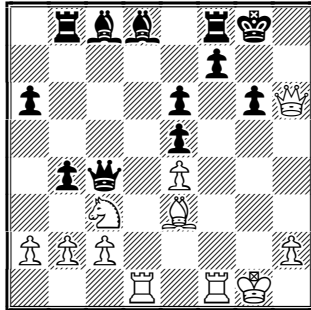


Quiz Today

Position taken from today's annotated
 Game - **Golubev - Knoppert**
Belgium tt 2002/3 (4), 08.12.2002



White to play and win
 Position after 23...♙g7-g8
 Solution in annotated game.

Tournament News

After seven rounds played, at least five players have preserved chances for a victory in the Premier tournament of the **78th Hastings Congress** (28 Dec 2002 - 5 Jan 2003). In round 5, Sergej Karjakin, won against Alexandra Kosteniuk. Their **match** should take place in Brissago, Switzerland, from the 1st to the 6th February 2003 - so, Kosteniuk will have a chance for revenge. The text of Kosteniuk-Karjakin and three other interesting Hastings Premier games are available in this issue's CBV file.

Standings after Round 7

- 1-3. Harikrishna, K.Arkel and P.H. Nielsen - 4.5
- 4-5. Sasikiran, Barsov - 4
- 6-7. McShane and Karjakin - 3.5
8. Flear - 3
9. Kosteniuk - 2
10. Tseshkovsky - 1.5.

North American Open, Las Vegas 2002

Final Standings: 1-2. **Ibragimov** and **N.Mitkov** - 5, 3-9. V.Milov, Filippov, Shabalov, Ehlvest, Kacheishvili; Vl.Georgiev; Akobian 4,5 (source: [TWIC](#)).

The Australian Open takes place January 1st to the 9th in Penrith, an outer suburb of Sydney. After three rounds of play, nine players have the maximum score of three points.

After three rounds of the **Hilton Open** in Basel, Switzerland (31 Dec 2002 - 5 Jan 2003) there are five leaders with 3/3: GMs Tukmakov and Rausis, and IMs L.Milov, Czebe and Cs.Balog. There are also five GMs among those players, who scored 2½/3.

The 45th **Reggio Emilia** tournament takes place from December 29th 2002 - January 6th 2003. Mladen Palac drew in round 6 against Vlad Tomescu, which allowed him to preserve his lead; Palac has 4½/6 now. There are 10 players in the tournament, including also Romanishin, Cebalo, Chabanon, Mrdja, and four Italian players.

Underway also is the 32nd **Rilton Cup** in Stockholm, a strong Open tournament which has entered its final phase. In round 8 the following matchps will take place: Jussupow (5½) v Wedberg (6); Barkhagen (6) v Gleizerov (5½), Brynell (5½) v Nyback (5½).

News from GM Yasser Seirawan

Yasser Seirawan has already been working for some time on the Top 200 Players Poll regarding the professional time control. Now he publishes all votes received so far, and once again **invites those players who haven't voted** yet to contact him now. Related information, including all GM Seirawan's latest files are available at: chess-sector.odessa.ua/gmtime.htm

Correction -

Rene Olthof (New in Chess) noticed a typo in our previous issue CT-787. The correct name of the movie in the French language is, of course, *Est-Ouest*. Apologies from the author!

Annotated Game

□ M. Golubev

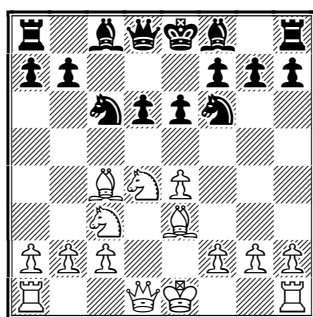
■ E. Knoppert

Event: Belgium tt 2002/3 (4),
08.12.2002 - [B89]

Annotations by GM Mikhail
Golubev

This is my game from the 4th round of the Belgian Interclub Championship 2002/ 3. (By the way, in the same 8th December match our Eynatten team was headed by Arkadij Naiditsch, who is deservedly considered among the most promising teenage players in the world. At the end of November only unbelievable circumstances stopped him from winning the German Championship – in round 8 he lost his game against Gutman, having an extra pawn, and in the last round he literally forgot, having one minute in reserve, to make the time control at the 40th move in a game vs Handke. Handke had only a few seconds to make his final three moves, while Najditsch had several minutes! In the final position Arkadij had the exchange, and the win still could have still made him the champion. Still, life goes on, and wins against strong players such as Huebner and Luther have shown Naiditsch's real potential...)

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 d6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 ♗f6 5.♗c3 ♗c6 6.♕c4 e6 7.♕e3 (D)



7...♕e7 8.♕b3 ♖c7

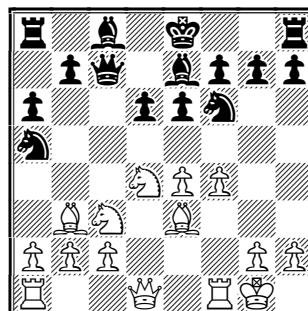
One of countless possible set-ups in the Sozin Attack. Black's last move is slightly unusual, but as a rule it simply transposes to the well-known lines after the followup ...a6, as it was the case in this game.

9.f4

9.♗db5!? can also lead to transpositions, e.g. 9...♖b8 10.f4 a6 11.♗d4 ♖c7 .

9...a6 10.0-0 ♗a5 (D)

This is playable, but still more important are 10...b5!? and the most normal move, 10...0-0. (D)



11.f5

This is probably the most critical reply. 11.♖f3 b5!∞ would lead to a double-edged game. An curious theoretical draw may occur via (but not 11...♗xb3?! 12.axb3 0-0 13.g4! , as in the historical game Sozin-Ilyin Zhenevsky, ch-SU Moscow 1931) 12.e5 ♗b7 13.♖g3 dxe5 14.fxe5 ♗h5 15.♕xe6 ♗xg3 16.♕xf7+ ♖d7 17.♕e6+ ♖e8!= .

11...♗c4

Here curious is 11...e5 12.♗de2 ♗c4 13.♗d5!? ♗xd5 14.♖xd5 ♗xe3 15.♖xf7+ with good compensation for the piece (Akhmadeev-Ragozin, Russian Ch 1994).

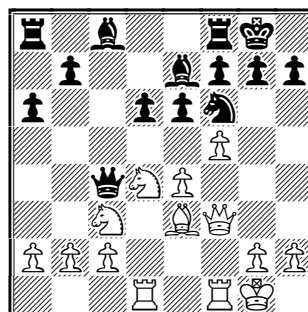
12.♕xc4 ♖xc4 13.♖f3±

This position has occurred only few times in practice before, and usually Black experienced some problems.

13...0-0

Another story would be 13...e5 , followed by ...b5.; The immediate 13...b5? is bad: 14.fxe6 fxe6 15.e5 dxe5 16.♗xe6 .

14.♗ad1 (D)



If 14.g4 then Black can think of playing 14...e5!? 15.♖de2 d5 .
14...♖b8

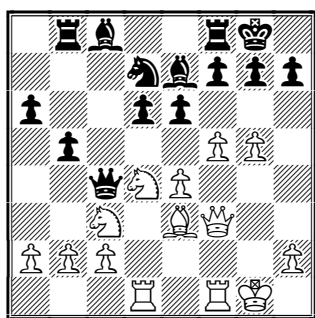
Black does not want to play ...e5, and instead prepares ...b5, keeping his pawn on e6. Such a plan has logic, but perhaps it is too slow. [Not good is the immediate 14...b5?! 15.e5! , Kaidanov-Smirin, Groningen PCA 1993.; After 14...e5!? I could play 15.♖de2 (also possible is 15.♖b3!?) 15...b5 16.g4 , with the idea of Δ16...♖b7 (16...b4 17.g5) 17.b3 ♖c6 (17...♖b4 18.a3 ♖xa3 19.g5) 18.g5 ♖xe4 19.♖d5 , and White wins material.; Clearly better for White is 14...♖d7 15.♖g3! .

15.g4! b5

15...h6 would not be able to stop White's advance on the kingside.

16.g5 ♖d7 (D)

Black is planning to develop serious counter-play associated with ...b4, so White is obliged to try to crush Black's kingside quickly.



17.f6?!

Not the optimal decision. There were two ways to improve the queen's position before the pawn advances: 17.♖h3!? is not entirely clear, for example: 17...b4 (or maybe 17...♖e5!? 18.f6 ♖d8 with idea 19.fxg7 ♖e8! 20.♖f4? ♖xg5) 18.fxe6! (18.♖ce2?! e5) 18...♖b6! (18...bxc3 19.b3!? ♖c7 20.exf7+ ♖h8 21.g6 ♖f6 22.♖h4+-; 18...fxe6 19.♖c6!+-) 19.♖f5 ♖xe6 20.♖xb6 (20.♖d5 ♖xd5 21.exd5 ♖e4) 20...♖xb6 21.♖d5 (21.♖xe7+ ♖xe7 22.♖e3 bxc3) 21...♖d8 , and Black is still alive.; 17.♖h5!± , however, would give White an extremely strong attack: 17...b4 (17...g6 18.♖h6 ♖e8 19.fxg6 fxg6 20.♖f7!+-) 18.f6 (18.♖f4!? Δ bxc3 19.♖h4 h6 20.gxh6 g6 21.fxg6 ♖xh4 22.b3 ♖c5 23.h7+ ♖h8 24.g7+ ♖xg7 25.♖xe6+ fxe6 26.♖xc5) 18...gx6

19.♖d5!? exd5 20.♖f5→ , and so on.]

17...♖d8?

17...gx6!∞ was necessary. After the continuation that I planned Black was able to force the draw, as analysis shows. And it is unclear how White can get more. 18.gxf6 (with the queen on f3, 18.♖d5 is very unclear) 18...♖xf6□ 19.♖g3+ (19.♖h6? ♖xd4+ 20.♖h1 ♖b7! 21.♖xd4 ♖xd4 22.♖d3 ♖e5-+; 19.e5 (?) 19...♖xe5; quiet moves like 19.♖h1 are hardly convincing too) 19...♖h8 20.♖xf6 ♖xf6! (20...♖g8 21.♖g5; 20...b4 21.♖xe6!→) 21.♖xd6 ♖g8+ (21...♖d7 22.♖c6! was my main idea) 22.♖h1 ♖xe4! , and now the following seems to be forced: (22...♖g4 23.♖xb8 should be good for White, because 23...♖xe3? loses 24.♖e5+ ♖g7 25.♖xe6+-) 23.♖xe4 (23.♖xb8? ♖xc3-+) 23...♖b7 24.♖e5+ f6□ (I missed this move in my calculations) 25.♖xf6+ ♖g7 26.♖f3□ ♖xe4□ 27.♖d8+ with perpetual check: 27...♖xd8 28.♖xd8+ ♖g8 29.♖d4+ e5 30.♖f6+=

18.fxg7 ♖xg7

It is important that it was not possible for Black to follow with 18...Re8, since f7 pawn is attacked... On g7, the king shouldn't survive.

19.♖h3 ♖e5 (D)

In other lines killing would be 20.Rf4, or 20.Qh6+ and then Rf4.

20.♖f3!

After this important move, which targets the key defender, Black's position collapses. The line 20.g6?! ♖xg6 21.♖h6+ ♖g8 22.♖xf8 ♖xf8 23.♖g3+ ♖g6 24.♖xd6 ♖c7 25.♖c6 ♖b7 26.♖xc4 bxc4 was not too clear for me.; Simply bad for White is 20.♖f4? ♖xg5 21.♖g3 ♖h8 22.♖xg5? ♖g8; , and 20.♖h6+ ♖g8 21.♖f4 allows Black to organise defence by 21...♖g6 22.♖f3 ♖b7!?

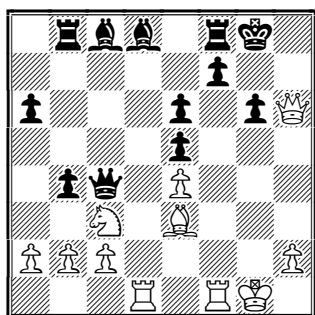
20...b4

It is unlikely that Black could have any acceptable way: [20...♖g6 21.♖h6+ ♖g8 (21...♖h8 22.♖d4+ e5 23.♖xe5!+-) 22.♖d4 e5 23.♖d5 f6 (23...♖h8 24.♖xe5!) 24.gxf6+-; or 20...♖b6 21.♖xb6 ♖xb6 22.♖h6+ ♖g8 23.g6! ♖c5+ 24.♖h1 fxg6 25.♖g5+-

21.♖xe5 dxe5 22.g6!

The pawn sacrifice e, followed by the rook sacrifice is the most clear way to win. White will need g5-square for his bishop – see note to Black's 25th.
22...hxg6 23.♖h6+

23...♖xf7+ ♜xf7 24.♗h7+ could have made the game one move shorter.
23...♗g8 (D)



24.♖xf7! ♜xf7 25.♗h7+ ♜f6

25...♜e8 26.♖xd8+! (after 26.♗xg6+? ♜f7 the win is not guaranteed for White) 26...♜xd8 27.♖g5+ (this shows the idea behind 22.g6) 27...♜e8 28.♗e7#

26.♖d2

Not 26.h4? Bb6. After 26.♖d2 Black resigned in view of 26...♖f7 27.♗h8+ , with mate in two. **1-0.**

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If you sold him your "Berlin Analysis" he would be 3000 Son!