

Kotronias on the King's Indian 5

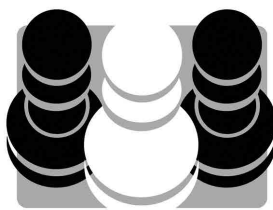
Sämisch & The Rest

By

Vassilios Kotronias

To Dimitrios-Athanasios, Athanasia, Antonia-Eleuthera

“When a journey ends, another one always starts”



Quality Chess
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Introduction

Dear readers,

A few years ago, *we* started a fascinating journey to the King's Indian Defence, and I use the plural for several reasons.

By "we", I firstly refer to all of you who shared my thirst for knowledge about an opening that has its own rules and its own undeniable magic, and either incorporate it into your repertoire or simply derive pleasure from its unique grace. I want to thank you for your interest and patience.

By "we", I also refer to the Quality Chess editorial staff, whose insightful remarks and pointed questions helped me to provide the best recommendations and highest quality of analysis I could muster. Many personal thanks to Andrew, Jacob, John, Colin, Nikos and all others involved.

Lastly, I include myself, for whom I can only say that completing this five-volume series was an arduous task, but I guess that dropping 125 Elo points during the process was a worthy sacrifice. I am proud of the result and I can now return to pure chess-playing with the satisfaction of knowing I have contributed something worthwhile to future generations.

This fifth volume completes the series by dealing with a range of systems. The first six chapters deal with assorted lines where White refrains from occupying the centre with e2-e4. Chapters 7-14 cover various systems involving 3.♘c3 and 4.e4, where White proceeds without an early ♘f3. We then move on to the ultra-ambitious Four Pawns Attack, before tackling the fearsome Sämisch System.

Despite my obsessive efforts to uncover the truth of the King's Indian in these five volumes, it was inevitable that some mistakes would occur. Fortunately, the publisher granted my request to conclude this final volume with four appendices, detailing any errors and oversights which I became aware of since the previous four books were published. No chess book is perfect, but with these additions I am now satisfied that the series as a whole is as close to perfection as I could have achieved.

My final remarks concern the chess content of the *Kotronias on the King's Indian* series. While writing these five volumes, I came to understand that I knew practically nothing about chess tactics. My constant research has enriched my chess knowledge and added many new motifs to my arsenal, but the King's Indian is inexhaustible. You should strive to enhance your feeling for its complexities by taking as many 'screen-shots' as possible from the ever-illuminating screen of this great opening, but you will never acquire complete control. Therein lies the key to the fascination of the King's Indian, as well as its Achilles' Heel.

Regarding the weighting of the systems at White's disposal, I can only say four names: Mar del Plata, Makogonov, Gligoric, Sämisch. My research indicates that these are White's most poisonous options, and the ones where the biggest developments should be expected.

I wish you the best, and – who knows? – I might even see you at the chess board!

Vassilios Kotronias
Thessaloniki, April 2017

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Sämisch

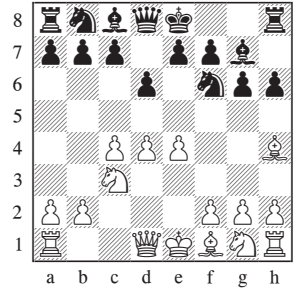
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Chapter 8

5. ♖g5



6. ♘h4

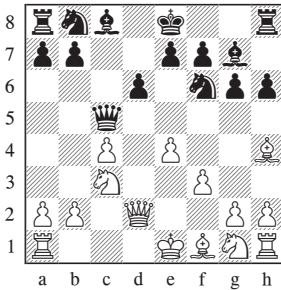
Variation Index

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♘g7 4.e4 d6 5.♘g5 h6! 6.♘h4

6...c5!

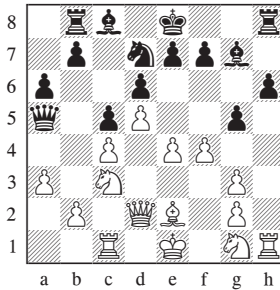
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A1) note to 8...dxc5!?:N



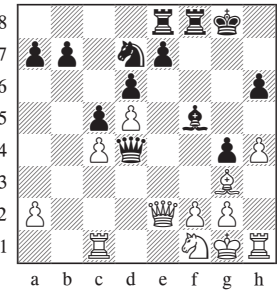
9...♘d7!N

B11) after 14.f4



14...b5!N↯

B222) after 21.♘f1



21...♘f6!N

1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 g6 3.♘c3 ♙g7 4.e4 d6 5.♙g5 h6! 6.♙h4

This move abandons the queenside for the sake of doubtful attacking chances and, as practice has shown, allows Black too much counterplay.

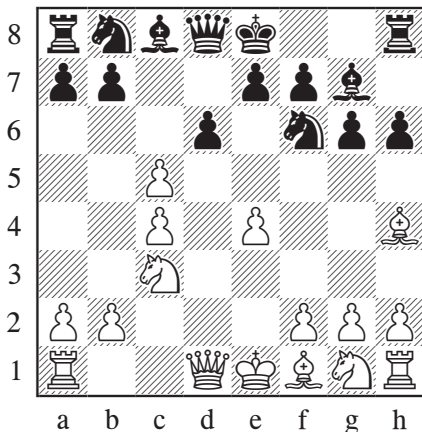
6...c5!

I believe that Black is already at least equal after this thematic challenge to White's centre. The evidence will be revealed after both the prudent A) 7.dxc5 and the more ambitious B) 7.d5.

7.♘f3?! is an error due to 7...g5 8.♙g3, as in Suimanov – Rakhmatulaev, Uljanovsk 2015, when 8...♙a5!N♣ would have been problematic for White.

Another inferior continuation is 7.e5?! ♘h5♣ and the white centre crumbles: 8.dxc5 (8.exd6 ♙xd6 also gives Black the upper hand, since 9.♘b5? ♙b6 10.dxc5 ♙a5† 11.♙d2 ♙xd2† 12.♙xd2 ♘a6♣ only makes things worse for White) 8...♙xe5 9.cxd6 ♙xd6 10.♙xd6 ♙xd6♣ Black's superiority on the dark squares gives him the better chances in the endgame.

A) 7.dxc5



With this move White relinquishes any ambitious plans of a substantial space advantage, and instead tries to gain some time to complete his development efficiently.

7...♙a5

Thanks to this move, Black recovers his pawn and creates promising counterplay on the dark squares, as their main guardian (the h4-bishop) is a long way from the queenside. Still, the position is pretty balanced at this stage, so Black shouldn't become overambitious.

We will consider A1) 8.♙d2 and A2) 8.♙d3.

A1) 8.♙d2 dxc5!?!N

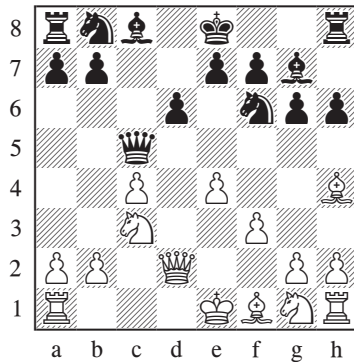
This is the engines' top recommendation and a principled move, as Black secures the d4-outpost for his pieces.

A reliable alternative is:

8...♙xc5 9.f3!?

Dejan Mozetic suggests this move, with the plan of ♙f2, ♙d3, ♘ge2 and 0–0.

The inferior 9.f4?! 0–0 10.♘f3 ♘c6 11.♙c1 was played in Otero Acosta – De la Paz Perdomo, Santa Clara 2008, when 11...♙g4N 12.♙f2 ♙a5 13.♙e2 e5!♣ would have given Black an excellent game.



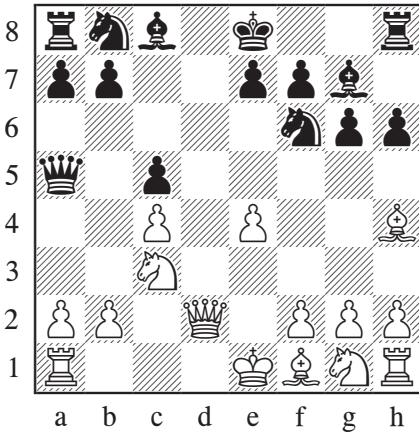
9...♙d7!N

9...♘bd7 was played in Rodriguez Izquierdo – Torino Caballero, Benidorm 2004, and is also recommended by Mozetic, but I prefer the text move.

10.♙f2 ♙a5 11.♙d3 ♘c6 12.♘ge2 ♙g5! =

Black has an excellent game, for example:
13.♘f4 ♙c8 14.♘cd5 ♘d5 15.cxd5 ♘d4♣

Finally, I will briefly mention that 8...g5!? 9. ♖g3 ♜xc5 is another interesting idea, intending to open up the g7-bishop later with ...♟f6-h5, while gaining time by threatening to exchange the precious g3-bishop. Demakov – Ananskikh, corr. 2012, was a well-played game which ended in a draw, but I won't go into any further detail as we already have two good options!



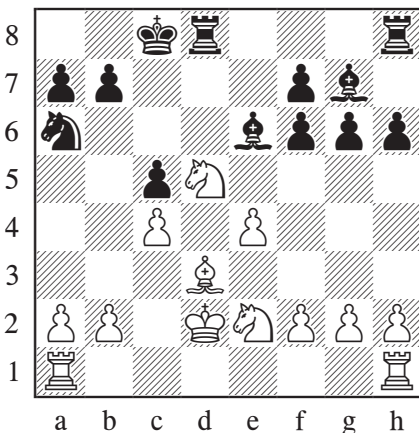
9. ♖xf6

I see nothing better for White.

9.e5 ♟g4 10. ♟d5 (10.f4?! g5!±; 10. ♖xe7 ♟c6!↑) 10...♜xd2† 11. ♜xd2 ♟a6± leaves Black with the more pleasant ending.

9...exf6 10. ♟d5 ♜xd2† 11. ♜xd2 ♟a6 12. ♖d3 ♖e6 13. ♟e2 0-0-0

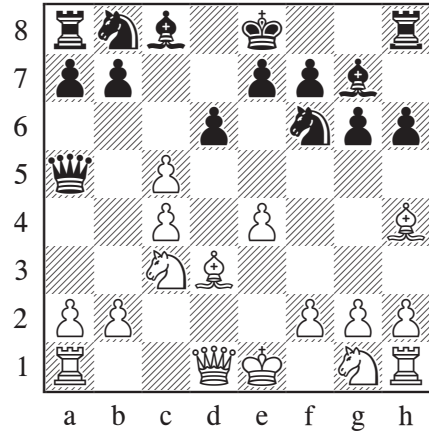
Black has completed development and will look for a suitable way to open the position for his bishops. For instance:



14. ♖ad1 h5 15. a3 f5!

Black has at least equalized. This line seems like the easiest and most convincing answer to 8. ♜d2.

A2) 8. ♖d3



8...dxc5!±N

Mozetic calls this move inferior but I do not agree with his assessment.

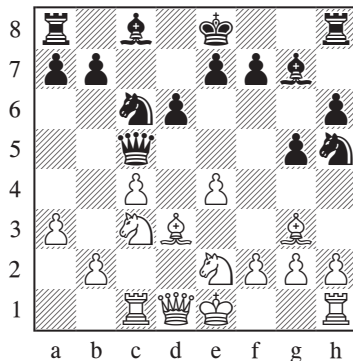
A decent alternative is:

8...♜xc5 9. ♟ge2

Better was 9.f3!? ♟c6 10. ♟ge2 according to Mozetic, yet after 10...♟d7 11. ♖f2 ♜a5= I see nothing wrong with Black's position.

9...g5 10. ♖g3 ♟h5 11. ♞c1! ♟c6 12. a3

The chances were balanced in Bakic – Mozetic, Yugoslavia 1992, and the best way to continue would have been pulling the queen back:



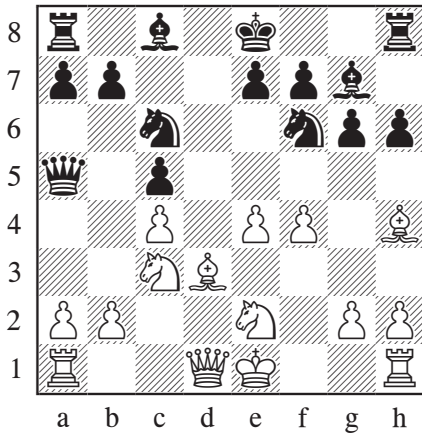
12...♖a5N 13.0–0 0–0 14.h3 ♖xg3 15.♗xg3 e6
 16.♗h5 ♘e5 17.g3
 17.f4?! gxf4 18.♗xf4 ♖d8♯
 17.h4 ♖d8♯ with a dynamic kingside
 equilibrium.
 17...♗h8 18.♗h1 ♖d8 19.♘e2 ♖g8∞

9.f4?!

Mozetic gives this move, planning to develop a central initiative with h2-h3 and ♗f3. However, White is falling too far behind in development. He should settle for a more modest scheme, but in that case it is obvious that Black's opening has been a success, in view of his active pieces and control over the d4-square.

9...♗c6 10.♗ge2

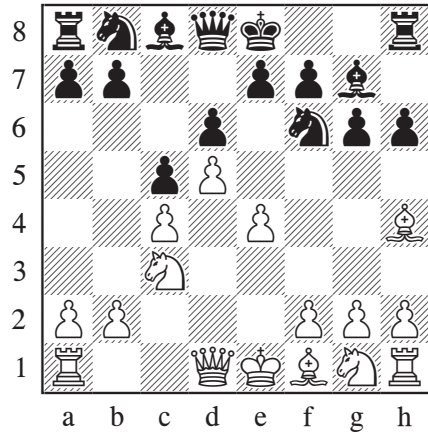
Already it is clear that the aforementioned plan is too optimistic for White, as both 10.♗f3? ♗h5!♯ and 10.h3? ♘e6♯ lead to big problems for him.



10...g5! 11.fxg5 ♗g4↑

Black has standard dark-square compensation and is already better.

B) 7.d5



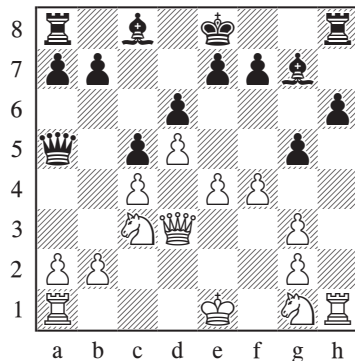
This is the more ambitious and critical move, but at the same time White burns some bridges, as now the g7-bishop has free play along the a1-h8 diagonal.

7...g5!? 8.♘g3 ♖a5

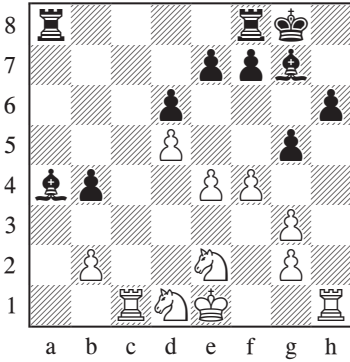
This active continuation has served Black well over the years.

We will analyse **B1) 9.♖d2** and **B2) 10.♘d3**. The former is more solid but allows Black to eliminate the g3-bishop. The latter is the move White would like to play, but it allows a strong tactical operation.

9.f3 led to a nice win for me in the following game: 9...♗h5 10.♖d2 ♗xg3 11.hxg3 ♗d7 12.♘d3?! ♗e5 13.f4 ♗xd3† 14.♖xd3

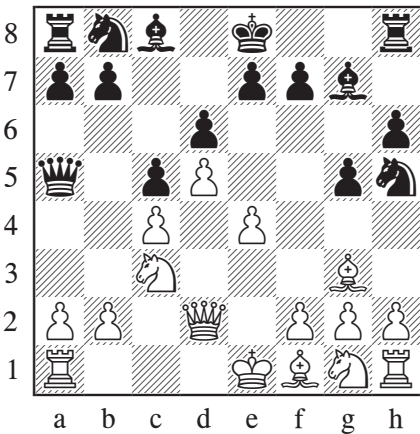


14...b5! 15.cxb5 a6 16.a4 ♖b4 17.♗ge2 axb5
 18.♖xb5† ♔d7 19.♖xb4 cxb4 20.♗d1 0-0
 21.♖c1 ♕xa4



22.♗e3 ♔d7 23.♗c4 ♕b5 24.♗e3 ♔d7 25.♗c4
 ♖a2→ I went on to win in Monell Camarasa –
 Kotronias, Solsones 2004. Obviously White did
 not play optimally in the opening, but the game
 is a good example of how rapidly things can go
 downhill for White once he loses one or both of
 his bishops.

B1) 9.♖d2 ♗h5!



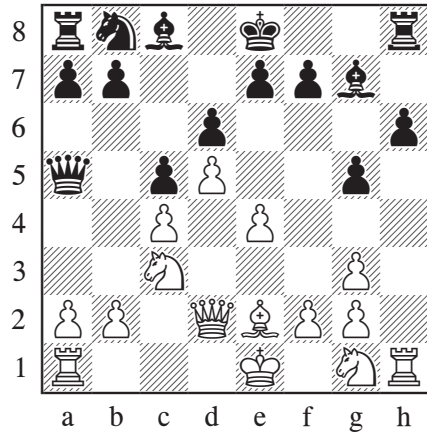
Black terminates White's potentially dangerous
 dark-squared bishop and drastically enhances the
 radius of his own. White's two main tries are
B11) 10.♔e2 and **B12) 10.♔d3**.

10.♗ge2 is best answered with 10...f5! (the
 more conservative 10...♗d7 is also promising)
 and Black was already better in J. Nielsen – Lane,
 Penrith 2003.

B11) 10.♔e2

This is the top engine recommendation, seeking
 to clarify matters on the kingside as quickly as
 possible.

10...♗xg3 11.hxg3



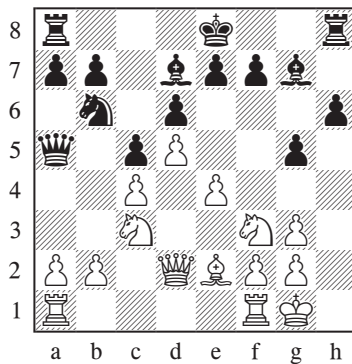
11...♗d7

Black has a solid position with good queenside
 prospects, an evaluation that the following
 analysis and examples confirm.

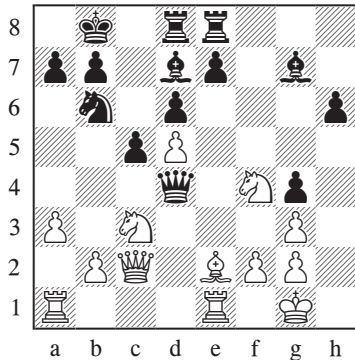
12.♖c1!?

A logical move, removing a potential target
 from the long diagonal and overprotecting c3.

12.♗f3 has a catastrophic record, with White
 scoring only 1/6 from this position (interestingly,
 most of those games arose via a different move
 order). One example continued: 12...♗b6 13.0-0
 ♔d7



14.e5? (14.♙e3?) 14...g4 15.e6 fxe6 16.♘h4
 exd5 17.cxd5 0–0–0 18.♗g6 ♜he8 19.♘f4 ♖b8
 20.♞fe1 ♗b4 21.a3 ♗d4 22.♙c2



This occurred in Pedersen – Jakobsen, Naestved 1985, and now 22...c4!N♠ would have created an unassailable post on c5 for the black queen, with much the better game for the second player.

I also checked:

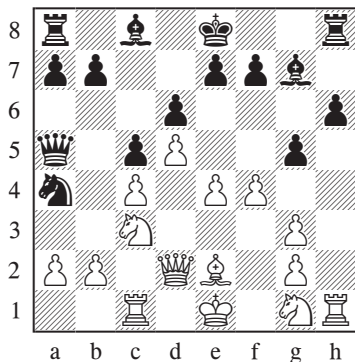
12.f4 ♘b6

12...a6!?N 13.♘f3 b5∞ also deserves attention.

13.♞c1 ♘a4

Once again, Black has more than one good option.

13...♙d7!? 14.b3 0–0–0∞ was a more fighting continuation seen in Fortuny – Olano Aizpurua, corr. 2010.



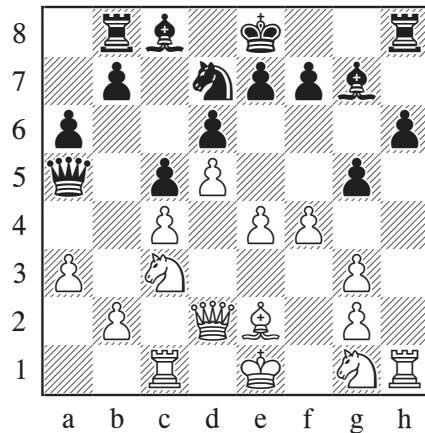
14.♘xa4

14.♘b5!? ♗xd2† 15.♖xd2 ♗b8!? 16.b3 a6!∞ leads to double-edged play.

14...♗xa4 15.b3 ♗a3?

Black was doing fine in Cyborowski – M. Roos, Germany 2008.

12...a6 13.a3 ♗b8! 14.f4



From this position, 14...gxf4 15.gxf4 b5 16.♘f3 occurred in Milov – Kazhgaleyev, France 2002, when 16...b4!N would have led to a dynamically balanced game. However, there is no real need to exchange on f4 so soon. Instead Black should prefer:

14...b5!N?

Black has an improved version of the aforementioned game. For example:

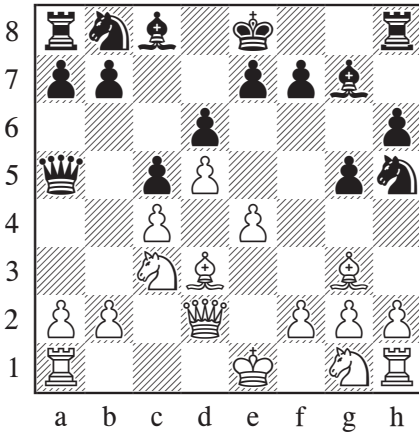
15.♘f3

After 15.fxg5 hxg5 16.♞xh8† ♙xh8 17.♗xg5 ♖f8♠ White's extra pawn is virtually meaningless, while Black has a powerful initiative on the queenside and on the dark squares.

15...b4 16.♘d1 ♗a4?

White is still not really threatening to take on g5, and the additional tension on the kingside favours Black. One reason is that White must take into account the possibility of ...g4 at any moment; another is that Black can consider ...♘f8-g6, putting pressure on the f4-pawn in a way that stops White from defending with g2-g3.

B12) 10. ♖d3

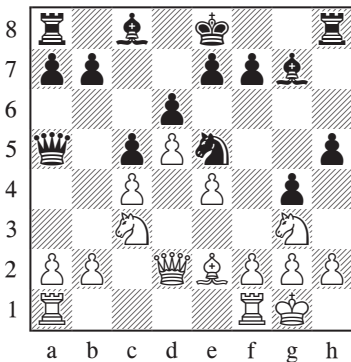


It looks most natural to develop the bishop to this square; the only drawback is that Black does not have to exchange on g3 yet, so White will not get the open h-file and support for f2-f4.

10... ♗d7 11. ♖ge2 ♗e5 12. ♖xe5!?

This looks best, trying to prove the h5-knight a liability.

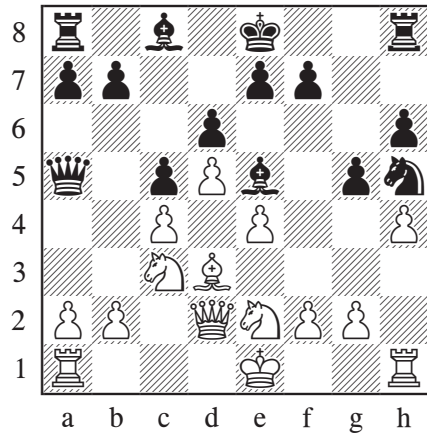
12.0-0?! allows Black to build a powerful attack: 12... ♗xg3 13. ♗xg3 h5! 14. ♖e2 g4



15.a3 ♖b6 16. ♖c2 h4 17. ♗f5 ♖xf5 18.exf5 g3→ White had problems on the kingside in Dzagnidze – Arakhamia-Grant, Rijeka 2010.

12... ♖xe5 13.h4

After 13.g3 g4 14.a3 ♖d7 15.0-0 ♖c7 16.b4 ♗f6♗ Black was at least equal in Ermenkov – Forsberg, Golden Sands 2013.

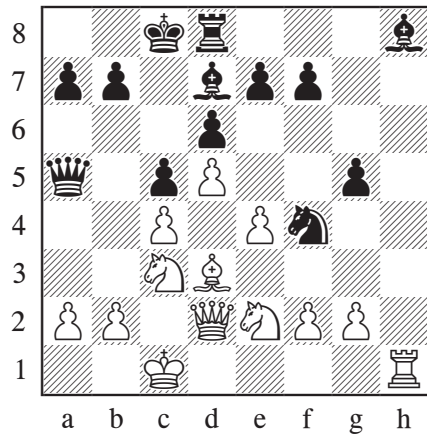


13... ♗f4!

Black gets ready to trade the knight before it becomes a problem.

14.hxg5 hxg5 15. ♖xh8† ♖xh8 16.0-0-0 ♖d7 17. ♖h1 0-0-0

Black has equalized and perhaps a bit more than that. A correspondence game continued:



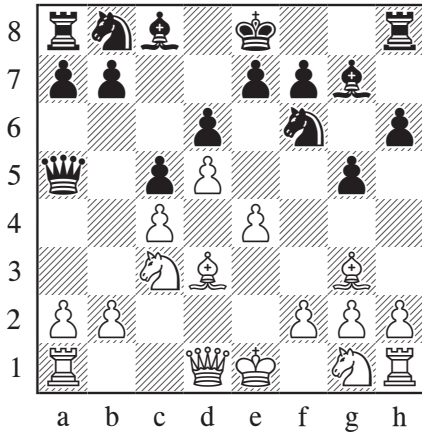
18. ♖h7 ♖f8 19.g3 ♗xe2†

19... ♗xd3†!N 20. ♖xd3 f5 could be a slightly better way to create problems.

20. ♖xe2 ♖d4 21.a3 f5 22.exf5 ♖xf5 23. ♖h5 ♖d7 24.f3 ♖f6=♗

Black kept the more pleasant position, although White was able to hold the draw in Demakov – V. Ivanov, corr. 2010.

B2) 9.♔d3



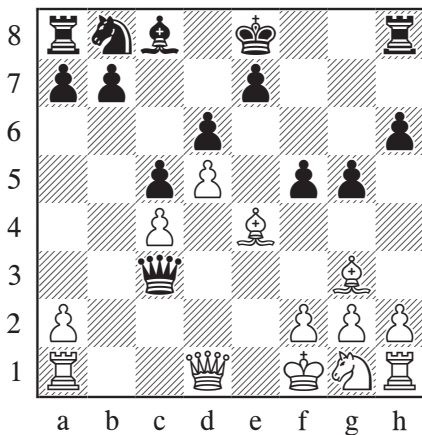
Having seen that the alternative is rather harmless for Black, it's time to consider the move White would ideally like to play. It certainly seems natural to protect the e4-pawn while developing a piece, but it allows an impressive tactical shot.

9...♗xe4!

A brilliant idea which fully justifies Black's preceding play. It bears the stamp of approval of such legendary players as Fischer and Geller.

10.♔xe4 ♕xc3† 11.bxc3 ♖xc3† 12.♔f1 f5!

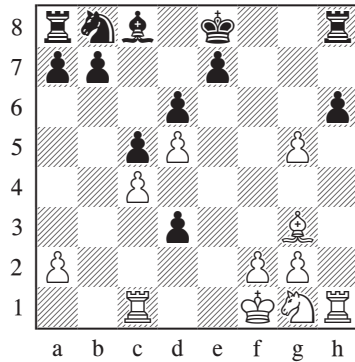
That's the point! Black is going to recover his piece and the only question is whether White can exploit the situation of the king on e8; apparently, he can't.



The two main tries are B21) 13.♗e2?! and B22) 13.♖c1.

13.♔d3 f4 14.♖c1 ♖f6 15.♗h5† ♔d8 16.♗e2 fxg3 17.♗xg3?! ♗d7† Gyurkovics – Feher, Hungary 1993.

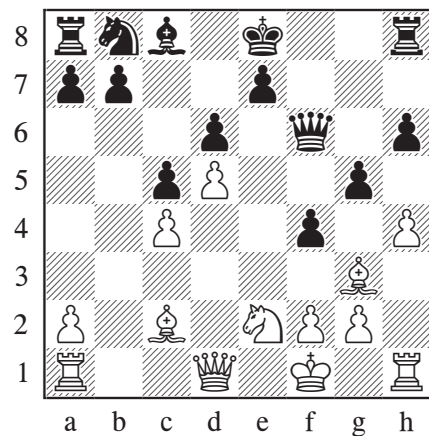
13.h4?! won't make any headlines in view of: 13...fxe4 14.♖c1 ♖d3† 15.♗xd3 exd3 16.hxg5



16...b5 17.cxb5 a6† Black's queenside pawns are becoming extremely dangerous.

B21) 13.♗e2?! ♖f6 14.♔c2 f4 15.h4

White's set-up fails to impress after the simple reply:



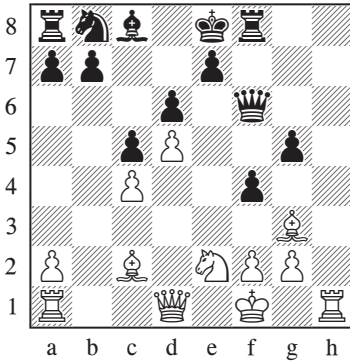
15...fxg3!N

Surprisingly, this has not been tried in any of the three games so far.

15... ♖f8!?

Despite Black's fine results with this move, the evaluation is not so clear after:

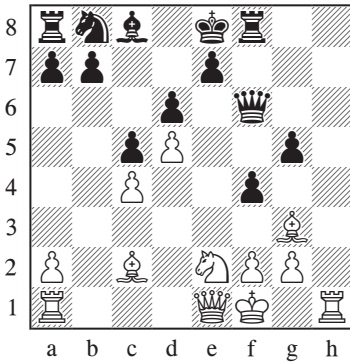
16. hxg5 hxg5



17. ♖e1!

As played against me by Jean-Pierre Le Roux. The alternatives are grim for White:

- a) 17. ♖xf4? refuses to admit that White should strive to defend rather than attack; after 17... gxf4 18. ♕h2 (18. ♕h4? ♖h8!-+) 18... ♖d7 19. g3 ♖e5 20. ♗h5† ♖d8 21. gxf4 ♖g4 22. ♖e1 ♖h8 23. ♕h7 ♗g7 White had to resign in Stein – Geller, Moscow 1966.
- b) 17. ♕h2? is even worse, and it leads to immediate capitulation after 17... f3!-+.



17... fxg3N

White will get good compensation for his pawn as he had added an open h-file to his assets, but there is nothing better.

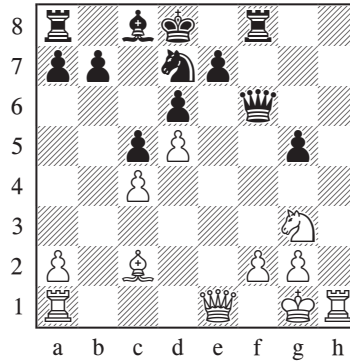
After 17... ♖d7?! 18. ♕h2 ♖e5 19. ♖c3! (19. f3 ♖h8) 19... ♖xc4 20. ♖e4↑ I was worse

in Le Roux – Kotronias, France 2005, and only a combination of miracles allowed me to turn the game around and eventually win it.

18. ♖xg3 ♖d8!?

The black king should seek safety on the queenside.

19. ♖g1 ♖d7



20. ♖h7

White has ongoing compensation for his pawn in a complicated position.

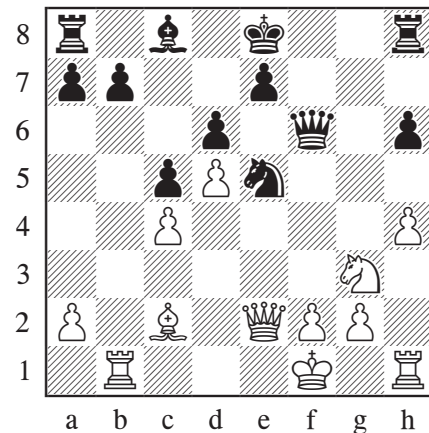
16. ♖xg3 g4!

This move is the key point, which apparently everyone has missed. Black closes the h-file, making the h1-rook passive, but there is a further tactical justification.

17. ♖b1 ♖d7!

Here it is! The g-pawn is offered to accelerate Black's development.

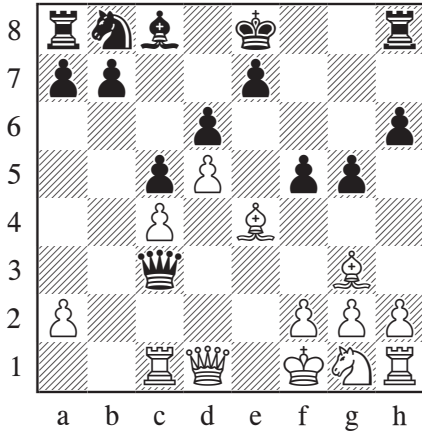
18. ♖xg4 ♖e5 19. ♖e2



19...0–0 20.♙g1 ♖f4

Black clearly has the better game, so we may dismiss 13.♘e2?! as absolutely ineffective from White's point of view.

B22) 13.♞c1

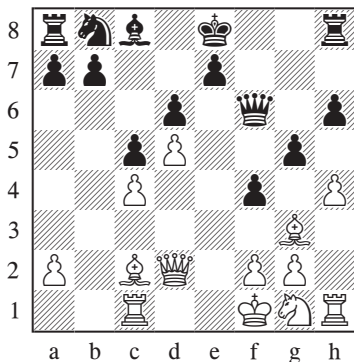


Spassky's choice and a natural one at that, removing the rook from its vulnerable position in order to liberate the white queen.

13...♞f6!

I prefer this move as it seems safest.

That said, 13...♞b2?! is an interesting alternative. 14.♙c2 f4 15.♞d2 ♖f6 16.h4 was seen in Blednow – Bohak, corr. 1979, when Black should have preferred:



16...fxg3N 17.hxg5 hxg5 18.♞xh8† ♞xh8
19.♞xg5 gxh2 20.♘f3 ♘d7 21.♙xf2 ♞f6

White remains a pawn down for insufficient compensation.

14.h4

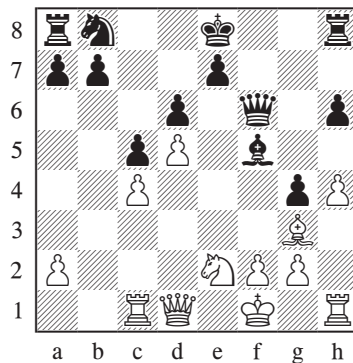
This was Spassky's attempt to breathe life into White's position – although it had also occurred in a couple of relatively unknown games beforehand.

Misplacing the queen by 14.♞h5†?! proved insufficient after 14...♘d8 15.h4 g4 16.♙d3 f4 17.♙xf4 ♞xf4 18.♘e2 ♞f6 19.♙g1 ♞g8 20.♘g3 ♘d7 21.♞e1 ♘e5 in Radomsky – Timoschenko, Novosibirsk 1976.

14...g4!

Keeping the h-file closed. At this point White has a choice, but I can't get over the impression that he is struggling to maintain equality. We will focus on B221) 15.♙d3, as tried by Spassky, followed by B222) 15.♘e2.

15.♙xf5N ♙xf5 16.♘e2 is a different way for White to return the piece. Play could continue:



16...♘d7 17.♙g1 (17.♘f4 0–0 18.h5 ♞g5 favours Black in view of his extra pawn) 17...b5! 18.cxb5 a6 19.a4 axb5 20.axb5 ♞a5 Black's pieces are more active and the pawns on b5 and d5 are weak.

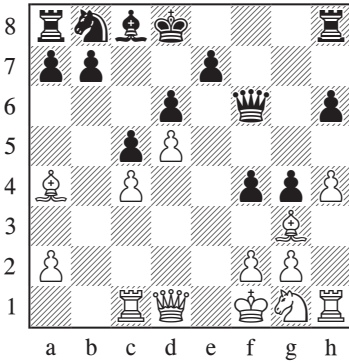
15.♙c2

This results in a typically cramped position for White after:

15...f4 16.♙a4†

16. ♖h2?! g3 17. ♘f3 gxh2 18. h5 ♔d8 19. ♙g6
 ♔c7 20. ♗b3 ♘d7 21. ♖xh2 ♘b6+ is much
 better for Black.

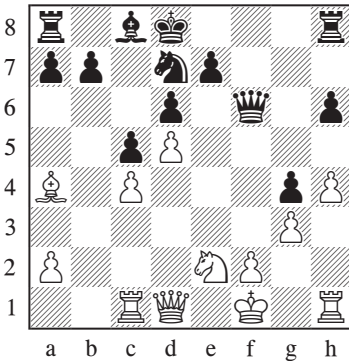
16... ♔d8



17. ♙xf4N

17. ♖h2?! g3+ did not help White in
 Chilingirova – Brendel, Wuppertal 1990.

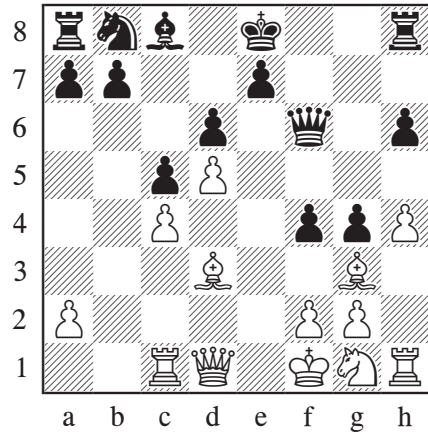
17... ♗xf4 18. ♘e2 ♗f6 19. g3 ♘d7



20. ♙xd7! ♗f3 21. ♔g1 ♖f8 22. ♖h2 ♙xd7 23. ♗d2
 ♔c7 24. ♘f4 ♖ae8 25. ♖e1 ♗a3+

White's position may be tenable, as he has kept
 a good knight for defensive purposes, shielding
 the f-file. That said, he still faces a tough battle
 for a draw: he is a pawn down with a clumsily
 placed rook on h2, and he will constantly have to
 be on guard against possible exchange sacrifices
 on f4.

B221) 15. ♙d3 f4



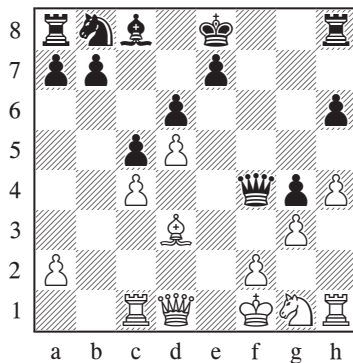
It is obvious to me that White is already facing
 serious difficulties.

16. ♘e2?!

Spasky's choice in his 1992 match against
 Fischer is clearly not a solution to White's
 problems, but it is hard to suggest anything
 constructive.

I looked at 16. ♖h2, yet after 16... g3 17. ♘f3
 18. ♗b3 ♔d8 19. ♖xh2 ♔c7 Black has a safer king
 and an extra pawn, making the position clearly
 favourable for him.

Perhaps Matanovic's suggestion of 16. ♙xf4!?
 ♗xf4 17. g3, with the idea of ♘e2-f4, is White's
 best attempt:



Nevertheless, after 17...♙f6 18.♘e2 ♘d7 19.♘f4 ♘e5 20.♔g2 ♙d7 I do not believe White has enough compensation for the pawn. The fortress created by the knight along the f-file is rather flimsy; Black can try to tear it apart with an exchange sac or improve his own knight by ...♘f3-d4, planning ...e7-e5.

16...fxg3 17.♘xg3 ♖f8

We can safely end our opening analysis here, but I will include the remaining moves of the historically significant game.

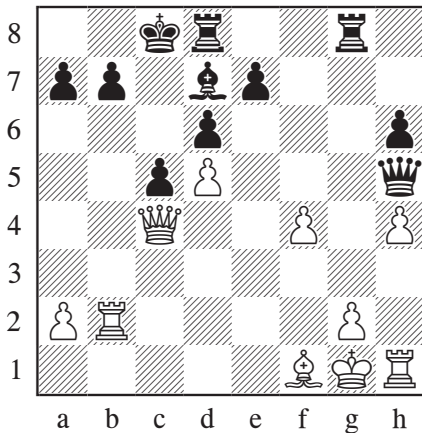
18.♖c2?!

18.♖c2 had to be tried, although White still does not have the slightest compensation for the missing pawn.

18...♘d7!

Fischer is happy to return the extra pawn in order to seize the initiative.

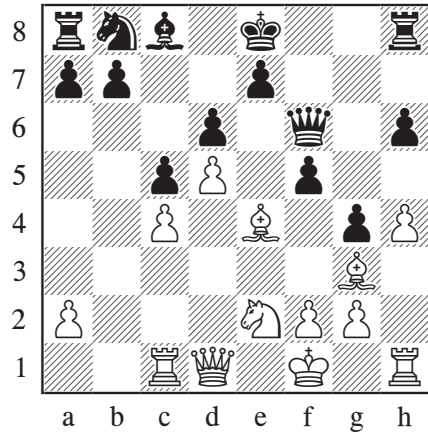
19.♙xg4 ♘e5 20.♙e4 ♙d7 21.♔g1 0–0–0 22.♙f1 ♖g8 23.f4 ♘xc4 24.♘h5 ♙f7 25.♙xc4 ♙xh5 26.♖b2



26...♖g3! 27.♙e2 ♙f7 28.♙f3 ♖dg8 29.♙b3 b6 30.♙e3 ♙f6! 31.♖e2 ♙b5! 32.♖d2 e5! 33.dxe6 ♙c6 34.♔f1 ♙xf3 0–1

Spassky – Fischer, Sveti Stefan/Belgrade (16) 1992.

B222) 15.♘e2



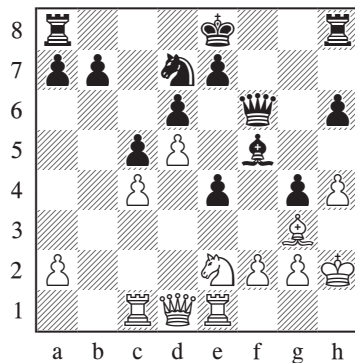
Ten years after the aforementioned game, Vadim Milov attempted to improve White's play with this move. However, it doesn't change the overall assessment of the position as good for Black.

15...fxe4

Black is temporarily two pawns up. Even though White will recover one of them in the near future, Black's preponderance on the light squares means that the white centre is going to crumble.

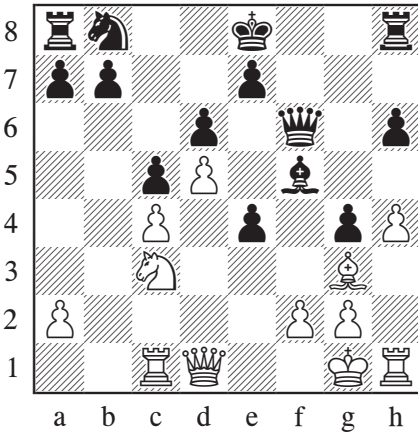
16.♔g1 ♙f5 17.♘c3?!

17.♔h2N ♘d7 18.♖e1 is a better attempt to untangle, but White still faces some problems after:



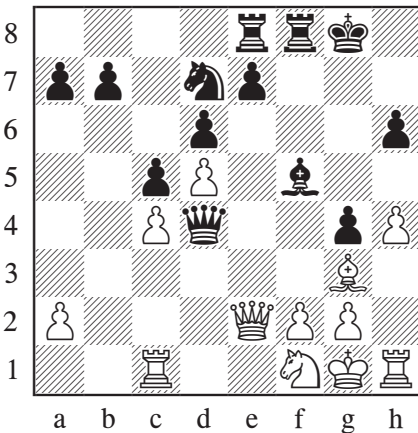
18...0–0 19.♘c3 (19.♘f4? ♘e5 20.♘h5 ♙h8?)

19... ♖d4 20. ♘xe4 (20. ♖xd4 cxd4 21. ♘xe4 ♖ac8) 20... ♖xd1 21. ♖cxd1 ♖ae8 Black maintains an endgame edge due to his extra pawn.



17... ♘d7 18. ♖e2 0-0 19. ♘xe4 ♖d4 20. ♘d2 ♖ae8 21. ♘f1

So far we have followed Milov – Gallagher, Las Vegas 2002. Black enjoys an extra pawn and better development, and he could have increased his advantage with:



21... ♘f6!N 22. ♘h2

22. ♘e3 is well met by 22... ♘d3.

22... b5! 23. cxb5 ♘xd5

Black has a serious advantage; White will find it hard to deal with the mobile pawn mass in the centre.

Conclusion

In this chapter we continued our examination of the Sokolov System by investigating 6. ♘h4 c5!. If I had to play this position with White, I would be inclined to choose the unambitious 7. dxc5, in order to avoid giving Black a free hand on the queenside. 7... ♖a5! is a good reply which ensures the recovery of our pawn, but I would like to remind of you of an important point: I generally prefer to recapture on c5 with the d-pawn rather than the queen, in order to establish an outpost on d4. Probably 8. ♖d2 is a better choice than 8. ♘d3, but objectively there is nothing for White.

7. d5 is the most popular and ambitious move, and thus the main line of the chapter, but it leads to generally unpleasant positions for White. Several games, including a famous encounter between Spassky and Fischer, have demonstrated that Black has rich tactical play and better chances overall. Summing up, this was a most pleasant chapter from Black's perspective, with many chances to play for a win after either of White's options on move 7.