6 25 ♗c3 ♗c6 26 ♖e1 ♕d7 27 ♖ed1 ♕e6 28 ♖e1 ♕d7 29 ♖ed1 ½-½

(996) Nunn-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 c4 d5 3 exd5 cxd5 4 cxd5 ♘f6 5 ♘c3 ♘xd5 6 ♘f3 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 g6 8 d4 ♗g7 9 ♗d3 ♘c6 10 0-0 0-0 11 ♖e1 ♗g4 12 ♗e4 ♖c8 13 ♗g5 ♖e8 14 ♖b1 ♕d7 15 h3 ♗xf3 16 ♗xf3 b6 17 ♗g4 f5 18 ♗e2 h6 19 ♗c1 ♔h7 20 d5 1-0

(997) Petrosian-Sosonko
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 a3 ♗b7 5 ♘c3 d5 6 cxd5 ♘xd5 7 ♕c2!? c5 8 e4 ♘xc3 9 bxc3 ♘c6 10 ♗b2 g6?! 11 ♖d1 (11 0-0-0!?) 11 ... ♗g7 12 d5 exd5 13 exd5 ♕e7+! 14 ♗e2 ♘e5 15 ♕a4+! ♘d7 (15 ... ♔f8 16 0-0 ♘xf3+ 17 ♗xf3 ♕d6 18 ♗c1! ±) 16 0-0 0-0 17 ♖fe1 ♕d6 18 ♗b5! ± ♘e5 (18 ... ♖fd8 19 ♗c6 intending ♗c1 ±) 19 ♘xe5 ♗xe5 20 g3! ♖fd8 (20 ... a6 21 ♗c6 ±) 21 ♗c6 ♖ab8 22 ♗c1! (intending ♕e4, c3-c4 ±) 22 ... f6 23 ♕c4?! (23 ♗h6! ♗xc3 24 ♗xb7 ♗xe1 [*24 ... ♖xb7 25 ♖e8+ ♔f7 26 ♖xd8 ♕xd8 27 ♕c4* ±±] 25 ♗c6 ♗a5 [*25 ... ♗c3 26 ♕xa7 f5 27 ♖e1! intending 28 ♖e6, 28 ♖e7*] 26 ♗f4 ±) 23 ... ♕c7 24 f4 ♗d6 25 ♗xb7 ♖xb7 26 ♖e6 f5 27 a4 ♔g7? (27 ... ♕d7 intending ... b5) 28 ♕e2 c4 29 ♗e3! ±± (intending ♗d4+) 29 ... ♗c5 30 ♔g2 ♔h6 31 g4 fxg4 32 f5+ ♗xe3 33 ♕xe3+ ♔h5 34 fxg6 1-0

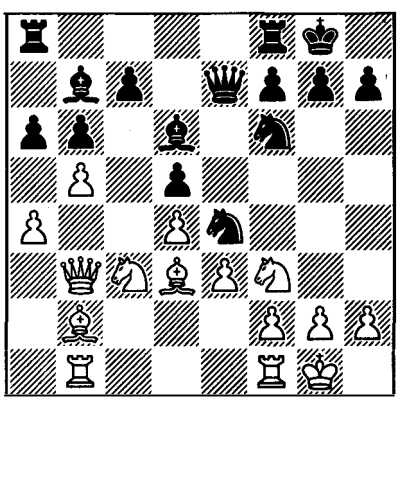
(998) Larsen-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♘c6 9 ♗e2 ♗b4+ 10 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 11 ♕xd2 0-0 12 ♖c1 ♕d6 13 0-0 ♗d7 14 d5 exd5 15 ♕xd5 ♕e7 16 ♗c4 ♗e6 17 ♕h5 ♗xc4 18 ♖xc4 ♖ad8 19 h3 ♖d7 20 ♖e1 g6 21 ♕h6 ♘e5 22 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 23 ♕e3 b6 24 f4 ♕e6 25 ♖c2 ♖fd8 26 ♔h2 b5 27 ♕g3 b4 28 f5 ♕f6 29 fxg6 hxg6 30 e5 ♕e7 31 e6 ♖d3 32 ♖c7 ♕xe6 33 ♖xe6 ♖xg3 34 ♖f6 ♖c3 35 ♖xa7 ♖f8 36 ♖b6 ♖a3 37 ♖xa3 bxa3 38 ♖a6 ♖c8 39 ♖xa3 ♖c2 40 ♔g3 ♔g7 41 ♔f3 f5 42 ♖a4 ½-½

(999) Petrosian-Browne
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b4 5 e3 0-0 6 ♗d3 ♗b7 7 0-0 d5 8 a3 ♗d6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 b4 a6 11 ♕b3 ♕e7! 12 ♖b1 ♘bd7 13 a4 ♘e4! 14 ♗b2 ♘df6 15 b5 *(370)*

370



15 ... a5?! (15 ... ♘xc3 16 ♗xc3 axb5 17 axb5 ♖a7 ∞) **16 ♖bd1** ± (16 ♘e2 ±) **16 ... ♘xc3 17 ♗xc3 ♘e4 18 ♗b2 ♖ad8** (18 ... f6!?) **19 ♘e5 ♔h8** (19 ... ♗xe5 20 dxe5 ♘c5 21 ♕a3 ±; 21 ♕c2 ±) **20 ♕c2 f6 21 ♘f3 ♗c8** (intending ... ♗g4, ... f5 with attack) **22 ♘e1 f5 23 g3 ♖f6 24 ♘f3** (24 ♘g2 ♖h6 25 f3 ♘g5! [*25 ... ♘xg3 26 hxg3 ♗xg3 27 f4* ±] 26 ♗xf5 ♗xf5 27 ♕xf5 ♗xg3 28 hxg3 ♘h3+ 29 ♔h2 ♘f4+ 30 ♔g1 [*30 ♘h4?? ♖xh4+* −+] 30 ... ♘h3+ =) **24 ... ♖df8 25 ♘e5 ♖h6** (time trouble) **26 f3 ♘g5 27 ♕g2** (intending h2-h4, f3-f4 ±; 27 h4? ♘h3+ 28 ♔h2 f4! with attack) **27 ... ♘h3+ 28 ♔h1 g5 29 g4** (time trouble; 29 ♗c2 intending ♗b3, f3-f4, with play against the weak d5 pawn; 29 f4! ±, the d5 and f5 pawns are weak) **29 ... ♕f6 30 ♖d2 ♖h4 31 ♖c2 ♕g7 32 gxf5! ♗xf5 33 ♗xf5 ♖xf5 34 ♗c3!** (intending ♗e1-g3 ±± – e5 square + c-file) **34 ... ♖h6 35 ♘g4 ♖h5 36 ♗e1 ♕e7 37 ♗g3 ♖f7 38 ♖fc1 ♔g7 39 ♖c6 ♔f8 40 ♗xd6** (40 ♖xd6 cxd6 41 ♖c6 ±±) **40 ... cxd6 41 ♕g3 ♖h4 42 ♕xd6 1-0**

(1000) Smyslov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 d4 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d5 11 ♕a4 ♕d7 ½-½

1983

Keres Memorial Tournament
Tallinn, February-March 1983

1-2 Tal, Vaganian 10; 3-5 Ehlvest, **Petrosian** (+3 –0 =12), Suba 9; 6 Jansa 8½; 7 Oll 8; 8-9 Abramović, Psakhis 7½; 10-11 Arnason, Veingold 7; 12-13 Schüssler, Szekely 6½; 14 Kjarner 6; 15 Bönsch 5½; 16 Nei 3.

(1001) Jansa-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 g6 4 ♘gf3 ♗g4 5 c3 ♗xf3 6 ♕xf3 e6 7 ♗d3 ♘d7 8 0-0 ♘e7 9 ♖e1 ♗g7 10 ♘f1 dxe4 11 ♗xe4 ♘f6 12 ♘g3 ♘ed5 13 ♗c2 b5 14 a4 0-0 15 ♘e4 ♘xe4 16 ♗xe4 a6 17 axb5 axb5 18 ♖xa8 ♕xa8 19 h4 ½-½

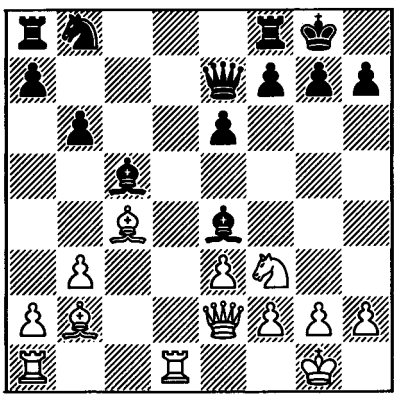
(1002) Petrosian-Veingold
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 b6 4 e3 ♗b7 5 ♗d3 d5 6 0-0 dxc4!? 7 ♗xc4 ♗e7 8 ♕e2 0-0 9 ♘c3 ♘e4! (9 ... c5 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 e4! ±) **10 ♘xe4** (10 ♗d3 ♘xc3 11 bxc3 c5 12 e4 ♘c6! =; 10 ♖d1! ♘d7 11 ♗d3 ♘xc3 12 bxc3 c5 13 e4 ±) **10 ... ♗xe4 11 b3 c5 12 ♖d1 ♕c7 13 dxc5 ♗xc5** (13 ... ♕xc5!? intending ... ♕h5 =) **14 ♗b2 ± ♕e7** (intending 15 a3 a5)

(diagram 371)

15 ♘d2 ♗g6 (15 ... ♗b7 16 ♕g4 ±) **16 a3 a5 17 ♗b5!** (with initiative) **17 ... ♘d7 18 ♘c4 ♖ad8??** (18 ... ♖fd8 19 ♗d4!? ±) **19 b4! axb4 20 axb4 ♗xb4 21 ♖a7! ±± ♕c5 22 ♖axd7 ♖a8 23 ♘e5 1-0**

371



(1003) Tal-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 exd5 5 ♘gf3 ♘c6 6 ♗b5 ♗d6 7 dxc5 ♗xc5 8 ♘b3 ♗d6 9 0-0 ♘e7 10 c4 dxc4 11 ♗xc4 0-0 12 ♗e3 ♗g4 13 h3 ♗xf3 14 ♕xf3 ♘e5 ½-½

(1004) Petrosian-Bönsch
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘f3 g6 7 ♘d2 ♘bd7 8 e4 ♗g7 9 ♗e2 0-0 10 0-0 ♖e8 11 a4 a6 12 ♕c2 ♕c7 13 a5 b5 14 axb6 ♘xb6 15 ♖a3 c4 16 ♘db1 ♘fd7 17 ♗e3 ♘c5 18 ♘d2 f5 19 f3 fxe4 20 fxe4 ♗d7 21 ♗xc4 ♘xc4 22 ♘xc4 ♖ac8 23 ♘d2 ♕b8 24 ♗xc5 ♖xc5 25 ♘f3 ♕b4 26 ♖xa6 ♗b5 27 ♖b6 ♗d4+ 28 ♔h1 ♗xc3 29 bxc3 ♕a5 30 ♖xb5 ♕xb5 31 ♖g1

♕c4 32 ♘g5 ♕xc3 33 ♕a4 ♖cc8 34 ♘e6 ♕f6 35 h3 ♕e7 36 ♖f1 ♖a8 37 ♕d4 ♕d7 38 ♕f6 ♕e7 39 ♕d4 ♕d7 40 ♕f6 ♕e7 ½-½

(1005) Suba-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c6 3 e4 d5 4 exd5 cxd5 5 d4 e6 6 ♘f3 ♗b4 7 cxd5 ♘xd5 8 ♗d2 0-0 9 ♗d3 ♘c6 10 0-0 ♗e7 11 a3 ♗f6 12 ♕c2 h6 13 ♖ad1 ♗d7 14 ♘xd5 exd5 15 ♕b3 ♗g4 16 ♗b1 h5 17 h3 ♗xf3 18 ♕xf3 g6 19 ♗c3 ♔g7 20 ♗a2 ♘e7 21 ♖fe1 ♕d7 22 ♗b4 ♖fe8 23 ♗xe7 ♖xe7 24 ♖xe7 ♕xe7 25 ♕xd5 ♖d8 26 ♕c4 b5 27 ♕xb5 ♖xd4 28 ♖xd4 ½-½

(1006) Petrosian-Psakhis
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 c5 5 dxc5 ♕c7 6 a3 ♗xc5 7 ♘f3 0-0 8 ♗g5 ♗e7 9 e3 d6 10 ♗e2 ♘bd7 11 0-0 a6 12 b4 b6 13 ♕b3 ♗b7 14 ♖ac1 ♖ac8 15 ♖fd1 ½-½

(1007) Ehlvest-Petrosian
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 c6 5 a4 ♗f5 6 ♘e5 e6 7 f3 ♗b4 8 e4 ♗xe4 9 fxe4 ♘xe4 10 ♕f3 ♕xd4 11 ♕xf7+ ♔d8 12 ♗g5+ ♔c8 13 ♕xe6+ ♘d7 14 ♕xd7+ ♕xd7 15 ♘xd7 ♘xc3 16 bxc3 ♗xc3+ 17 ♔d1 ♗xa1 18 ♘c5 b6 19 ♘e6 b5 20 ♗e2 ½-½

(1008) Petrosian-Oll
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 c5 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 a3 0-0 6 d3 ♘c6 7 ♖b1 e6 8 ♘f3 d5 9 cxd5 ♘xd5 10 ♗d2 b6 11 h4 ♗b7 12 h5 ♘xc3 13 ♗xc3 ♘d4 14 ♗xd4 cxd4 ½-½

(1009) Vaganian-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 ♘c3 0-0 7 d4 ♘e4 8 ♕c2 ♘xc3 9 ♕xc3 c5 10 ♖d1 d6 11 b3 ♗f6 12 ♗b2 ♕e7 13 ♕c2 ♘c6 14 e4 e5 15 d5 ♘d4 16 ♗xd4 cxd4 17 a4 a5 18 ♘e1 ½-½

(1010) Petrosian-Szekely
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 e4 d6 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗e3 ♘g4 7 ♗c1 ♘f6 8 f3 c5 9 ♘ge2 ♘c6 10 d5 ♘a5 11 ♘g3 e5 12 ♗e2 b6 13 h4 h5 14 ♘f1 a6 15 ♗g5 ♕c7 16 g3 ♗d7 17 ♘d2 ♘g8 18 0-0 ♘b7 19 ♕e1 ♘h6 20 a3 0-0 21 ♕f2 ♖ae8 22 ♕g2 ♕c8 23 ♔h2 ♘d8 24 ♖ab1 f6 25 ♗e3 f5 26 b4 ♕c7 27 ♖b3 ♘b7 28 ♖fb1 ♖b8 29 ♗d3 ♔h8 30 ♘e2 ♗a4 31 ♖3b2 ♗d7 32 ♔h1 a5 33 bxa5 ♘xa5 34 ♘c3 f4 35 ♗f2 fxg3 36 ♕xg3 ♗e8 37 ♗e3 ♔h7 38 ♘b5 ♕e7 39 ♗g5 ♗f6 40 ♘c3 ♕c7 41 ♘e2 ♗g7 42 ♘g1 ♗d7 ½-½

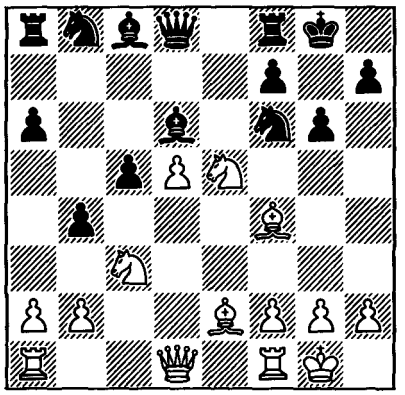
(1011) Abramović-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♕c7 7 ♘f3 ♘e7 8 a4 b6 9 ♗b5+ ♗d7 10 ♗d3 ♘bc6 11 0-0 h6 12 ♗a3 ♘a5 13 ♘d2 0-0 14 dxc5 bxc5 15 ♘b3 ♘xb3 16 cxb3 ♖ab8 17 ♗c2 ♖fc8 18 ♖e1 ♘f5 19 ♗c1 ♕d8 20 ♗f4 a5 21 ♕f3 ♖b6 22 ♖ad1 ♕e7 ½-½

(1012) Schüssler-Petrosian
Modern Benoni

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 c5 4 d5 exd5 5 cxd5 d6 6 ♘c3 g6 7 ♗f4 a6 8 e4 b5 9 e5 dxe5 10 ♘xe5 ♗d6 11 ♗e2 0-0 12 0-0 b4 *(372)*

372



13 ♘c6 ♕c7 14 ♗xd6 ♕xd6 15 ♘a4 ♘bd7 16 ♖c1 ♔g7 17 ♘a5 ♖b8 18 ♘b3 ♕xd5 19 ♕xd5 ♘xd5 20 ♘axc5 ♘f4 21 ♖fe1 ♘xc5 22 ♘xc5 ♘xe2+ 23 ♖xe2 ♖d8 24 f3 ½-½

(1013) Petrosian-Kjarner
King's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 d6 3 ♘c3 g6 4 e4 ♗g7 5 f3 c5 6 dxc5 dxc5 7 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 8 ♗g5!? (8 ♗e3) **8 ... ♘fd7 9 f4!?** (9 ♘ge2!? intending 0-0-0, f3-f4 ±) **9 ... ♘c6** (9 ... ♗xc3+!? 10 bxc3 f6 11 ♗h4 ♘c6 ∞) **10 ♘f3 ♘d4** (10 ... ♗xc3+!?) **11 0-0-0 ♘xf3 12 gxf3 f6** (12 ... ♗xc3!?) **13 ♗h4 ♔e8 14 ♗h3 ♘b6?** (14 ... ♗h6! 15 ♗xd7+ [*15 ♘e2? ♘e5!* ∓] 15 ... ♗xd7 16 ♘e2 =) **15 ♗xc8 ♖xc8 16 b3 ♗h6 17 ♘e2 ± ♔f7 18 ♔c2 ♖hd8 19 ♗f2 ♖xd1 20 ♖xd1 f5?!** (20 ... e6!?) **21 ♗e3 ♔e8** (21 ... ♔e6!? intending ... ♘d7-f6) **22 h4!** (with play on the h-file) **22 ... ♘d7 23 h5 ♗f8?!** (23 ... ♗g7 ±) **24 ♖h1 ♖c6 25 ♘g3 ♖e6** (25 ... ♖a6! 26 a4 e6 ±) **26 hxg6 hxg6 27 ♗d2?!** (27 ♗c1 ♖a6 28 a3! intending b3-b4 with initiative) **27 ... ♖a6! 28 a4** (28 ♔b1!?) **28 ... e6 29 ♗c3 ± ♖c6 30 ♘e2!** (intending ♘c1-d3 ±; weak points at e5 and g6) **30 ... ♖c8 31 ♘c1 b6 32 ♘d3?!** (32 a5!? ±) **32 ... ♖d8 33 ♖h7** (with initiative; 33 a5!) **33 ... a5 34 ♔d2 ♗e7** (time trouble) **35 ♔e3 g5?** (35 ... ♗f8 ±) **36 ♖g7! fxe4 37 ♔xe4! ±± ♗f6?? 38 ♖xd7 ♗xc3 39 ♖xd8+ ♔xd8 40 fxg5 1-0**

(1014) Arnason-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 e5 ♘g8 5 f4 b6 6 ♗e3 ♘h6 7 ♘f3 ♕d7 8 ♕d2 ♗a6 9 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 10 ♗f2 c5 11 h3 cxd4 12 ♘xd4 ♗b4 13 a3 ♗xc3 14 ♕xc3 ♘c5 15 g4 ♘g8 16 0-0-0 ♘e7 17 f5 ♘e4 18 ♕f3 ♘c6 19 ♘xc6 ♕xc6 20 ♗d4 0-0-0 21 h4 ♔b8 22 ♖h2 ♖d7 23 ♔b1 ♖c8 24 ♕d3 ♖dc7 25 ♖f1 ♕d7 26 ♖f3 ♕a4 27 ♕d1 ♖c4 28 ♖d3 ♕a5 29 h5 ♕b5 30 ♖b3 ♕d7 31 ♖f3 ♕d8 32 ♖d3 ♕c7 33 ♖f3 f6 34 fxe6 fxe5 35 ♗g1 ♕d6 36 ♖f7 ♖4c7 37 ♖e2 ♕xe6 38 ♖xc7 ♖xc7 39 ♗h2 g6 40 ♕d3 ♔b7 41 hxg6 hxg6 42 ♕f3 ♖f7 43 ♕g2 ♔a6 44 c4 ♕c6 45 cxd5 ♕c4 46 ♖e1 ♕d3+ ½-½

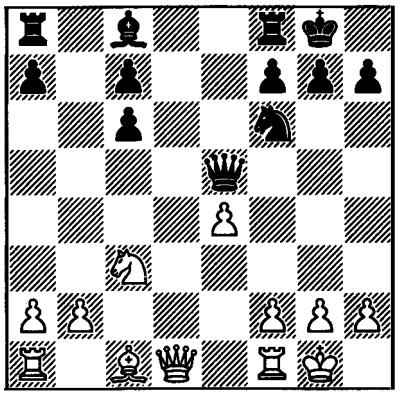
(1015) Petrosian-Nei
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 c4 e6 2 d4 ♘f6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 ♘c6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗d3 d5 7 0-0 dxc4 8 ♗xc4 ♗d6 9 ♗b5 ♕e7 10 ♗xc6 bxc6 11 e4 e5 12 dxe5 ♗xe5 13 ♘xe5 ♕xe5

(diagram 373)

14 ♕f3 ♖e8 15 ♗f4 ♕e6 16 ♖fe1 ♖b8 17 ♕e2 ♖b4 18 f3 c5 19 ♗xc7 ♗a6 20 ♕f2 ♖d4 21 ♗a5 ♖b8 22 ♘d1 ♖d3 23 ♗c3 ♕b6 24 ♕g3 ♘e8 25 ♘e3 ♖bd8 26 ♘f5 g6 27 ♘e7+ ♔f8 28 ♘d5 ♕d6 29 ♕xd6+ 1-0

373



50th USSR Championship
Moscow, April 1983

1 Karpov 9½; 2 Tukmakov 9; 3-4 Polugayevsky, Vaganian 8½; 5 Balashov 8; 6-9 Malanyuk, **Petrosian** (+2 –2 =11), Psakhis, Romanishin 7½; 10-13 Agzamov, Azmaiparashvili, Belyavsky, Razuvayev 7; 14-15 Geller, Yusupov 6½; 16 Lerner 5½; 17 Tal 1½/5 (withdrew).

(1016) Petrosian-Psakhis
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗g2 ♘b6 7 d3 ♗e7 8 0-0 0-0 9 a3 a5 10 ♗e3 ♗g4 11 ♖c1 ♖e8 12 ♘d2! ± ♕d7 13 ♖e1 ♖a6 14 ♗xb6 cxb6 (14 ... ♖xb6? 15 ♘c4 intending ♗xc6, ♘xe5 ±±) **15 ♕a4! ♗g5 16 e3! h5 17 ♘de4!?** (17 h4 ♗d8 18 d4! ±; 17 ♕b5! intending ♘d5, ♘c4 ±±) **17 ... ♗d8 18 d4?!** (18 ♘d5 intending ♘ec3 ±) **18 ... exd4 19 exd4 ♖a8!** (19 ... ♘xd4 20 ♘f6+ ±±) **20 h3!?** (20 ♘d5 ±) **20 ... ♗f5 21 d5?** (21 ♖cd1 ±) **21 ... ♘a7! 22 h4 ♕xa4 23 ♘xa4 ♗xe4 24 ♗xe4 ♘b5!** = (taking control of d6) **25 ♗d3 ♖xe1+ 26 ♖xe1 ♘d6! 27 ♘c3 ♔f8 28 ♘b5 ♗e7 29 a4 ♘xb5 30 ♗xb5 ♖c8 31 b3 g6 32 ♗c4 ♗d6 33 ♔g2 ♖e8 34 ♖c1 ♗c5 35 ♖d1 ♖d8 36 f3 ♔e7 37 ♖e1+ ♔d6 38 ♗b5 ♖c8 39 ♗c4 ♗d4 40 ♖e4 ♗e5 41 f4 ♗f6 ½-½**

(1017) Tal-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e5 c5 5 a3 ♗xc3+ 6 bxc3 ♘e7 7 ♕g4 ♘f5?! (7 ... cxd4!?; 7 ... ♕c7!?) **8 ♗d3 h5 9 ♕f4 ♕h4 10 ♘e2! ♕xf4 11 ♘xf4** ± (intending ♗xf5) **11 ... ♘e7! 12 ♗e2 h4!?** (12 ... g6 13 h4!) **13 ♘h5 ♔f8 14 ♗g5 cxd4 15 cxd4 b6** (only move; intending ... ♗a6) **16 0-0-0** (16 g4! hxg3? 17 fxg3 ±±) **16 ... ♗a6 17 ♗xa6 ♘xa6 18 g4!** (18 ♘xg7 ♖h7; 18 ♗xe7+ ♔xe7 19 ♘xg7?? ♖ag8) **18 ... ♘g6!** (18 ... hxg3 19 hxg3 ±± – play on the h-file and against the g7 pawn) **19 f4 ♖c8 20 ♖hg1?** (20 ♖d3 – intending ♖h3 – 20 ... ♖c4 21 ♔b2 intending ♖c3 ±±; 20 ♖hf1!) **20 ... ♘c7 21 ♖d3 ♘e8! 22 ♖f1** (22 f5 exf5 23 gxf5 ♘xe5 24 dxe5 ♖xh5 intending ... f6 =) **22 ... ♘e7! 23 f5** (23 ♗xh4 g6) **23 ... exf5 24 ♖df3 g6 25 ♘f4** (25 ♗xe7+ ♔xe7 26 ♘f4 – intending 27 ♘xd5+, 27 gxf5 ± – 26 ... fxg4! 27 ♘xd5+ ♔e6! 28 ♘f4+ ♔f5! intending ... ♔g5 ∞) **25 ... fxg4 26 ♘e6+ ♔g8 27 ♖xf7 ♘f5! 28 ♖f8+** (28 ♖xa7 ♖h5 ∞; 28 ... g3 ∞) **½-½**

(1018) Petrosian-Romanishin
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 d5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 ♗g2 ♘b6 7 0-0 ♗e7 8 d3 0-0 9 a3 ♗e6 10 b4 a5 11 b5 ♘d4 12 ♘d2 ♕d7 13 ♗xb7 ♖ab8 14 ♗g2 ♘xb5 15 ♘xb5 ♕xb5 16 a4 ♕d7 17 ♗b2 f6 18 ♗c3 ♗b4 19 ♗xb4 axb4 20 ♕c2 ♘d5 21 ♘b3 ♗f7 22 a5 ♘c3 23 a6 c6 24 ♘c5 ♕a7 25 ♘a4

♘b5 26 ♕xc6 ♘d4 27 ♕e4 ♕xa6 28 ♘b2 ♕e6 29 ♖a7 ♘b5 30 ♖a5 ♘c3 31 ♕e3 ♕b6 32 ♖fa1 ♕xe3 33 fxe3 ♘xe2+ 34 ♔f2 ♘c3 35 ♖a7 ♘b5 36 ♖7a5 ♖fc8 37 ♖a8 ♖xa8 38 ♖xa8 ♖xa8 39 ♗xa8 ♔f8 40 ♔e1 ♔e7 41 ♔d2 ♔d6 42 ♗f3 ♗b3 43 ♗g2 f5 44 d4 exd4 45 ♘d3 ♗d5 46 ♗h3 dxe3+ 47 ♔xe3 ♗e6 48 ♗g2 b3 49 ♘b2 ♘a3 50 ♗f1 ♘c2+ 51 ♔f4 h6 52 h4 ♘b4 0-1

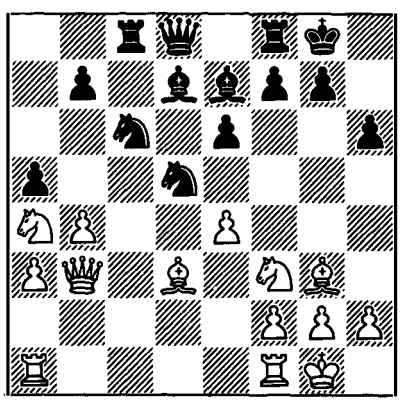
(1019) Geller-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 exd5 5 ♘gf3 ♘f6 6 ♗b5+ ♗d7 7 ♗xd7+ ♘bxd7 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 dxc5 ♘xc5 10 ♘d4 ♕d7 11 ♘2f3 ♗d6 12 ♗g5 ♘fe4 13 ♗e3 0-0 14 ♕e2 a6 15 ♖ad1 ♖fe8 16 c3 ½-½

(1020) Petrosian-Lerner
Queen's Gambit

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗h4 0-0 7 ♕c2 c5 (7 ... b6 8 ♗xf6!? ♗xf6 9 e4) **8 dxc5 dxc4 9 e3** = (9 e4!?) **9 ... ♕a5 10 ♗xc4 ♕xc5 11 ♗d3 ♘c6 12 a3 ♗d7 13 b4 ♕b6?** ± (13 ... ♕h5 intending ... ♘e5 =) **14 ♘a4 ♕d8 15 0-0 ♘d5 16 ♗g3! ♖c8 17 ♕b3 a5 18 e4??** (intending 18 ... ♘b6 19 ♘c5 ±±; 18 ... ♘f6 19 b5 ±; 18 b5 ±) *(374)*

374



18 ... ♘d4!! 19 ♘xd4 ♗xa4 20 ♕xa4 (20 ♕b2 ♘c3 ∓∓) **20 ... ♘c3 21 ♕c2 ♕xd4** ∓∓ **22 bxa5 ♖fd8 23 ♗e2 ♘xe4 24 ♕b3** (24 ♕a2!?) **24 ... ♘d2 25 ♕xb7 ♘xf1 26 ♖xf1 ♗h4** (26 ... ♗xa3 27 a6 ♗c5 ∓∓) **27 ♗xh4 ♕xh4 28 ♗b5?** (28 ♗f3! intending ♕b6, ♗b7) **28 ... ♖b8 29 ♕c6 ♖dc8 30 ♕d7 ♖d8 31 ♕c6 ♖dc8 32 ♕d7 ♕d8 33 ♕xd8+ ♖xd8 34 a4 ♖bc8 35 a6 ♔f8 36 h3 ♖d4** ∓∓ **37 ♖a1 ♔e7 38 ♗e2 e5 39 a5 ♖b8 40 ♖c1 ♔d6 41 ♗g4 ♖b5?** (41 ... g6 42 ♗c8 ♖a4 ∓∓) **42 ♖a1 ♖b8 43 a7** (43 ♖c1? g6 ∓∓) **43 ... ♖a8 44 a6** (intending 44 ... ♖xa7 45 ♗c8-b7 =) **44 ... ♖c4** (44 ... g6!) **45 ♖d1+ ♔c6** (45 ... ♔c7 46 ♖d7+ ♔b6 ∓) **46 ♖b1!** (intending ♗c8!) **46 ... ♖xa7 47 ♗c8 ♖d4?** (47 ... h5! intending ... g5 ∓) **48 ♗b7+ ♔d7 49 g3** (intending h3-h4 =) **49 ... ♖d6** (49 ... g5 – intending ... h5 – 50 g4! h5 51 f3 =) **50 h4 ♖axa6 51 ♗xa6 ♖xa6 52 ♔g2** = **♔e6 53 ♖b7 ♖d6 54 ♔f3 ♖d3+ 55 ♔e4 ♖d7 56 ♖b6+** (56 ♖xd7 f5+ ∓∓) **56 ... ♖d6 57 ♖b5 f5+ 58 ♔f3 ♔f6 59 ♖b2 e4+ 60 ♔f4 g5+ 61 hxg5 hxg5+ 62 ♔e3 ♔e5 63 ♖b8 f4+ 64 gxf4 gxf4+ 65 ♔e2 f3+ 66 ♔e1 ♖d5 67 ♖h8 ♔f6 68 ♖h4 ♖d4 69 ♖h8 ♖d6 70 ♖h5 ♔e6 71 ♖h6+ ♔e5 72 ♖h8 ♔f5 73 ♖f8+ ♖f6 74 ♖h8 ♖a6 75 ♖f8+ ♔g5 76 ♖g8+ ♖g6 77 ♖h8 ♔f4 78 ♖f8+ ♔g4 79 ♖h8 ♖g5 80 ♔d2 ♔f4 81 ♖f8+ ♖f5 82 ♖h8 ♖d5+ 83 ♔e1 ♔g4 84 ♖g8+ ♔h4 85 ♖h8+ ♖h5 86 ♖g8 ♖a5 87 ♖h8+ ♔g5 88 ♖g8+ ♔f5 89 ♖f8+ ½-½**

(1021) Vaganian-Petrosian
English Opening

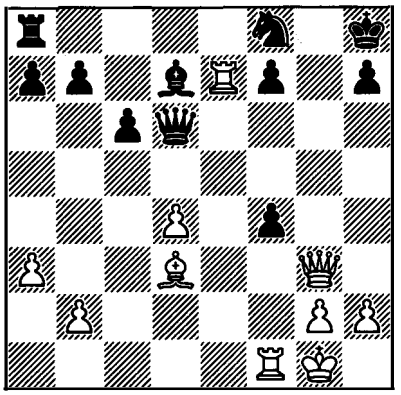
1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 c5 6 ♘c3 ♗e7?! (6 ... a6; 6 ... d6!?) **7 d4 cxd4 8 ♕xd4 ♘c6 9 ♕f4 0-0** (9 ... ♕b8 10 e4! ±) **10 ♖d1** ± **d6 11 b3 ♕b8 12 ♗b2 a6 13 ♖ac1** (13 e4; 13 ♘g5; 13 ♖d2! intending ♖adl ± – the d6 pawn is weak)

13 ... ♘e5 14 a4 (14 ♘xe5 dxe5 intending ... ♗xg2 ±) **14 ... ♕c7 15 ♗a3 ♖ad8 16 ♕d4 ♖d7?!** (16 ... ♘xf3+) **17 e4!** ± **♖c8 18 ♕e3!** (intending ♘d4) **18 ... ♘fg4** (18 ... ♗c6? 19 ♘d5! ±±) **19 ♕e2 ♘xf3+ 20 ♕xf3 ♘e5 21 ♕e3 ♖dd8 22 ♕d2?!** (22 ♖c2 – intending ♖cd2 – 22 ... ♘d7! 23 ♖cd2 ♘c5 24 ♘e2 ±) **22 ... ♕b8! 23 f4 ♘g6 24 ♕e3 ♗c6!** (only move; intending ... b5) **25 ♖c2 h6 26 ♖cd2 b5!? 27 axb5 axb5 28 cxb5 ♗xb5 29 ♘xb5 ♕xb5 30 ♗xd6 ♗xd6 31 ♖xd6 ♖xd6 32 ♖xd6 ♕b4!** (with counterplay against the b3 pawn) **33 ♖d3 ♖c2 34 h4 ♕a5** (time trouble) **35 ♗f1** (35 h5!? ±) **35 ... ♘e7 36 ♖d7** (36 h5!? ±) **36 ... ♘c6 37 e5 h5! 38 ♗g2 g6 39 ♕f3 ♔g7 40 ♔h2 ♕a2** (40 ... ♕a1! = intending ... ♖c3) **41 g4 hxg4!** (41 ... ♖f2? 42 ♕xc6 ♖xf4 – intending ... ♕f2 – 43 ♕c3 ±±; 41 ... ♘b4 42 gxh5 ♘d5 – intending ... ♘e3 – 43 ♕g3!! ±± – intending 43 ... ♘e3?? 44 ♕xg6+ – 43 ... ♘xf4 44 ♕xf4 ♖xg2+ 45 ♔h3) **42 ♕xg4 ♖d2! 43 ♖c7** (43 ♖xd2 ♕xd2 = intending ... ♘d4-e2) **43 ... ♘d4 44 h5 ♕b1!** (only move) **45 h6+ ♔h8!!** = **46 ♖xf7 ♕e4 ½-½**

(1022) Petrosian-Belyavsky
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♗g5 ♗e7 6 e3 0-0 7 ♗d3 ♘bd7 8 ♘f3 ♖e8 9 0-0 c6 10 ♕c2 ♘f8 11 a3!? ♘e4 12 ♗f4! ♘g5 (12 ... f5 13 ♘e5 intending f2-f3 ±; 12 ... ♘xc3 13 bxc3 ±) **13 ♘xg5 ♗xg5 14 ♗xg5 ♕xg5 15 ♖ae1!** ± **♗d7? 16 f4 ♕h6!** (intending 17 f5?? ♖xe3; 16 ... ♕f6 17 ♕f2! ±) **17 ♕f2 ♖e7** (17 ... f5 18 ♘b1 intending ♘d2-f3-e5 ±) **18 f5 g6** (18 ... f6 19 e4 dxe4 20 ♗c4+ ♔h8 21 ♘xe4 intending ♘d6 ±±) **19 e4!** (19 f6 ♖e6 20 e4 dxe4 21 ♘xe4 intending h2-h4, ♘g5 ±; 21 ♗xe4 intending d4-d5 ±) **19 ... dxe4 20 ♘xe4 gxf5 21 ♕g3+** (21 ♘c5!? ±) **21 ... ♔h8 22 ♘d6 f4** (22 ... ♕f6 23 ♖xe7 ♕xe7 24 ♘xb7 ±) **23 ♖xe7 ♕xd6** *(375)*

375



24 ♖xd7! (24 ♕h4 ♕xd4+ 25 ♖f2 [*25 ♔h1 ♗e6 intending ... ♕xb2 ∞*] 25 ... ♗e6! [*25 ... ♕xd3?? 26 ♕f6+ ♔g8 27 ♕xf7+* ±±] 26 ♗b1 [*26 ♗c2 ♕xb2*] 26 ... ♗c4 [*intending ♕d1+; 26 ... ♕d1+ 27 ♖f1 ♕d4+ 28 ♕f2* ±] 27 ♖e1 ♖e8!) **24 ... ♕xd7** (24 ... ♘xd7 25 ♖xf4 ±) **25 ♕xf4 ♖d8?** (25 ... ♖e8!? 26 ♔h1! ±) **26 ♕f6+ ♔g8 27 ♔h1!** ±± **♕xd4 28 ♕xf7+ ♔h8 29 ♕e7! ♘g6** (29 ... ♔g8?? 30 ♖xf8+ and ♕xh7 mate) **30 ♗xg6 hxg6 31 h3** (time trouble) **31 ... b5 32 ♖f6 ♖g8 33 ♖xc6 ♖g7 34 ♕g5 ♔h7 35 ♔h2?** (35 ♕xb5) **35 ... b4 36 ♖f6 bxa3 37 bxa3** (37 ♖f4 ♕d6) **37 ... ♕c4 38 ♖f4 ♕c7 39 ♕h4+ ♔g8 40 ♕g3 a5 41 a4 ♕b6** (41 ... ♔h7 42 ♖h4+ ♔g8 43 ♖h6 ♕xg3+ 44 ♔xg3 ±±) **1-0**

(1023) Malanyuk-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 exd5 exd5 4 ♗d3 ♗d6 5 c3 c6 6 ♕f3 ♕f6 7 ♗e3 ♕xf3 8 ♘xf3 ♘e7 9 ♘h4 ♘d7 10 ♘f5 ♘xf5 11 ♗xf5 ♘f6 12 ♗xc8 ♖xc8 13 ♗g5 ♘h5 14 ♘d2 h6 15 ♗e3 ♔d7 16 0-0 f5 17 ♘f3 f4 18 ♗d2 g5 19 ♖fe1 ♘f6 20 ♘e5+ ♗xe5 21 ♖xe5 ♘e4 22

♖d1 ♖ce8 23 ♖xe8 ♖xe8 24 ♗c1 ♘d6 25 ♔f1 ♔e6 ½-½

(1024) Petrosian-Karpov
Queen's Gambit

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♘c3 d5 4 d4 ♗e7 5 ♗g5 h6 6 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♕d2 b6 9 cxd5 exd5 10 ♗e2 ♗e6 11 0-0 c5 12 dxc5 bxc5 13 ♖fd1 ♗xc3 14 ♕xc3 ♘d7 15 b4 ♖c8 16 bxc5 ♖xc5 17 ♕a3 ♖a5 18 ♕b4 ♕b6 19 ♕xb6 ♘xb6 20 ♘d4 ♖c8 21 ♔f1 ♘c4 22 ♔e1 ♘d6 23 a4 ♘c4 24 ♘b3 ♖a6 25 a5 ♔f8 26 ♖dc1 ♔e7 27 ♖c3 ♖ac6 28 ♘d4 ♖c5 ½-½

(1025) Tukmakov-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 g3 g6 4 ♗g2 ♗g7 5 ♖b1 d6 6 b4 ♘f6 7 e3 0-0 8 ♘ge2 ♘e7 9 0-0 d5 10 cxd5 ♘exd5 11 ♘xd5 ♘xd5 12 ♗b2 ♖e8 13 ♗a1 ♕d6 14 a3 ♗d7 15 ♕b3 c6 16 ♕c2 ♗g4 ½-½

(1026) Petrosian-Razuvayev
Queen's Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 e3 d5 4 ♗d3 c5 5 b3 ♘c6 6 0-0 ♗d6 7 ♗b2 0-0 8 c4 b6 9 ♘c3 ♗b7 10 cxd5 exd5 11 dxc5 bxc5 12 ♖c1 d4 13 ♘b5 ♗e7 14 exd4 a6 15 d5 ♘xd5 16 ♘c3 ♘f4 17 ♗c4 ♘d4 18 ♘xd4 cxd4 19 ♘e2 ♘xg2 20 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 21 ♘xd4 ♗f6 22 ♖fd1 ♖fd8 23 ♗a1 ♘h4 24 ♗e2 ♖d7 25 ♗g4 ♖d5 26 ♖c7 ♖g5 27 ♖xb7 ♖xg4+ 28 ♔f1 ♖d8 29 ♖e1 h5 30 h3 ♖gxd4 31 ♗xd4 ♖xd4 32 ♖e8+ ♔h7 33 ♖xf7 ♘g6 34 ♖c7 ♖d2 35 ♖e2 ♖d1+ 36 ♖e1 ♖d2 37 ♖e2 ♖d5 38 ♖c4 ♘e5 39 ♖a4 a5 40 ♖e3 ♔g6 41 ♔e2 ♔f5 42 b4 axb4 43 ♖xb4 ♗g5 44 ♖eb3 ♘c6 0-1

ʃ (1027) Polugayevsky-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 c4 d6 4 ♘c3 e5 5 e4 ♘c6 6 dxe5 ♘xe5 (6 ... dxe5 7 ♕xd8+ ♔xd8 – only move – 8 ♗g5+ intending 0-0-0 ±) 7 ♘d4 a6?! 8 ♗e2 c5?! 9 ♘c2 ♗e6 10 ♘d5? (10 f4! ♘xc4 11 f5 gxf5 12 exf5 ♗xf5 13 0-0 with a decisive attack; 10 ... ♘c6 ±) 10 ... ♗xd5 11 exd5 (11 cxd5 ♘e7 ∞) 11 ... ♘e7! (targeting d4) 12 0-0 0-0 13 ♖b1 ♘f5 14 b4? (14 b3 ±) 14 ... cxb4 15 ♖xb4 ♕c7 ∓ 16 ♗b2 ♖fe8 17 ♘d4?! (17 g3 ∓) 17 ... ♘xd4 18 ♗xd4 ♘d7! 19 ♗e3 (19 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 ∓ – c5 square) 19 ... ♖xe3! 20 fxe3 ♘c5 21 ♕c2 ♖e8 22 ♖f3?! (22 ♖bb1 intending ♖be1 ∓) 22 ... ♗h6 23 ♕c3?! ♕e7 ∓ 24 ♖b6?? ♘a4 0-1

(1028) Petrosian-Agzamov
Bogo-Indian defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 ♕c2 ♘c6 6 ♘c3 d5 7 e3 0-0 8 a3 ♗xc3 9 ♗xc3 ♘e4 10 b4 a6 11 ♗b2 f5 12 ♗e2 ♖f6 13 ♖c1 ♕e8 14 ♘e5 ♘e7 15 f3 ♘d6 16 0-0 c6 17 c5 ♘f7 18 ♘d3 g5 19 ♕d2 ♗d7 20 e4 h6 21 ♖ce1 ♘h8 22 ♗d1 ♘hg6 23 ♗c2 ♕f8 24 ♖f2 ♕g7 25 exf5 ♘xf5 26 g3 ♖af8 27 ♖ef1 ♖6f7 28 ♘c1 ♘fe7 29 ♘e2 ♘f5 30 ♘c1 ♗e8 31 ♔h1 ♖e7 32 ♖e1 ♖ef7 33 ♖ef1 ♕f6 34 ♘e2 ♕g7 35 ♘c1 ♕f6 ½-½

(1029) Yusupov-Petrosian
Bogo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 ♗b4+ 4 ♗d2 ♕e7 5 g3 ♘c6 6 ♗g2 ♗xd2+ 7 ♘bxd2 d6 8 0-0 e5 9 d5 ♘b8 10 e4 a5 11 ♘e1 0-0 12 ♘d3 ♘a6 13 a3 ♗g4 14 f3 ♗d7 15 b4 axb4 16 axb4 c6 17 dxc6 bxc6 18 ♕b3 ♗e6 19 ♕c3 ♕a7+ 20 ♔h1 ♘d7 21 f4 ♗g4 22

♖fe1 exf4 23 gxf4 ♕b6 24 f5 g5 25 c5 dxc5 26 ♘f2 cxb4 27 ♕g3 h5 28 ♘xg4 hxg4 29 ♕xg4 ♕d4 30 ♘f3 ♕g7 31 e5 ♘ac5 32 ♖ad1 b3 33 e6 ♘f6 34 ♕d4 ♘fe4 35 ♖xe4 ♘xe4 36 ♕xe4 ♖a1 37 ♖f1 b2 38 ♘d2 fxe6 39 fxe6 ♕f6 40 ♘b1 ♕xf1+ 41 ♗xf1 ♖xf1+ 42 ♔g2 ½-½

(1030) Petrosian-Balashov
English Opening

1 c4 ♘f6 2 ♘c3 g6 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♗g2 ♘xc3 6 bxc3 ♗g7 7 a4 0-0 8 a5 a6 9 ♘f3 e5 10 0-0 ♘c6 11 ♕c2 ♕f6 12 ♗b2 ♖d8 13 d3 ♖d5 14 c4 ♖d8 15 ♘d2 ♕e7 16 ♖fe1 ♘d4 17 ♕d1 ♖b8 18 ♘e4 ♗d7 19 ♘c3 ♗e6 20 ♘d5 ♗xd5 21 cxd5 ♕b4 22 ♗xd4 ½-½

(1031) Azmaiparashvili-Petrosian
Queen's Gambit Accepted

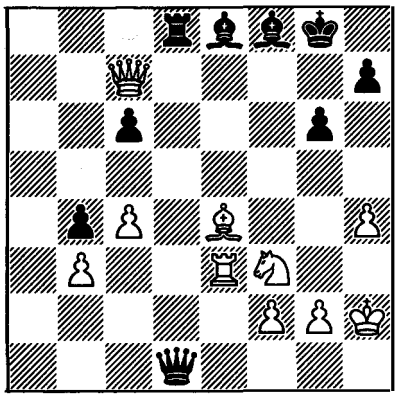
1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 e4 ♘f6 4 ♘c3 e5 5 ♘f3 exd4 6 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 7 ♘xd4 ♗c5 8 ♘db5 ♘a6 9 ♗f4 ♗e6 10 ♘xc7+ ♘xc7 11 ♗xc7 0-0 ½-½

Moscow Spartakiad
May-June 1983

(1032) Petrosian-Bronstein
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 g6 3 ♗g5 ♗g7 4 ♘bd2 d6 5 c3 0-0 6 e4 e5 7 dxe5 dxe5 8 ♘xe5 ♕e8 9 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 10 ♘ef3 ♘d7 11 ♗c4 ♘c5 12 ♕e2 ♖b8 13 ♕e3 ♕e7 14 0-0 b5 15 ♗d5 ♗d7 16 ♖fe1 c6 17 e5 ♗g7 18 ♘e4 ♘xe4 19 ♗xe4 a5 20 h3 b4 21 ♖ad1 ♖fd8 22 c4 f5 23 exf6 ♕xf6 24 ♕a7 ♖a8 25 ♕c7 ♗e8 26 b3 ♖dc8 27 ♕g3 a4 28 h4 ♕b2 29 ♖d2 ♕c3 30 ♖c2 ♕f6 31 ♖ce2 axb3 32 axb3 ♖a1 33 ♖xa1 ♕xa1+ 34 ♔h2 ♕d1 35 ♖e3 ♖d8 36 ♕c7 ♗f8 *(376)*

376



37 ♗d5+ ♖xd5 38 cxd5 ♗f7 39 ♘g5 ♕xd5 40 ♕xf7+ ♕xf7 41 ♘xf7 ♔xf7 42 g3 1-0

(1033) Petrosian-Averbakh
Queen's Indian Defence

1 c4 c5 2 b3 ♘f6 3 ♗b2 e6 4 ♘f3 ♗e7 5 e3 b6 6 d4 cxd4 7 exd4 d5 8 ♗d3 0-0 9 0-0 ♗b7 10 ♕e2 ♘e4 11 ♘a3 ♘d7 12 ♘c2 a5 13 a4 ♖e8 14 ♘e3 ♗b4 15 ♖fc1 f6 16 ♘h4 ♖c8 17 cxd5 ♖xc1+ 18 ♖xc1 exd5 19 ♘hf5 g6 20 ♘g3 ♗d2 21 ♖a1 ♗xe3 22 ♕xe3 ♘ec5 23 ♕f3 ♘xd3 24 ♕xd3 ♘b8 ½-½

(1034) Glek-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 ♘f3 g6 2 d4 ♗g7 3 c4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♗g4 5 e3 ♗xf3 6 ♕xf3 c6 7 ♕d1 ♘f6 8 ♗e2 0-0 9 0-0 e6 10 ♖b1 d5 11 cxd5 exd5 12 b4 a6 13 ♔h1 ♘bd7 14 f3 ♖e8 15 ♗d3 ♘f8 16 g4 ♘6d7 17 ♔g2 b5 18 f4 ♘f6 19 ♗d2 ♘8d7 20 g5 ♘e4 21 ♗xe4 dxe4 22 h4 ♘b6 23 f5 gxf5 24 ♖xf5 ♕d7 25 ♖f4 ♘c4 26 ♕e2 a5

27 a4 ♘xd2 28 ♕xd2 axb4 29 ♖xb4 ♗f8 30 ♖b1 b4 31 ♘e2 ♖xa4 32 ♘g3 ♕e6 33 ♖b2 b3 34 ♘h5 ♗e7 35 ♕c3 ♖a2 36 d5 ♕g6 37 ♘f6+ ♗xf6 38 ♖xf6 ♕h5 39 ♖f4 ♕d1 40 dxc6 ♖a1 41 ♔h3 ♖a2 42 ♕f6 ♖f8 43 c7 ♕h1+ 44 ♔g4 ♕d1+ 45 ♔g3 ♕g1+ 46 ♔h3 ♕xe3+ 47 ♔g4 ♕c1 48 ♔h5 ♕xc7 49 ♖xe4 ♕a7 50 ♖xb3 ♖a6 ½-½

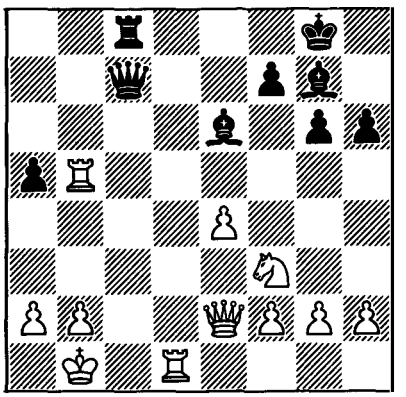
European Team Championship
Plovdiv, June-July 1983

Board 3, +2 –0 =3.

(1035) Petrosian-Radulov
Queen's Gambit Accepted

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘c3 e6 4 e4 c5 5 d5!? (5 ♘f3 cxd4 6 ♕xd4 ♕xd4 7 ♘xd4 a6 =) **5 ... exd5 6 ♘xd5 ♘f6 7 ♗xc4 ♘xd5** (7 ... ♗e6!? 8 ♗g5 [*8 ♘xf6+ ♕xf6* =] 8 ... ♗e7 9 ♘xe7 =; 9 ♗xf6 =; 8 ♕b3!?) **8 ♗xd5 ♗d6?** (better 8 ... ♘d7 intending 9 ... ♘b6, 9 ... ♘f6) **9 ♕h5!** (with attack) **9 ... g6?!** (9 ... ♕f6! 10 ♘f3 – intending ♘g5 – 10 ... ♕g6 11 ♕xg6 hxg6 12 ♘g5 0-0 13 f4 ♗e7 intending ... ♘d7-b6 ∞) **10 ♕h6 ♗f8 11 ♕e3** ± (11 ♕f4! ♕e7 12 ♗xf7+ ♕xf7 13 ♕e5+ ♕e7 14 ♕xh8 ♕xe4+ 15 ♘e2 ±±; 11 ... f6 ±) **11 ... ♘d7 12 ♕b3 ♕e7 13 ♘f3 h6** (13 ... ♗g7 14 ♗g5 ♘f6 [*14 ... ♗f6 15 ♗h6* ± *with attack*] 15 e5 h6 16 ♗xf6 ♗xf6 17 0-0 ♗g7 18 ♖fe1 intending e5-e6 ±) **14 ♗f4! ♗g7 15 0-0-0** (intending ♗d6 ±±; 15 ♖d1!?) **15 ... c4?!** (15 ... 0-0 16 ♗d6 ♕e8 17 ♗xf8 ♘xf8 ±) **16 ♕xc4** (16 ♗xc4! ♘c5 17 ♕c2 ±±) **16 ... 0-0** (16 ... ♘b6 17 ♗xf7+ ♕xf7 18 ♖d8+ ♔e7 19 ♗d6+ ♔f6 20 e5+) **17 ♗d6 ♕e8 18 ♗xf8 ♕xf8 19 ♔b1** ±± **♘b6 20 ♕e2?!** (20 ♕c2 ♗d7 [*20 ... ♘xd5 21 ♖xd5 ♗e6 22 ♖c5!* ±±] 21 ♗b3 a5 22 a3 a4 23 ♗a2 ♖a5 – intending ... ♖b5 – 24 ♘d4 ±±) **20 ... ♘xd5 21 ♖xd5** (21 exd5!? ♕d6 22 ♖he1!) **21 ... ♗e6 ⩒ 22 ♖b5 ♖c8?!** (22 ... b6 23 ♖c1 ♖d8! intending ... ♕d6 ⩒) **23 ♖xb7 ♕c5 24 ♖d1 a5 25 ♖b5!** (25 ♘e1? ♕c6 – intending ... ♕a4 – 26 ♖e7 ♗c4 27 ♕c2 ♕f6! ∓∓) **25 ... ♕c7** *(377)*

377



26 ♖bd5! ♗xd5 27 exd5 ♕d6 28 ♖d2 a4?! (time trouble; 28 ... ♖b8 intending ... a4 ±) **29 a3! ♖b8 30 ♔a2 ♕b6 31 d6!** ±± **♕b3+ 32 ♔b1 ♕xa3 33 d7 ♕f8 34 ♘e5 ♗xe5 35 ♕xe5 ♖d8 36 ♕d6 ♕xd6 37 ♖xd6 ♔f8 38 ♔a2 ♔e7 39 ♖d2 ♔e6 40 ♔a3 ♔e7 41 h4 1-0**

(1036) Lobron-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 exd5 ♕xd5 5 ♘gf3 cxd4 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 b3 ♕c7 12 ♗b2 ♗d6 (12 ... b5) **13 h3 0-0 14 ♖e1 b5 15 ♗f1?!** (15 ♗d3!? intending ♘f3-e5 =) **15 ... ♖d8!** (intending ... ♗c5) **16 ♕e2 ♗b7** ∓ (intending ... ♗b4-c3 exploiting the weak c3 square; 16 ... ♗b4 17 ♖ed1 ♗c3 18 ♘xb5! ±±) **17 c4 ♗c5** (17 ... ♘e4? [*intending 18 ... ♗h2+ 19 ♔h1 ♗g3* ∓∓] 18 ♕c2! ♗h2+ 19 ♔h1 ♕f4 20 ♖e2! [*intending ♘f3; 20 ♘f3? ♖d2!* ∓∓; *20 f3 ♘g3+ 21 ♔xh2 ♘xf1++ 22*

♔*g1* =] 20 ... ♗g3 21 fxg3!? ♘xg3+ 22 ♔g1 ♖xd4 23 ♖f2! ±) **18 ♖ad1** (18 ♖ed1!? ♕b6 19 ♕e5 ♖d7 20 cxb5 axb5 [*20 ... ♖ad8? 21 bxa6 ♗a8 22 ♖ac1!* ±±] 21 b4! =) **18 ... bxc4** (18 ... ♗b4 19 ♕e5! ∞) **19 ♕xc4 ♕b6!** ∓ (with initiative) **20 a3 a5** (20 ... ♗d5! ∓; weak b3 pawn) **21 ♖e5 ♖ac8 22 ♕b5 ♕xb5!** (22 ... ♕a7 23 b4 axb4 24 axb4 ♗xd4 25 ♖xd4 ♖xd4 26 ♗xd4 ♕xd4 27 ♕xb7 ♖d8 28 ♕c7 ∓) **23 ♗xb5 ♘e4 24 ♗e2 ♗d5! 25 ♗f3 ♘f6?** (time trouble; 25 ... f6 26 ♘xe6 [*26 ♖xe4 ♗xe4 27 ♗xe4 e5* ∓∓] 26 ... fxe5 27 ♘xd8 [*27 ♘xc5 ♘xc5* ∓] 27 ... ♗xb3 28 ♖c1 [*28 ♖d3 ♗c4* ∓] 28 ... ♗xf2+ 29 ♔f1 ♖xc1+ 30 ♗xc1 ♗c4+ 31 ♗e2 ♗d5 ∓) **26 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 27 ♘f5?** (27 ♘b5! ∓) **27 ... ♗f8 28 ♘g3** (28 ♘e3 ♗d6! 29 ♖g5 [*29 ♖e4 ♘xe3 intending ... ♗h2+* ∓∓] 29 ... f6!) **28 ... ♖d6!** (intending ... f6) **29 ♖d3 ♖b6** (with play on the b- and c-files) **30 ♗d4?! ♖b7 31 ♘e4?!** (time trouble; 31 ♖d2 intending b3-b4) **31 ...h6 32 ♖g3 ♔h7 33 ♖h5 ♖c1+ 34 ♔h2 ♖b1** (34 ...f5 35 ♘g5+ ♔g6 ∓∓) **35 ♘g5+ ♔g8 36 ♘e4 ♖1xb3 37 f3 f5 38 ♘c5 ♗d6 39 ♘xb3 ♖xb3 40 f4 ♗xf4 0-1**

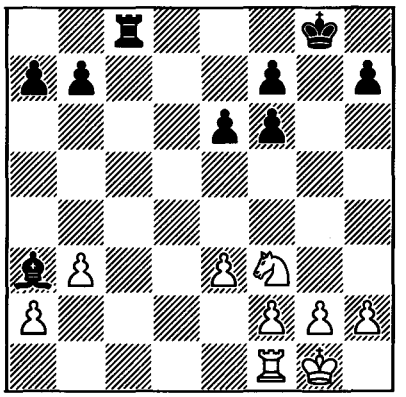
(1037) Petrosian-Nikolić
Dutch Defence

1 c4 e6 2 g3 d5 3 ♗g2 c6 4 ♕c2 ♗d6 5 d4 f5 6 ♘f3 ♘f6 7 0-0 0-0 8 b3 ♗d7 9 ♗a3 ♗xa3 10 ♘xa3 ♕e7 11 ♕b2 ♗e8 12 ♘e5 g5 13 ♘c2 ♘bd7 14 cxd5 exd5 15 f4 ♘g4 16 ♕c3 a5 17 ♖ae1 gxf4 18 gxf4 ♘df6 19 ♕h3 ♔h8 20 ♕h4 ♘g8 21 ♕g3 ♘8f6 22 ♕h4 ♘g8 23 ♕g3 ♘8f6 ½-½

(1038) Jakobsen-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 d5 2 ♘f3 ♘f6 3 e3 c5 4 b3 ♗g4 5 ♗e2 e6 6 0-0 ♘c6 7 ♗b2 ♗e7 8 ♘bd2 0-0 9 c4 ♖c8 10 dxc5 ♗xc5 11 ♖c1 ♗e7 12 ♘d4 ♗xe2 13 ♕xe2 ♘xd4 14 ♗xd4 ♕a5 15 cxd5 ♕xd5 16 ♕f3 ♕xf3 17 ♘xf3 ♗a3 18 ♖xc8 ♖xc8 19 ♗xf6 gxf6 *(378)*

378



20 g4 ♔f8 21 ♖d1 ♔e7 22 ♔f1 a6 23 ♔e2 ♗b4 24 ♘d4 ♖c5 25 a4 ♖c3 26 ♖d3 ♖c8 27 h3 h5 28 ♖d1 hxg4 29 hxg4 ♖c3 30 ♖d3 ♖c8 31 ♖d1 ♗a5 32 ♖d3 ♗b6 33 ♔f3 ♗a5 34 ♔e2 f5 35 g5 ♖h8 36 b4 ♗b6 37 ♘f3 ♗c7 38 b5 axb5 39 axb5 ♖a8 40 ♖c3 ♗d6 41 ♘d4 ♖a2+ 42 ♖c2 ♖xc2+ 43 ♘xc2 ♗c5 44 f4 ♔d6 45 ♔d3 ♔d5 46 ♘e1 ♗f8 47 ♘f3 ♗g7 48 ♘d2 b6 49 e4+ fxe4+ 50 ♘xe4 ♗b2 51 ♘g3 ♗c1 52 ♘e2 ♗a3 53 ♘c3+ ♔c5 54 ♔e4 ♔b4 55 ♘e2 ♔xb5 56 ♔e5 ♗e7 57 g6 fxg6 58 ♔xe6 ♗c5 59 f5 gxf5 60 ♔xf5 ♔c4 61 ♔e4 b5 62 ♘f4 b4 63 ♘d3 b3 64 ♘b2+ ♔c3 65 ♘a4+ ♔b4 66 ♘b2 ♔a3 67 ♘d1 ♔a2 68 ♔d3 ♗b4 69 ♔c4 ♗d2 70 ♔d3 ♗a5 71 ♔c4 ♗e1 72 ♔d3 ½-½

(1039) Ribli-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 g3 b6 4 ♗g2 ♗b7 5 0-0 ♗e7 6 d4 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘h4 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 ½-½

8th USSR Spartakiad
Moscow, July 1983

Board 2, +2 –0 =7.

(1040) Sabitov-Petrosian
Modern Defence

1 e4 d6 2 d4 g6 3 ♘c3 ♗g7 4 ♗c4 e6 5 ♘f3 ♘e7 6 ♗g5 h6 7 ♗h4 a6 8 0-0 ♘d7 9 ♕e2 g5 10 ♗g3 ♘g6 11 e5 g4 12 ♘d2 dxe5 13 d5 exd5 14 ♘xd5 0-0 15 f3 b5 16 ♗b3 ♘c5 17 ♖ad1 ♘xb3 18 ♘xb3 ♕g5 19 ♘d2 f5 20 ♘xc7 ♖a7 21 ♘d5 ♗e6 22 f4 ♕d8 23 ♘c3 ♕c8 24 a3 ♖e7 25 ♕e3 exf4 26 ♖xf4 ♗d5 27 ♕f2 ♘xf4 28 ♗xf4 ♗f7 29 ♗d6 ♖d7 30 ♘b3 ♖fd8 31 ♕g3 ♕c6 0-1

(1041) Kochiev-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

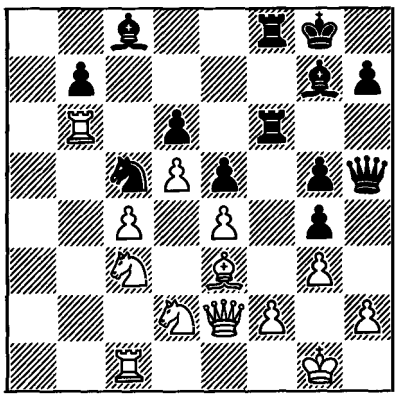
1 e4 e6 2 d3 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 g3 ♘c6 5 ♗g2 g6 6 ♘gf3 ♗g7 7 0-0 ♘ge7 8 ♖e1 h6 9 h4 b6 10 c3 a5 11 a4 ♖a7 12 exd5 exd5 13 ♘f1 0-0 14 ♗f4 d4 15 c4 ♘b4 16 ♘1h2 ♗f5 17 ♗f1 ½-½

(1042) Petrosian-Loginov
King's Indian Defence

1 c4 g6 2 e4 ♗g7 3 d4 d6 4 ♘c3 ♘f6 5 ♘f3 0-0 6 ♗e2 e5 7 d5 a5 8 ♗e3 ♘g4 9 ♗g5 f6 10 ♗h4 ♕e8 11 ♘d2 f5 12 ♗xg4 fxg4 13 ♗g5 ♘a6 14 ♗e3 ♗d7 15 0-0 ♖f7 16 ♕e2 ♕e7 17 b3 ♖af8 18 a3 ♕h4 19 ♖ab1 ♖f6 20 b4 axb4 21 axb4 g5 22 g3 ♕h5 23 ♖fc1 c5 24 bxc5 ♘xc5 25 ♖b6 ♗c8

(diagram 379)

379



26 ♖xd6 ♖xd6 27 ♗xc5 ♖h6 28 ♘f1 ♖ff6 29 ♗e3 b6 30 ♖a1 ♗f8 31 ♖a8 ♗d7 32 ♕a2 ♖f7 33 ♖b8 ♖ff6 34 ♕a7 ♗e8 35 ♕a8 ♗d7 36 c5 1-0

(1043) Vladimirov-Petrosian
Queen's Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 g3 ♗b7 5 ♗g2 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♘xe4 ♗xe4 9 ♘e1 ♗xg2 10 ♘xg2 d5 11 ♕a4 ♕d7 12 ♕xd7 ♘xd7 13 cxd5 exd5 14 ♘f4 ♘f6 15 b3 ½-½

(1044) Petrosian-Ivanov
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘c6 3 e3 g6 4 g3 ♗g7 5 ♗g2 ♘ge7 6 ♘ge2 0-0 7 d3 a6 8 h4 h5 9 e4 ♘d4 10 ♗g5 c6 11 ♕d2 f6 12 ♗e3 c5 13 ♖b1 ♘ec6 14 ♘d5 a5 15 ♗xd4 exd4 16 ♗h3 ♘e5 17 ♘g1 ♘g4 18 f4 d6 19 ♘f3 ♖b8 20 a4 ♖e8 21 ♘h2 f5 22 ♘xg4 fxg4 23 ♗g2 ♗e6 24 0-0 ♗h6 25 ♖be1 ♔g7 26 ♖e2 ♗xd5 27 exd5 ♖xe2 28 ♕xe2 ♕e8 29 ♖e1 ♕xe2 30 ♖xe2 ♖f8 31 ♖e1 ♖f6 32 ♖a1 ♖f7 33 ♗e4 ♖e7 34 ♖a3 b6 35 ♔g2 ♔f6 36 ♖a1 ♖f7 37 ♖f1 ♔g7 38 ♔f2 ♖f8 39 ♗g2 ♖e8 40 ♖a1 ♖e7 41 ♗e4 ½-½

(1045) Petrosian-Bagirov
Slav Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 c6 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♕b3 dxc4 5 ♕xc4 ♗f5 6 g3 e6 7 ♗g2 ♘bd7 8 0-0 ♗e7 9 ♘c3 0-0 10 ♗e3 ♘d5 11 ♗d2 ♘xc3 12 bxc3 ♗e4 13 a4 ♘b6 14 ♕a2 ♕d5 15 ♘e1 ♕xa2 16 ♖xa2 ♗d5 17 ♖a1 ♘c4 18 ♗c1 ½-½

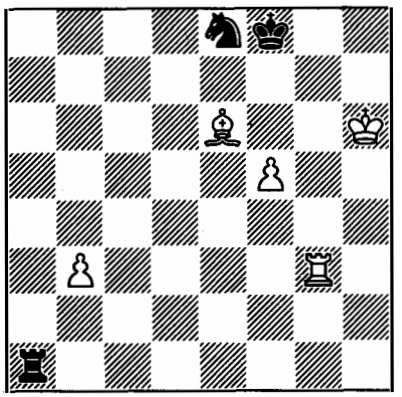
(1046) Tukmakov-Petrosian
Tarrasch Defence

1 c4 ♘f6 2 d4 e6 3 ♘f3 d5 4 ♘c3 c5 5 cxd5 ♘xd5 6 e4 ♘xc3 7 bxc3 cxd4 8 cxd4 ♗b4+ 9 ♗d2 ♗xd2+ 10 ♕xd2 0-0 11 ♗e2 b6 12 0-0 ♗b7 13 ♕e3 ♘d7 14 a4 ♘f6 15 ♘d2 ♕d7 16 ♗b5 ♗c6 17 ♗xc6 ½-½

(1047) Gurgenidze-Petrosian
Caro-Kann Defence

1 e4 c6 2 d4 d5 3 e5 ♗f5 4 c3 e6 5 ♗e3 ♕b6 6 ♕b3 ♘d7 7 ♘d2 ♘e7 8 f4 a5 9 ♕xb6 ♘xb6 10 a4 h5 11 ♘gf3 f6 12 ♗e2 ♘d7 13 g3 ♗h3 14 ♘h4 ♘f5 15 ♘xf5 ♗xf5 16 h3 ♗e7 17 ♔f2 ♔f7 18 ♔g2 ♗g6 19 ♖hf1 ♖ac8 20 ♗g1 ♖c7 21 ♖ae1 ♗c2 22 f5 ♗xf5 23 ♖xf5 exf5 24 e6+ ♔xe6 25 ♗xh5+ ♔d6 26 ♗h2 f4 27 ♗g4 ♘f8 28 c4 c5 29 gxf4 f5 30 ♗xf5 cxd4 31 ♗g4 ♗f6 32 f5+ ♔d7 33 ♗xc7 ♔xc7 34 cxd5 ♔d6 35 ♗f3 ♘d7 36 ♘e4+ ♔e5 37 ♘c5+ ♔d6 38 ♘xb7+ ♔c7 39 ♘xa5 ♖b8 40 d6+ ♔xd6 41 ♘b7+ ♔c7 42 ♖c1+ ♔b6 43 a5+ ♔a6 44 ♖c6+ ♔xb7 45 ♖xf6+ ♔c7 46 ♖c6+ ♔d8 47 ♖c2 d3 48 ♖d2 ♘c5 49 a6 ♘xa6 50 ♖xd3+ ♔e7 51 ♖e3+ ♔f8 52 b3 ♘c7 53 ♔g3 ♖b4 54 ♗h5 ♖b8 55 ♗f3 ♖b4 56 ♗h5 ♖b8 57 ♗e2 ♘e8 58 ♗c4 ♘d6 59 ♔f4 ♖c8 60 ♗e6 ♖c5 61 ♖g3 ♖b5 62 ♖e3 ♖c5 63 ♖d3 ♔e7 64 ♖g3 ♔f8 65 h4 ♖a5 66 ♖d3 ♔e7 67 ♖g3 ♔f8 68 h5 ♘e8 69 ♔g5 ♖a1 70 h6 gxh6+ 71 ♔xh6 *(380)*

380



71 ... ♘g7 72 ♔g6 ♘xe6 73 fxe6 ♔e7 74 ♖e3 ♖a5 75 ♔h6 ♖b5 76 ♔g6 ♖a5 77 ♔h6 ♖b5 78 ♔g6 ½-½

(1048) Petrosian-Lputian
Tarrasch Defence

1 d4 d5 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 c5 4 cxd5 exd5 5 ♘f3 ♘c6 6 ♗g5 ♗e7 7 ♗xe7 ♘gxe7 8 e3 cxd4 9 ♘xd4 0-0 10 ♗e2 ♕b6 11 ♕d2 ♘xd4 12 exd4 ♘f5 13 ♖d1 ♕g6 14 g3 ♗e6 15 0-0 ♖ad8 16 ♕f4 ♘e7 17 ♖fe1 ♕f5 18 ♕d2 ♕f6 19 f3 ♖d7 20 ♔g2 ♖c8 21 ♗d3 g6 22 ♕f2 ♔g7 23 ♖d2 ♗f5 24 ♗xf5 ♘xf5 25 ♖e5 ♘e7 26 f4 ♖cd8 27 g4 ♔f8 28 ♘e2 ½-½

International Tournament
Nikšić, August-September 1983

1 Kasparov 11; 2 Larsen 9; 3-4 Portisch, Spassky 8; 5-6 Andersson, Miles 7½; 7-8 Tal, Timman 7; 9-10 Ljubojević, Seirawan 6½; 11-12 Gligorić, **Petrosian** (+1 –3 =10) 6; 13 Nikolić 5½; 14 Sax 5; 15 Ivanović 4½.

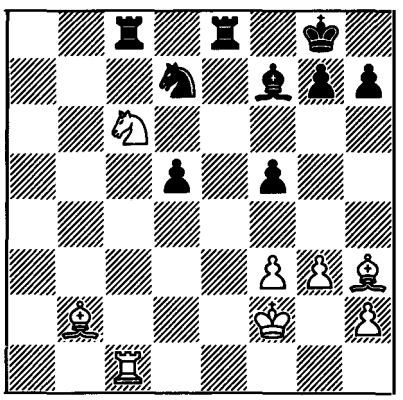
(1049) Petrosian-Timman
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 e3 ♗b4 5 ♘d5 e4 6 ♘g1 0-0 7 a3 ♗d6 8 d3 exd3 9 ♗xd3 ♘e5 10 ♗e2 c6 11 ♘c3 ♗c7 12 ♘f3 d5 13 cxd5 cxd5 14 0-0 a6 15 ♘d4 ♕d6 16 g3 ♗h3 17 ♖e1 ♖ac8 18 ♗d2 ♘c4 19 b3 ♘xd2 20 ♕xd2 ♘e4 21 ♘xe4 dxe4 22 ♗f1 ♗xf1 23 ♖xf1 ♗b6 24 ♖fd1 ♖fd8 25 ♕b4 ♕xb4 26 axb4 ♗xd4 27 ♖xd4 ♖xd4 28 exd4 ♖d8 ½-½

(1050) Kasparov-Petrosian
Dutch Defence

1 d4 e6 2 c4 f5 3 g3 ♘f6 4 ♗g2 d5 5 ♘f3 ♗e7 6 0-0 0-0 7 b3 c6 8 ♕c2 ♗d7 9 ♗b2 ♗e8 10 ♘e5 ♘bd7 11 ♘d3 ♗h5 12 ♘c3 ♗d6 13 f3 ♗g6 14 e3 ♖c8 15 ♕e2 ♖e8 16 ♕f2 a6 17 ♖ac1 ♕e7 18 ♖fe1 ♕f8 19 ♖ed1 dxc4 20 bxc4 c5 21 ♗f1 ♗f7 22 ♘a4 cxd4 23 exd4 b5 24 cxb5 axb5 25 ♘ac5 b4 26 ♖e1 ♕e7 27 ♗h3 ♕d8 28 ♘xb4 ♕a5 29 ♘c6 ♕xa2 30 ♘xd7 ♘xd7 31 d5 ♕xd5 32 ♖ed1 ♗c5 33 ♖xd5 ♗xf2+ 34 ♔xf2 exd5 *(381)*

381

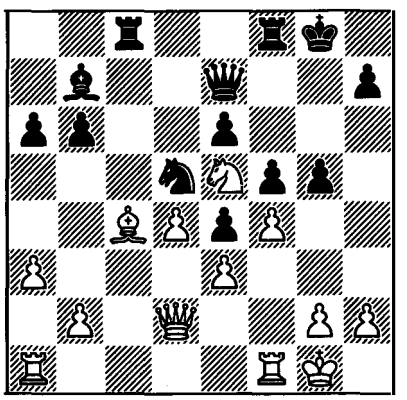


35 ♗xf5 ♘b6 36 ♗xc8 ♘xc8 37 ♗a3 h6 38 ♖b1 ♖e6 39 ♘d4 ♖a6 40 ♗c5 ♘d6 41 ♖b8+ ♔h7 42 g4 ♖a4 43 ♔e3 ♘c4+ 44 ♔f4 g5+ 45 ♔g3 ♖a2 46 ♖b7 ♔g6 47 ♘f5 ♖a6 48 h4 gxh4+ 49 ♘xh4+ ♔g7 50 ♘f5+ ♔g6 51 ♗d4 1-0

(1051) Petrosian-Gligorić
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 ♗g5 c5 4 e3 d5 5 ♘bd2 ♗e7 6 c3 0-0 7 ♗d3 b6 8 ♘e5 ♗b7 9 f4 ♘e4 10 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 11 0-0 f6 12 ♘ef3 ♘d7 13 ♕c2 f5 14 ♗b5 ♘df6 15 ♘xe4 dxe4 16 ♘e5 a6 17 ♗e2 ♘d5 18 ♕d2 cxd4 19 cxd4 ♖ac8 20 a3 g5 21 ♗c4 *(382)*

382



21 ... ♖xc4 22 ♘xc4 b5 23 ♘e5 gxf4 24 ♖xf4 ♘xf4 25 exf4 ♖c8 26 ♖c1 ♖xc1+ 27 ♕xc1 ♕h4 28 h3 ♕d8 29 ♕c3 ♔f8 30 ♔f1 ♕c8 31 ♕c5+ ♔e8 32 g4 fxg4 33 ♕xc8+ ♗xc8 34 hxg4 ♔e7 35 ♔e2 h6 36 ♔e3 ♗b7 37 ♘g6+ ♔f6 38 ♘h4 a5 39 b4 axb4 40 axb4 ♗d5 41 ♔f2 ♗c6 42 ♔g3 e3 43 ♘g2 e2 44 ♘e1 ♗e8 ½-½

(1052) Seirawan-Petrosian
Nimzo-Indian Defence

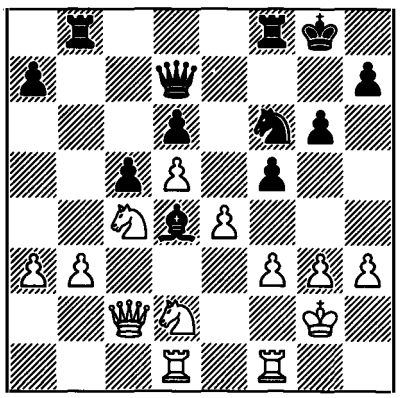
1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 ♕c2 d6 5 ♗g5 ♘bd7 6 e3 c5 7 dxc5 dxc5 8 0-0-0 ♗xc3 9 ♕xc3 ♕e7 10 ♗d3 b6 11 f4 ♗b7 12 e4 e5 13 ♘f3 ♕e6 14 fxe5 ♘g4 15 ♗c2

♘gxe5 16 ♗a4 0-0 17 ♗f4 f6 18 ♖he1 ♖f7 19 h3 ♘xf3 20 gxf3 ♖af8 21 h4 ½-½

(1053) Petrosian-Sax
Blumenfeld Counter-Gambit

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 c4 c5 4 d5 b5 5 ♗g5 exd5 6 cxd5 ♕a5+ 7 ♘c3 ♘e4 8 ♗d2 ♘xd2 9 ♘xd2 b4 10 ♘cb1 ♗a6 11 e4 g6 12 ♗xa6 ♕xa6 13 ♕c2 d6 14 ♘c4 ♗g7 15 ♘bd2 ♘d7 16 0-0 ♖b8 17 a3 b3 18 ♘xb3 0-0 19 ♘bd2 ♗d4 20 ♔h1 ♘f6 21 f3 ♘h5 22 ♖ad1 ♕b7 23 g3 ♕d7 24 ♔g2 f5 25 b3 ♘f6 26 h3 *(383)*

383



26 ... f4 27 g4 ♕e7 28 ♕d3 ♘d7 29 ♕e2 h5 30 ♖h1 ♘f6 31 ♕d3 hxg4 32 fxg4 f3+ 33 ♘xf3 ♕xe4 34 ♕xe4 ♘xe4 35 b4 ♖be8 36 ♖he1 ♗c3 ½-½

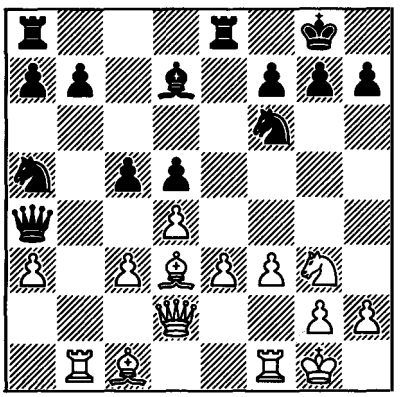
(1054) Portisch-Petrosian
English Opening

1 c4 e5 2 ♘c3 ♘f6 3 g3 d5 4 cxd5 ♘xd5 5 ♗g2 ♘b6 6 ♘f3 ♘c6 7 d3 ♗e7 8 a3 ♗e6 9 b4 0-0 10 0-0 f6 11 ♗b2 ♕d7 12 ♘e4 ♖fd8 13 ♕c2 ♗f8 14 ♖ac1 ♕f7 15 b5 ♘a5 16 ♘fd2 ♘b3 17 ♘xb3 ♗xb3 18 ♕xc7 ♘a4 19 ♕xf7+ ♗xf7 20 ♗a1 ♖ac8 21 ♗h3 ♖xc1 22 ♖xc1 ♗xa3 23 ♖c7 ♗d5 24 ♗f5 ♗b4 25 g4 ♗a5 26 ♖c1 h6 27 h4 ♔f8 28 h5 ♗b6 29 ♔f1 ♔e7 30 ♘d2 ♗e6 31 ♘e4 ♗d5 32 ♘g3 ♔f8 33 ♗e4 ♘c5 34 ♗xd5 ♖xd5 35 ♗b2 ♘e6 36 ♗a3+ ♔g8 37 ♖c8+ ♔h7 38 ♖e8 ♘f4 39 ♗c1 ♖xb5 40 ♗xf4 exf4 41 ♘f5 a5 42 ♖b8 f3 43 exf3 ♗c7 44 ♖c8 ♖c5 45 d4 ♖c1+ 46 ♔g2 ♗f4 47 ♖d8 ♖c7 48 d5 1-0

(1055) Petrosian-Ljubojević
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘c3 ♗b4 4 e3 0-0 5 ♗d3 d5 6 ♘e2 c5 7 0-0 ♘c6 8 cxd5 exd5 9 a3 ♗xc3?! ± (9 ... cxd4) **10 bxc3 ♖e8 11 f3 ♗d7 12 ♘g3 ♕a5 13 ♕d2!** (13 ♗d2 ♕c7 maintains the pressure on d4) **13 ... ♕a4** (13 ... cxd4 14 cxd4 ♕xd2 15 ♗xd2 ±) **14 ♖b1 ♘a5 15 ♗c2 ♕c4 16 ♗d3!** (16 e4 cxd4 17 cxd4 dxe4 18 fxe4 ♖ac8 19 ♖f2 ♕c3! ∞) **16 ... ♕a4** *(384)*

384



17 e4 dxe4 18 fxe4 cxd4 19 ♖b4! ♕c6 (19 ... dxc3 20 ♕g5 h6 [*20 ... ♕c6 21 ♕xa5* ±±] 21 ♖xa4 hxg5 22 ♖xa5 ±±) **20 cxd4 ±± ♘xe4?! 21 ♘xe4 ♖xe4 22 ♕f2!** (22 d5?? ♕c5+ ∓; 22 ♗xe4 ♕xe4 23 d5 ±) **22 ... f5** (*22 ...* ♖e7 23 ♕h4 ±±) **23 d5 ♕xd5 24 ♗xe4 fxe4 25 ♖d4 ♕e6 26 ♖xe4 ♕g6 27 ♖e7 ♗b5 28 ♕f7+ 1-0**

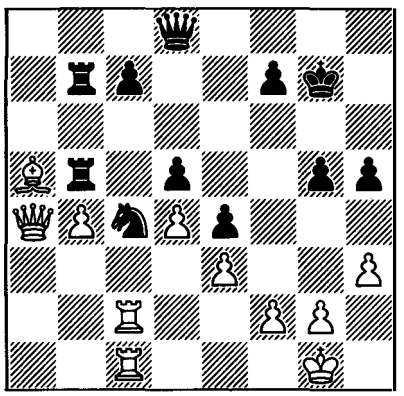
(1056) Ivanović-Petrosian
King's Indian Attack

1 e4 e6 2 d3 c5 3 ♘f3 ♘c6 4 g3 d5 5 ♘bd2 g6 6 ♗g2 ♗g7 7 0-0 ♘ge7 8 ♖e1 h6 9 a4 b6 10 h4 a5 11 ♘f1 ♖a7 12 ♘1h2 dxe4 13 ♖xe4 0-0 14 ♖e1 e5 15 ♗d2 ♘d5 16 ♘f1 ♗g4 17 ♕c1 h5 18 ♘1h2 ♗c8 19 ♗h6 ♖e8 20 ♗xg7 ♔xg7 21 ♘d2 ♘db4 22 ♕d1 ♖e6 23 ♘c4 ♗a6 24 b3 ½-½

(1057) Petrosian-Larsen
Nimzo-Indian Defence

1 d4 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 ♘f3 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b4 5 ♕c2 ♗b7 6 a3 ♗xc3+ 7 ♕xc3 d6 8 e3 ♘bd7 9 ♗e2 ♘e4 10 ♕c2 ♘g5 11 ♕d1 0-0 12 0-0 ♘xf3+ 13 ♗xf3 ♗xf3 14 ♕xf3 e5 15 ♗d2 ♖e8 16 ♕c6 e4 17 a4 ♘f6 18 a5 d5 19 b3 h6 20 ♖fc1 ♖e6 21 ♕a4 ♖b8 22 axb6 axb6 23 ♖a2 g5 24 c5 ♔g7 25 cxb6 ♖exb6 26 ♖ac2 ♘e8 27 ♖b2 ♖b5 28 ♗a5 ♖8b7 29 b4 ♘d6 30 ♖bc2 ♘c4 31 h3 h5 *(385)*

385



32 ♖xc4 dxc4 33 ♖xc4 ♕e7 34 ♕c2 g4 35 hxg4 hxg4 36 ♖c6 ♖f5 37 ♗xc7 ♕xb4 38 ♕xe4 ♕b1+ 39 ♕xb1 ♖xb1+ 40 ♔h2 ♖xf2 41 ♔g3 ♖bb2 42 ♔xg4 ♖xg2+ 43 ♔f5 ♖gf2+ 44 ♗f4 ♖b5+ 45 ♖c5 ♖xc5+ ½-½

(1058) Spassky-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘c3 ♘f6 4 ♗g5 dxe4 5 ♘xe4 ♘bd7 6 ♘f3 ♗e7 7 ♘xf6+ ♗xf6 8 ♗xf6 ♕xf6 9 ♗d3 0-0 10 0-0 e5 11 dxe5 ♘xe5 12 ♘xe5 ♕xe5 13 c3 ♗e6 14 ♖e1 ½-½

(1059) Petrosian-Nikolić
Queen's Indian Defence

1 ♘f3 ♘f6 2 c4 e6 3 d4 b6 4 ♘c3 ♗b7 5 a3 d5 6 cxd5 exd5 7 ♗f4 ♗d6 8 ♗g3 0-0 9 e3 c5 10 ♗e2 ♘a6 11 0-0 ♘c7 12 ♗h4 ♕e7 13 a4 ♕e6 14 ♘g5 ♕e8 15 ♖e1 h6 16 ♘f3 ♘e4 17 ♕c2 ♖c8 18 dxc5 ♗xc5 19 ♕b3 ♕e6 20 ♘d4 ♕g6 21 ♖ad1 ♗xd4 22 exd4 ♘e6 23 ♗f3 ♘6g5 24 ♗xg5 ♘xg5 25 ♘xd5 ♘xf3+ 26 ♕xf3 ♖fe8 27 ♘f6+ ♕xf6 28 ♕xb7 ♖xe1+ 29 ♖xe1 ♖c2 ½-½

(1060) Tal-Petrosian
French Defence

1 e4 e6 2 d4 d5 3 ♘d2 c5 4 ♘gf3 cxd4 5 exd5 ♕xd5 6 ♗c4 ♕d6 7 0-0 ♘f6 8 ♘b3 ♘c6 9 ♘bxd4 ♘xd4 10 ♘xd4 a6 11 ♖e1 ♗e7 12 c3 ♗d7 13 ♕f3 ♗c6 14 ♕h3 ♗d5 15 ♗xd5 ♘xd5 16 ♗g5 0-0 17 ♗xe7 ♕xe7 18 c4 ♘f6 19 ♖ed1 ½-½

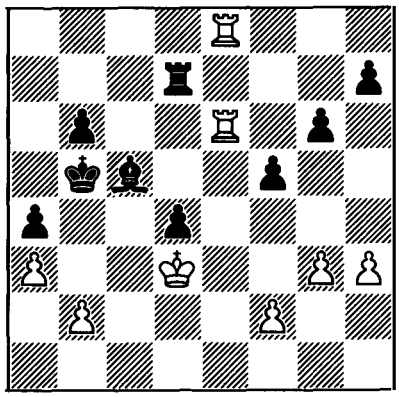
(1061) Petrosian-Miles
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 d4 ♘f6 2 ♘f3 e6 3 e3 b6 4 ♗d3 ♗b7 5 0-0 d5 6 b3 ♘bd7 7 ♗b2 ♘e4 8 ♘e5 ♗d6 9 f4 0-0 10 ♗xe4 dxe4 11 ♘d2 a5 12 a4 f6 13 ♘ec4 ♗b4 14 ♖f2 ♗d5 15 ♕e2 ♕c8 16 ♘f1 ♕a6 ½-½

(1062) Andersson-Petrosian
Queen's Pawn Opening

1 ♘f3 d6 2 d4 ♗g4 3 e4 ♘f6 4 ♘bd2 e6 5 ♗d3 ♗e7 6 c3 c6 7 0-0 ♘bd7 8 ♖e1 d5 9 e5 ♘g8 10 ♘f1 c5 11 h3 ♗xf3 12 ♕xf3 cxd4 13 cxd4 ♗b4 14 ♖d1 ♘e7 15 ♕g4 g6 16 a3 ♗a5 17 ♗h6 ♗b6 18 ♘h2 ♘f5 19 ♗g5 f6 20 exf6 ♘xf6 21 ♗xf5 exf5 22 ♕h4 0-0 23 ♘f3 ♕d6 24 ♖e1 ♖ac8 25 ♗f4 ♕d8 26 ♗h6 ♘e4 27 ♗xf8 ♕xh4 28 ♘xh4 ♗xd4 29 ♖e2 ♔xf8 30 ♖d1 ♗b6 31 ♔f1 ♔g7 32 ♘f3 ♖d8 33 g3 ♔f6 34 ♔g2 ♔e6 35 ♘e1 ♔d6 36 ♘d3 d4 37 ♖c1 ♘c5 38 ♘xc5 ♗xc5 39 ♔f1 a5 40 ♔e1 a4 41 ♔d2 ♖a8 42 ♖ce1 ♔c6 43 ♖e5 ♔b5 44 ♔d3 b6 45 ♖e8 ♖a7 46 ♖1e6 ♖d7 *(386)*

386



47 h4 ♔a6 48 ♖a8+ ♔b5 49 ♖g8 ♖f7 50 f4 ♔a6 51 h5 gxh5 52 ♖g5 h4 53 gxh4 ♗e7 54 ♖g8 h5 55 ♖a8+ ♔b7 56 ♖xa4 ♗xh4 57 ♖b4 ♗d8 58 ♖xd4 1-0

Index of Opponents

Heavy type indicates that Petrosian was White.

Abramović
1011

Adorjan
693, 795, 883

Ageichenko
139

Agzamov
920, **1028**

Alburt
612, **697**

Alvarez
69

Andersson
305, 399, 430, **457**, 528, 547, 571, 626, 796, 831, 866, **905**, 955, **960**, **990**, 1062

Arafat
505

Arnason
1014

Averbakh
4, 6, **141**, 361, **522**, 769, **1033**

Averkin
221, 466

Azmaiparashvili
1031

Bagirov
104, **560**, **705**, **1045**

Balashov
214, **345**, **498**, **606**, 658, **699**, **768**, 820, 860, **910**, **1030**

Balinas
733

Basagić
372

Bednarski
158

Belkadi
279

Bellon
544, **868**

Belyavsky
480, **554**, **596**, **610**, 743, 913, **915**, **956**, **973**, **1022**

Benko
174, 728

Bertok
257, 293

Bhend
70

Bilek
85, **514**

Birbrager
63

Bisguier
616, 734

Biyiasas
767

Bobotsov
100, **133**, 153, **227**, 270, **397**

Boey
390

Bogdanović
378

Böhm
586, 732

Boleslavsky
3, **7**

Bönsch
1004

Botterill
714

Botvinnik
13, 65, **84**

Bouaziz
987

Bronstein
11, **81**, 87, **144**, **288**, **359**, 406, **521**, 609, 736, **771**, **857**, **975**, **1032**

Bronstein L
824

Browne
266, 419, **513**, 568, **764**, 789, 984, **999**

Bukal
374, **928**

Bukić
792, 876

Butnorius
557

Bykhovsky
140

Byrne, D
161, 408

Byrne, R
360, **592**, 633

Calapso
115

Calvo
165, 434

Camara
507

Campora
946

Campos-Lopez
421

Canal
113

Cardoso
535, 542

Casa
67

Castro O
628

Cebalo
936

Chandler
938

Chernikov
59

Chiburdanidze
748

Christiansen
772

Ciocaltea
443, 678, **760**

Cleopas
152

Colon
864

Cooper
508, 759

Cserna
931

Csom
630, **744**

Czerniak
150

Damjanović
232, 756

Danov
102

Darga
429

Debarnot
550

Diaz
638

Diez del Corral
170, 238, **435**

Djindjihashvili
719, **766**

Dolmatov
898, 901

Dominguez
869

Donner
42, **51**, **118**, **125**, 316, 454

Dorfman
602, **662**, 702, **752**

Doroshkevich
600

Dückstein
124

Durao
696

Dvoretsky
607, **742**

Dzyuban
809

Ehlvest
1007

Enklaar
452

Espig
754

Estrin
143

Evans
112, 413

Fedorowicz
720

Fernandez
543, 872

Filip
97

Fischer
46, **55**, 247, **248**, 249, **250**, **267**, 335, **336**, 337, **338**, 339, **340**, 341, **342**, 343

Forintos
595, 887

Franco
842

Freyer
506

Ftacnik
689, 939

Fuller
274

Furman
218, **598**

Garcia R
404

Garcia G
798, **817**, **863**

Garcia S
594

Gasić
380

Gazarek
925

Geller
58, 92, 210, **467**, 597, 599, **631**, **657**, **684**, **710**, **740**, 871, 907, 1019

Georgadze
811, **922**

Gheorghiu
101, 155, **176**, 358, 405, **426**, **527**, **841**, **914**

Ghitescu
262

Gipslis
86, 220

Giustolisi
149

Glek
1034

Gligorić
93, **157**, **160**, **255**, **269**, 281, 291, **304**, 402, **410**, 481, **482**, 483, **484**, **531**, **569**, **681**, 878, 961, **1051**

Gonzales Mestres
870

Grigorian
464, 653, **703**

Gufeld
204, 370

Gulko
147, **611**, 622, 650, 711, **750**

Gurgenidze
105, **556**, 1047

Harandi
819

Hartston
676, 776

Hébert
821

Hernandez
790, **865**

Hoen
75

Hort
154, **233**, **265**, 272, **282**, 297, **310**, **355**, **377**, 400, 409, 423, **546**, **590**, 722

Hübner
303, 318, **319**, 320, **321**, 322, **323**, 324, 395, 637, **828**, 951, 959, **992**

Hug
401, **433**

Huguet
431

Ivanov
1044

Ivanović
382, **778**, **880**, **895**, **962**, 1056

Ivkov
41, 50, 76, 130, 162, **261**, 313, **386**, 387, 445, **517**, **758**, 801, **802**, 803, **804**, 829, **832**, **875**, **964**

Jakobsen
271, 1038

Janošević
116, 729

Jansa
375, 680, **890**, 1001

Jimenez
71

Johansson
66

Kagan
715, 825

Kaiszauri
755

Kapelan
940

Kapengut
364

Kaplan
415

Karlsson
989

Karpov
353, **414**, **471**, 555, **562**, 573, **574**, 575, **576**, **651**, **807**, **862**, **912**, 991, **1024**

Kasparov
799, 909, 953, 963, 1050

Kavalek
403, **437**, 462, 524, **969**

Keene
442, **509**

Keres
56, 94, 128, **381**, **416**, 470

Kestler
126

Khasin
137

Kholmov
206, **583**, 741, 856, **976**

Kjarner
694, **1013**

Klarić
692

Klovan
601

Klundt
132

Knaak
782

Knežević
788

Kochiev
700, **737**, 1041

Korchnoi
1, **10**, **108**, **173**, **235**, 258, 315, **325**, 326, **327**, 328, **329**, 330, **331**, 332, **333**, 334, 344, 368, **477**, 499, **500**, 501, **502**, 503, 593, 664, **665**, 666, **667**, 668, **669**, 670, **671**, 672, **673**, 674, **675**, 847, **848**, 849, **850**, 851, **852**, 853, **854**, 855

Kosanki
385

Kotov
407

Kottnauer
151

Kovačević
254

Kozlov V
553

Kraidman
533

Kroes
504

Krogius
695

Kudryashov
103

Kuijpers
312

Kupper
120

Kupreichik
212, **660**, 808, **921**

Kurajica
264, **794**, 879, **942**

Kuzmin
465, **519**, 704, 897, **900**

Lebredo
747

Langeweg
311, 458

Larsen
44, **53**, 72, **163**, **239**, **298**, **420**, **537**, 538, 572, **634**, 835, **948**, 968, **979**, 998, **1057**

Lechtinsky
749, 784

Ledić
290

Lehmann
175

Lengyel
119, **283**, **306**, 356, 589

Lerner
1020

Liberzon
82, 145, **203**, **629**

Liebert
285

Ljubojević
427, **529**, 551, 566, **577**, 578, **579**, 580, **581**, 582, 957, 970, **1055**

Lobron
1036

Loginov
1042

Lombard
446, **625**

Lombardy
839

Lputian
1048

Lukin
735

Lutikov
64, 208, 805, **917**

Lutovac
886

Magrin
111

Malanyuk
1023

Marić
299

Mariotti
563

Marjanović
787, 891

Marović
252, 456, 791

Martinović
924

Martz
617

Matanović
166, 200, **201**, 202, 635, **797**

Matulović
379, 935

Mecking
229, **308**, 417, **545**

Medina
171, 228

Mestel
724, 982

Mikenas
746

Miles
830, **873**,.874, **950**, **1061**

Minev
78

Minić
260, 302, **373**, **888**

Moiseyev
142

Morelos Castro
148

Mukhin
365

Najdorf
45, 54, **77**, **99**, 240, 287, 307, **836**, **966**

Naranja
68, 532

Nei
773, **919**, **1015**

Ničevski
251

Nikolić
930, 944, **1037**, **1059**

Nilsson
79

Nunn
723, 996

Olafsson
309, 354, **539**

Oll
1008

Osanić
296

Pachman
91, 110

Panchenko
690, 923

Panno
237, 432, 619, 840

Parma
226, **259**, 289, 352

Penrose
231

Peshina
745

Peters
614, 730

Petersen
276

Pfleger
129, 536

Philippe
392

Pinter
985

Planinc
388, 389, **459**, **585**

Platonov
209

Polugayevsky
223, 242, **243**, 244, **245**, 246, **369**, **469**, **608**, 652, **707**, **727**, 861, 911, 965, 972, 1027

Pomar
73, **168**, **241**, 275, 549

Popović
877, **945**

Portisch
40, **49**, 95, **273**, **394**, 411, **485**, 486, **487**, 488, **489**, 490, **491**, 492, **493**, 494, **495**, 496, **497**, 526, **564**, 624, **640**, 642, **644**, 646, 726, **822**, 902, **954**, **994**, **1054**

Prandstetter
757

Psakhis
971, **981**, **1006**, **1016**

Pytel
444

Quinteros
294, 450, **525**, **618**, 833

Radulov
463, 677, **1035**

Rajković
384, **934**

Rantanen
777

Rashkovsky
472, **655**, 683

Razuvayev
1026

Ree
314, **396**, **424**, 455

Reshevsky
39, 48, **156**, 284, 751

Ribli
428, **461**, **679**, 763, 986, 1039

Robatsch
117

Rodriguez
278, **391**, **552**, 761

Rogoff
621

Romanishin
605, 661, 698, **738**, 806, 858, **1018**

Rubinetti
834

Rytov
781

Sabitov
1040

Saidy
418, 425

Sanguinetti
620

Savon
207, 350, **367**, 474

Sax
718, **785**, 814, **882**, 933, **1053**

Schmid
131, 280, 447

Schmidt
398

Schneider
844

Schüssler
1012

Seirawan
1052

Shamkovich
2, **8**, 146, **362**, **725**, **826**

Sherwin
613

Sibarević
793

Simagin
5, 9

Simić
937

Smejkal
453, **565**, **636**, **786**, **813**, 846, **908**, 941

Smith
412

Smyslov
62, 83, **96**, **205**, **263**, 348, **363**, **473**, 518, 632, 663, **701**, **893**, 906, 980, 1000

Sosonko
510, **627**, **867**, **952**, **997**

Spasov
685

Spassky
14, **15**, 16, **17**, 18, **19**, 20, **21**, 22, **23**, 24, **25**, 26, **27**, 28, **29**, 30, **31**, 32, **33**, 34, **35**, 36, **37**, **38**, 47, 57, 98, 107, 167, 177, **178**, 179, **180**, 181, **182**, 183, **184**, 185, **186**, 187, **188**, 189, **190**, 191, **192**, 193, **194**, 195, **196**, 197, **198**, 199, 230, **349**, **451**, 478, 520, 558, 591, **810**, **837**, 949, **967**, 1058

Speelman
717

Stean
588, 731, **762**, 843

Stein
60, **88**, **106**, **217**, 346, 436

Suba
682, 988, 1005

Suetin
109, **688**

Sunye
818, **983**

Suttles
286, **422**

Sveshnikov
479, **649**, 706, **713**, 974

Szabo
122, 234, 295, 376, **448**, **449**

Szekely
1010

Szmetan
511

Taimanov
211, **301**, **475**, 656, 918

Tal
61, 89, **219**, **351**, **366**, 476, 523, **541**, **559**, 570, 587, 603, **623**, 639, **641**, 643, **645**, **647**, **686**, 709, **779**, 916, 1003, 1017, 1060

Tarjan
721

Tatai
114, 383, **548**

Tempone
838

Teschner
136

Teufel
135

Tielmann
927

Timman
460, 816, 904, 947, **958**, 978, **995**, **1049**

Tisdall
712

Tomić
300

Toran
127, 172, 225

Torre
530, 827, **903**, **993**

Trikaliotis
277

Tringov
845, 894

Tseshkovsky
654, 739, **859**

Tukmakov
215, **357**, **439**, 441, 468, **708**, 753, 977, 1025, 1046

Uddenfeldt
512

Udovčić
256

Uhlmann
74, 90, 159, 253, 268, **347**

Unzicker
43, 52, **123,** 236, **567,** 765

Vaganian
561, 584, **604, 659,** 770, **812, 815,** 1009, 1021

van den Berg
317

Vasyukov
213, 438, **440,** 534, **896,** 899

Veingold
775, 1002

Veličković
932

Velimirović
292, 823, **884, 943**

Venalainen
515

Vigh
929

Vilela
783

Visier
169, **516,** 540

Vladimirov
1043

Vooremaa
780

Vukić
371, 800, 926

Vuković
889

Webb
716

Weinstein
615

Westerinen
134, **164,** 393

Yudovich
80

Yusupov
881, 1029

Zaitsev A
216

Zaitsev I
12, 138, 224, 691

Zakharov
648

Zečević
885

Zhukovitsky
222

Zhuravlyev
687

Zilberstein
774

Zinser
121

Zivković
892

Index of Openings

Heavy type indicates that Petrosian was White.

ALEKHINE'S DEFENCE
3, 553, 761, 872, 901

BENKO GAMBIT
511, 697, 928

BENONI:

Czech
42, 142, **171**, 185, 262, 293

Modern
172, **364**, 376, **552, 577, 618, 655, 723, 735**, 745, **790**, 889, **917, 924, 934, 1004**, 1012

Schmid
271, **841**, 920

BISHOP'S OPENING
676, 776

BLUMENFELD COUNTER-GAMBIT
1053

BOGO-INDIAN DEFENCE
86, 209, 216, 261, 326, 328, **541**, 613, 639, 702, 963, 971, 976, 979, **990, 1028**, 1029

CATALAN SYSTEM
17, 73, 83, **108**, 225, **237**, 246, **259**, 334, **351**, 428, 510, 593, **623**, 664, 666, 672, 674, **695**, 833, **880, 905, 966, 967**

CARO-KANN DEFENCE

4 ... ♗f5
11, 14, 26, 92, 134, 138, 935

4 ... ♘d7
87, 94, 212, 476, 635, 806, 991

Panov
16, 18, 22, 61, **793**, 988, 996, 1005

Other
70, 247, 249, 318, 350, 360, 389, 658, 1001, 1047

DUTCH DEFENCE
75, 290, 379, 401, 420, 755, 777, 788, 1037, 1050

ENGLISH DEFENCE
388, 442, 732

ENGLISH OPENING

Four Knights
101, 285, 301, 314, 509, 519, 576, 604, 616, 621, 652, 668, 763, **859**, 881, **882**, 892, **900, 992, 1016, 1018, 1049**

... e5
65, **143, 333**, 386, **396, 444, 459, 535**, 572, **645, 768, 952**, 994, 1025, **1044**, 1054

... e6
242, **298, 424**, 447, **495, 539**, 547, 605, 607, 630, **699, 713**, 874, **895, 931, 942, 943**, 972, 1021

... c5
21, 58, 71, 131, 133, 227, 235, 248, 355, 374, 405, 411, **429, 437, 440, 449, 453, 463, 480, 489, 493**, 499, 501, 518, 559, 571, 575,

594, 606, 647, 659, 679, 689, **786, 830, 832, 834,** 864, **898, 981, 985, 1008**

Other
144, 174, **304, 362, 369, 398, 403, 435, 439,** 466, 528, **545, 565,** 698, **721, 752,** 835, 853, **877, 896, 945, 1030**

FRENCH DEFENCE

Advance
224, 691, 718, 808

Burn
34, 36, 107, 337, 417, 462, 601, 1058

Classical
32, **118,** 145, 845, 1014

Exchange
72, 150, 167, 220, 343, 383, 400, 722, 724, 1023

Rubinstein
24, 128, 226, 289, 490, 704

Tarrasch
76, 103, 109, 117, 155, 158, 166, 266, 305, 468, 474, 530, 551, 563, **579,** 609, 615, 643, 648, 677, 680, 733, 739, 923, 930, 933, 959, 982, 1003, 1019, 1036, 1060

Winawer
79, 120, 232, 238, 264, 272, 378, 421, 434, 443, 520, 524, 654, 709, 736, 949, 1011, 1017

Other
427, 628

GRÜNFELD DEFENCE
6, **7, 8, 74, 77, 176, 207, 215, 250, 282, 288,** 309, **331, 336, 347, 357, 359, 426, 477,** 481, **484, 502,** 532, **554, 588, 590, 681, 703, 750, 762,** 811, **812, 813, 824, 826,** 847, 939, 968

IRREGULAR OPENINGS
25, 27, 29, 35, 286, 620

KING'S INDIAN ATTACK
13, **51,** 113, **175,** 208, 256, 406, 580, 582, **596, 688,** 767, 858, 899, 1041, 1056

KING'S INDIAN DEFENCE

Four Pawns Attack
148, 505, 617

Averbakh Variation
41, 316, 354

Classical Variation
9, 12, 90, 126, **217, 255, 269,** 430, 508, 589, 685, 769, 774, 798

Panno Variation
23, 40, **127,** 392, 425

Other g3 variations
54, **55, 93,** 536, **636, 717, 748, 760, 775,** 941

Petrosian System
88, 106, 151, 154, 294, 506, 684, 1042

Sämisch
59, **159, 160, 164, 170,** 231, 233, 253, 279, **296, 371, 382, 410,** 413, 467, **482,** 504, **507, 516, 521,** 531, **569, 638, 657, 737,** 816, 829, **929, 1013**

Simagin
251, 372

Other
37, 53, 68, 161, 270, **292, 310, 373,** 432, 454, 455, 456, 472, **514, 525, 529,** 661, 751, **800, 817,** 818, **884, 932, 993, 1010**

MODERN DEFENCE
97, 275, 295, 302, 358, **422,** 450, 526, 544, **556,** 584, 637, 642, **693,** 694, 711, **715,** 729, 731, 801, 821, 907, **964, 987,** 1027, 1034, 1040

NIMZO-INDIAN DEFENCE

Classical
252, **325,** 578, 791, 887, **948, 1006,** 1052

Rubinstein
5, **33**, 48, 112, 122, 169, **186**, **205**, 281, **283**, 287, 291, **345**, 365, 445, **465**, **473**, **498**, **517**, **522**, 538, 540, **550**, **557**, 558, **562**, **567**, **583**, 624, **627**, 714, 726, **734**, **771**, 782, **794**, **836**, **839**, **844**, **848**, **850**, **865**, **870**, **914**, **936**, **950**, **958**, 961, **1015**, **1055**

Other
147, **487**, 759, **863**, 927, **975**, **999**, **1057**

NIMZOWITSCH/LARSEN OPENING
340, **377**, 747

OLD INDIAN DEFENCE
146, **754**, **888**, **926**

PETROFF'S DEFENCE
189, 191, 339, 387, 678, 951, 957

PHILIDOR'S DEFENCE
311, 346, 633

PIRC DEFENCE
218, **229**, 297, 299, 523, 687, **785**, 843, 906

QUEEN'S GAMBIT ACCEPTED
47, **268**, 284, **349**, 356, **407**, 512, **543**, 612, 632, 683, 700, **738**, **766**, 792, **822**, 831, **857**, 861, 878, 918, 944, 953, 974, 980, 984, 1031, **1035**

QUEEN'S GAMBIT DECLINED

Exchange Variation
63, 110, **121**, 153, **190**, 244, **300**, **431**, **451**, **581**, **705**, 855, **973**, **1022**

Orthodox
49, **182**, **321**, **381**, **397**, 483, 494, 599, **634**, 670, **682**, **810**, **912**, **915**, **1020**

Semi-Tarrasch
19, **82**, **99**, 100, 181, **366**, **384**, **394**, **404**, **416**, **464**, **614**, 653, **665**, **667**, **669**, **938**, 998, 1046

Tarrasch Defence
43, **56**, **81**, **104**, **119**, **123**, **157**, **178**, **180**, **188**, **192**, **194**, **219**, **265**, **329**, **342**, **548**, 549, **746**, **1048**

Tartakower Variation
15, **38**, **196**, **198**, **203**, **273**, **277**, 313, **319**, 402, 470, **491**, **497**, **710**, **740**, 753, 772, **779**, **815**, **828**, **875**, **922**, **940**, **962**, **1024**

Other
4, 57, **64**, **80**, **140**, **184**, **323**, **390**, **418**, **533**, **592**, **608**, **625**, **629**, **662**, **742**, **773**, **837**, 849, 851, **886**, **969**, **1026**

QUEEN'S INDIAN DEFENCE
10, **31**, **39**, 50, 62, **111**, **163**, 187, **223**, **239**, **245**, **257**, 258, **263**, **274**, **306**, 307, 330, 332, **353**, **363**, **414**, 423, **446**, **448**, **471**, **485**, **537**, **574**, **585**, 597, **611**, 626, **631**, **641**, **644**, 646, **651**, 656, 663, **671**, **673**, **675**, **686**, **701**, **719**, **727**, **730**, 743, **764**, **783**, **797**, 803, **807**, 809, **819**, 840, **852**, **854**, **862**, 866, 871, **873**, 876, 902, 904, 909, **910**, 911, **954**, 955, **960**, 965, 977, 986, **989**, **995**, **997**, 1000, **1002**, 1009, **1033**, 1039, 1043, **1059**

QUEEN'S PAWN OPENINGS

Torre Attack
20, **202**, **308**, **457**

Other
60, **156**, **213**, **221**, **243**, 254, **267**, **433**, 458, **461**, **500**, **527**, **600**, **640**, **690**, **707**, **708**, 741, **744**, **890**, **908**, **921**, **983**, **1032**, 1038, **1051**, **1061**, 1062

RETI OPENING
45, **135**, **137**, 152, **173**, 315, **317**, **327**, 408, **469**, **564**, **598**, **716**, 770, 838, **867**, **956**

RUY LOPEZ

Breyer
260, 570, **883**, **916**

Closed
69, 89, **129**, 130, 136, **141**, 197, 200, **201**, 214, 566, 573, 587, 603, 799, **802**, 823, 827

Other
1, 460, 555, **758**

SICILIAN DEFENCE

Accelerated Dragon
179, 749

Closed
28, 30, **91**, 846

Keres Attack
380, 452, 542, 546, 720, 756, 825

Maroczy Bind
44, 98, **114**, **116**, **338**, **375**, **391**, 438, 486, 492, 503, **513**, **515**, **610**, 622, **781**

Minev (2 c3)
706, 728

Najdorf Variation
52, **66**, 67, 85, **102**, 124, 132, 149, 195, 222, 650, 696

Paulsen
46, 177, 193, 236, 341

Scheveningen
165, 210, 276, 320, 324, 370, 419, 436, 441, 478, 712, 784, 885, 937

Taimanov
199, **211**, 230, 280, 303, 352, 393, 395, 399, 568

Other
2, 78, 105, 115, 162, 228, 322, 335, 385, 409, 415, 479, 780, 879

SCOTCH OPENING
778

SLAV DEFENCE
84, 95, **96**, **125**, **139**, **168**, 183, 206, 234, 240, **241**, **278**, **312**, 344, 348, 361, **367**, 368, **412**, **475**, 488, 496, 534, **560**, 561, **586**, 591, 595, **602**, 619, **649**, **660**, **692**, **725**, 789, **795**, 796, **804**, **868**, **893**, **903**, **919**, 925, 970, 978, 1007, **1045**

THREE KNIGHTS DEFENCE
204

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Volume 2
1966 - 1983

Compiled by E.Shekhtman

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