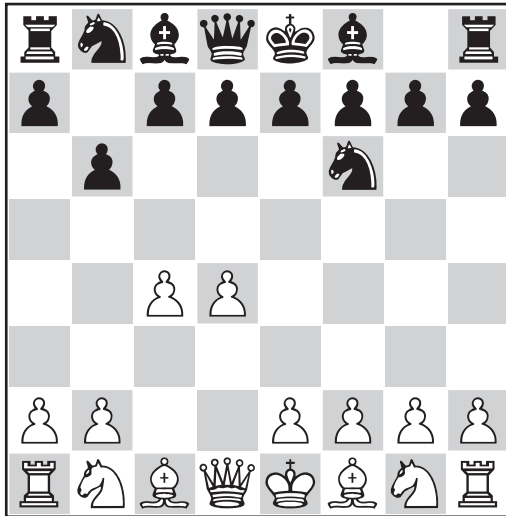


# CHAPTER 11

*Arthur Kogan*

## The Queen's Grünfeld Line (Part I)



1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 b6

I started to play this line in 1996. And, although I 'invented' it all by myself, honesty compels me to say that it has quite a pedigree. World Champions Alekhine and Fischer have played it occasionally, just like creative GMs such as Grünfeld, Nimzowitsch, Bronstein, Tolush and Larsen!

I would call this line 'the Queen's Grünfeld line'. The point is to play a kind of Queen's Indian, but trying to do without the move ...e6. This allows Black some extra options: for example, a double fianchetto, sometimes even transposing to a type of Grünfeld position, or even playing a direct central pawn break with ...e5 in some lines.

It's true that often Black can transpose to

Queen's Indian main lines, but I will mainly consider the plans that are based on a quick ...d5 (similar to the Grünfeld).

While it is hard to point out a clear way for White to get an easy and safe advantage, I should like to note that Black should never forget about the fight for the centre (as even a few GMs did).

Considering that 1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 b6 is a full-size repertoire for Black we will divide the material in two parts:

Part I: 3. Qc3 (and other moves)

Part II: 3. Qf3

So, for the latter knight move see the next chapter.

□ Aaron Nimzowitsch

■ Frank Marshall

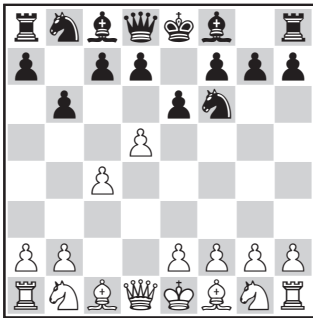
Bad Kissingen 1928

**1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 b6 3.♘c3**

This seems to be the most logical move, fighting for the centre.

● 3.d5?! is also critical, trying to punish Black for not playing ...e6. Now the Grünfeld inventor played a creative game against another very famous GM: 3...♙b7 4.g3 e5 5.♙g2 ♙b4+ 6.♘d2 0-0 7.e4 ♘a6 8.a3 ♙d6 9.b4 c6 unclear, Rubinstein-Grünfeld, Breslau 1925.

However, I think Black has good chances to break the centre and get a quick initiative with 3...e6!



Now 4.♘c3 ♙b4 is a nice Nimzo-Indian, where White is already under pressure!

If 4.f3 then 4...exd5 (not 4...c6 5.d6 ♘a6 6.♗d4; but 4...exd5 5.cxd5 ♙c5 6.e3 ♗e7 is possible) 5.cxd5 ♙b4+ 6.♘c3 0-0 7.e4 ♘h5!? seems risky for White. 8...♗h4 is the threat exploiting White's lack of development. His centre might be counter-attacked very soon by the ...f5 or ...c6 breaks.

The main move is perhaps 4.a3!? preventing ...♙b4, when Black has two options:

– 4...♙a6!? 5.e3 exd5 6.cxd5 ♙xf1 7.♔xf1 ♙d6 is very OK for Black. He will probably develop his knight from b8 to c5 (pushing a5 might help to fix it there), and while White is

solving his development and ♔f1 problems, Black will surely get at least enough counterplay against the d5 pawn.

– 4...exd5 5.cxd5 ♙c5!?! is fascinating too. Play might continue 6.b4 (6.♘c3 0-0 7.b4 ♙d6 8.♘f3 ♙b7⇒) and now 6...♘e4 7.e3 ♙d6 (not 7...♗f6?! 8.♗c2! ♘xf2 9.♙b2 which seems better for White), or the adventurous 6...♙xf2+!? 7.♔xf2 ♘e4+ 8.♔f3! (8.♔e3 f5!) 8...♗f6+ 9.♔xe4 ♗xa1 10.♙f4.

● On 3.f3!? I would recommend the interesting 3...♘c6! (3...e5!? 4.dxe5 ♘h5 5.♘h3!±, Novikov-Kogan Antwerp 1996) with ...e5 coming. It seems like a good idea to complicate matters for White! 4.d5 (4.e4 e5 5.d5 ♘d4 6.♘e2 ♙c5) 4...♘e5 5.e4 e6 and White's king might be in danger soon. In any case it looks unpleasant for White!

● On 3.e3 the best reaction is 3...♙b7 4.♘f3 e6 (or 4...d5!? 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.♘e5 e6), since the e3 Queen's Indian line is really not so dangerous.

**3...♙b7 4.♙g5**

This is a logical approach.

On 4.a3 I would recommend 4...d5!? (4...e6 5.♘f3 is a famous Queen's Indian line).

In case of 4.♘f3 it is positionally wrong to play 4...c5!?, but it was played by such a strong GM as Tartakower and even with success! (4...d5!? is my recommendation, and it transposes to the next chapter the game Mohandesi-Kogan) 5.d5 d6 6.e4 ♘bd7 7.♙d3 (the problem is that ♙b7 is really a 'sad piece' restricted by d5, a well defended pawn) 7...g6 8.b3?! ♙g7 9.♙b2 0-0 10.0-0 e6 11.dxe6? (11.♗d2±) 11...fxe6 12.♗c2 ♘h5 13.♖fe1 ♖xf3! 14.gxf3 ♘f4± 15.♙f1 ♗g5+ 16.♔h1 ♗h5 17.♖e3 ♙d4 18.♖ae1 ♘e5 (now you can see why I couldn't avoid showing you this game) 19.♗d1 ♖f8 20.♙c1 d5 21.cxd5 exd5 22.♘b1 ♙xe3 23.fxe3 ♘xf3 24.♖e2 ♘xe2 25.♗xe2 ♘xh2, 0-1 Matisons-Tartakower, Debrecen 1925.

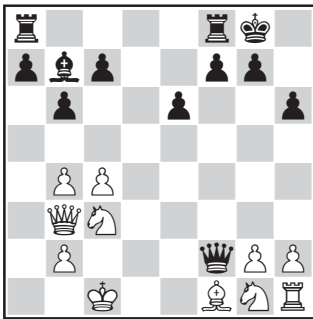
**4...e6 5.♗c2**

Another option is: 5.e4 h6 6.♘xf6 ♖xf6 7.♟f3 ♘b4 – Black’s piece activity compensates White’s central control – 8.♙d3 c5!? 9.0-0 cxd4 10.♞b5 ♞a6 11.a3 ♙e7 12.♞fxd4 ♞c5! 13.♙c2 0-0 14.♞c3 d6 with decent play in Stahlberg-Tartakower, Kemerl 1937. Note that 5.♟f3 is a Queen’s Indian or Nimzo line.

**5...h6 6.♘h4 ♙e7 7.e4 0-0 8.e5**

On 8.0-0, 8...c5! is well-timed, since if 9.d5? (9.♟f3 cxd4 10.♞xd4 ♞c6) then 9...♞xd5! is strong.

**8...♞d5! 9.♙g3 ♞b4 10.♖b3 d5 11.exd6 ♙xd6 12.0-0 ♞8c6 13.♙xd6 ♖xd6 14.a3 ♞xd4! 15.♖xd4 ♖xd4 16.axb4 ♖xf2**



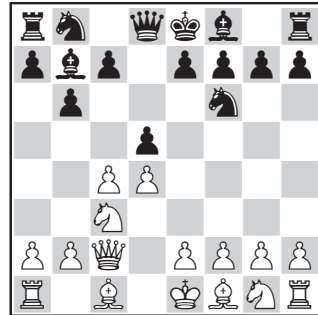
A real masterpiece by Marshall who is winning by now. He finishes the game in an elegant way!

**17.♖d1 ♖fd8 18.♖e2 ♖f4+ 19.♙c2 a5! 20.bxa5 ♖xa5 21.♟f3 ♖a1 22.♙b3 b5! 23.♖e5 bxc4+ 24.♙b4 ♖c1 25.♞b5 c5+! 0-1**

□ Max Euwe  
 ■ Alexander Alekhine  
 Budapest 1921

**1.d4 ♟f6 2.c4 b6 3.♞c3 ♙b7 4.♖c2**  
 With this move White is fighting for control over the e4-square.

**4...d5**



In the past many strong players liked the anti-positional, provocative move 4...♞c6?! 5.♟f3 (5.d5 ♞b4 6.♖d1 a5 7.e4 e5 8.g3 g6 9.♙g2 ♙g7 10.♞ge2 0-0 11.0-0 d6 12.f4±, Sämisch-Nimzowitsch, Karlsbad 1923) 5...e6 6.e4 e5 7.dxe5 ♞g4 8.♙g5 ♞e7 9.♙f4 ♙c5 10.♙g3±, Teichmann-Alekhine, Berlin 1921.

**5.cxd5**

White was slightly better in Grünfeld-Réti, Moscow 1925, after 5.♟f3 g6 6.♙f4 ♙g7 7.e3 0-0 8.h3 ♞bd7 9.♖d1 c5 10.dxc5 ♞xc5 11.♙e2 ♖c8 12.0-0. However, Black could also have gone for 5...e6.

**5...♞xd5 6.e4**

Nothing brings 6.♞xd5 ♙xd5 7.e4 ♙b7 8.♟f3 e6 9.♙b5+ c6 10.♙d3 ♙b4+ 11.♙d2 ♙xd2+ 12.♖xd2 ♞d7 13.e5?! c5, Varga-Izsak, Budapest 1995.

**6...♞xc3 7.bxc3**

Here Black can again take a risk and play **7...e5!?**

Safer is 7...e6 or 7...g6.

**8.dxe5**

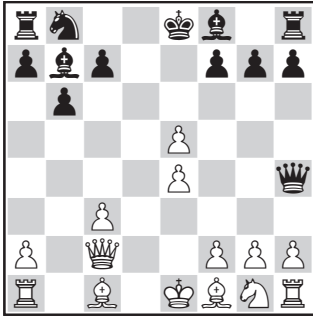
Here are some alternatives:  
 – 8.♟f3 exd4 9.♙c4 (9.♙c5+!?) 9...♞c6 (9...♖e7!?) 10.0-0 d3 11.♙xd3 ♙c5 12.e5 and White has the initiative, Zilberstein-Bronstein, Russian Championship, Baku 1972.

– 8.d5 a6 (8...c6!?) 9.♘f3 ♘d7 10.♖a4 ♙d6  
11.♙g5 f6 12.♙e3 0-0 and Black was fine,  
Labarthe-Horn, Geneva 1990.

– 8.♙b5+!? c6 9.♙c4 exd4 10.♘f3 with  
compensation.

**8...♖h4!**

After this powerful queen move Black ob-  
tains enough compensation.



**9.♙b5+**

Returning the pawn with 9.♘f3 brings nothing after 9...♖xe4+ 10.♖xe4 ♙xe4 11.♙c4 ♘c6 12.0-0 0-0-0 13.♖e1 ♙d5 14.♙a6+ ♗b8 15.♙g5 ♙e7 with equality.

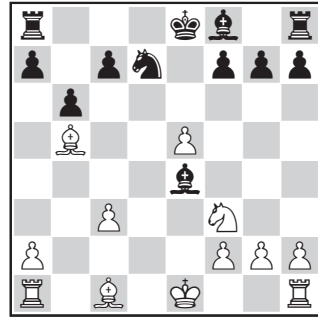
Protecting the pawn does not lead to an advantage either:

9.♙d3 ♘d7 (in case of 9...♙c5 10.♘f3 ♖g4 11.0-0 0-0, it seems that Black has got compensation for White's extra doubled pawn) 10.♘f3 ♖h5 11.♙g5!?! (11.♙f4 0-0-0 with compensation; 11.0-0 ♘xe5 12.♘xe5 ♖xe5 13.♙e3 0-0-0 is unclear) 11...h6 12.e6! ♘c5 (12...fxe6 13.e5 ♗f7 14.♙e4±) 13.exf7+ ♖xf7 and Black has enough compensation with ...0-0-0 coming and nice play on the open files.

**9...♘d7 10.♘f3**

Black was somewhat better after 10.♙xd7+ ♗xd7 11.♖d3+ ♗c8 12.♖h3+ ♖xh3 13.♘h3 ♙xe4 14.0-0 h6!, M.Makogonov-Freiman, Semi-final Russian Championship, Odessa 1929.

**10...♖xe4+ 11.♖xe4 ♙xe4**



**12.♘g5**

This move backfires after Alekhine's accurate 13th move. After 12.0-0 Black should play 12...c6 (12...0-0-0 13.♘g5 ♙g6 14.e6 was better for White in Danner-Horn, Biel 1990; White holds the initiative in the ending after 12...a6 13.♙c4 b5 14.♙xf7+ ♗xf7 15.♘g5+ ♗g6 16.♘xe4 ♘xe5 17.f4) 13.♙c4 (13.♙e2 ♘c5 14.♙e3 ♘a4) 13...♖d8 14.♖d1 ♙e7 15.♙f4 ♘c5 16.♘d4 ♘a4! when he has sufficient counterplay.

**12...♙xg2 13.♖g1 c6! 14.♖xg2?**

White had to try 14.e6! when 14...fxe6 15.♙e2 ♙d5 16.c4 spells trouble for Black, who should have gone for the unclear 14...♘e5.

**14...cxb5 15.e6 fxe6 16.♘xe6 ♗f7**  
Black is just better. The rest is not interesting for our purpose. **17.♘c7 ♖c8 18.♘xb5 a6 19.♘d4 ♙xc3 20.♙b2 ♖c5 21.♖d1 ♖d5 22.♖d3 ♘e5 23.♖b3 ♙b4+ 24.♗f1 ♙c5 25.♙f5 ♖hd8 26.♖xg7+ ♗f6 27.♖f3 ♖d2 28.♘d6+ ♗e6 29.♙xe5 ♙xd6 30.♙xd6 ♖8xd6 31.♖a3 ♖b2 0-1**

□ Per Andreassen  
■ Erik Pedersen  
Denmark 1988

**1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 b6 3.♘c3 ♙b7 4.d5!?**

White is staking a claim for more space and blocking the diagonal for the bishop.

**4...e6**

So, Black is forced to fight for the centre and to free the way for his bishop on b7!

**5.a3!?**

A prophylactic move directed against ♖b4, similar to the Queen's Indian. White can also allow the pin with the direct 5.e4 ♖b4 6.♗d3. Now Black needs to improve upon 6...exd5 7.cxd5 (7.exd5 ♗xc3+ 8.bxc3 0-0 9.♗e2 ♗a6) 7...0-0 8.♗f3 ♖e8 9.0-0 ♗xc3 10.bxc3 d6 (10...♗xe4 11.♗xe4 ♖xe4 12.♖d3 ♖e7 13.♗g5 ♖h4 14.♗f4!) 11.♖e1±, as in L.Gomez-Jerez Perez, Barcelona 1996.

I would recommend the interesting gambit 6...b5!?. For example: 7.cxb5 (after 7.♗e2 bxc4 8.♗xc4 ♗xe4 9.♖d4 ♗f6 10.0-0 0-0 11.♗g5 ♗e7 White's compensation might be not enough) 7...exd5 8.e5 d4! 9.exf6 ♖xf6! 10.♖e2+ ♗f8 11.♗f3 ♗xf3 12.gxf3 dxc3 13.0-0 a6!. In this very complex position Black seems to have good chances.

**5...♗d6**

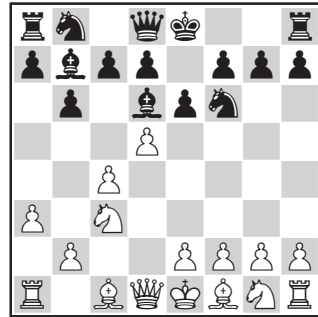
I like this move. The bishop intends to go to e5 at some stage, increasing the pressure on d5 by attacking the c3-knight.

5...♗e7 leads to a very sharp fight: 6.g3 (better seems 6.e4) 6...b5! 7.♗xb5 exd5 8.♗f4 d6 9.c5! 0-0 10.cxd6 cxd6 11.♗d4 ♗c6 12.♗g3 ♗e4 13.♗e3 ♗e5, Petrosian-Keene, Bath 1973.

An important alternative is 5...exd5 6.cxd5, and now White is somewhat better after 6...g6 7.e4 (7.g3!? Kindermann-Sahovic, Reykjavik 1982) 7...♗g7 8.♗d3 0-0 9.♗ge2, Plachetka-Sahovic, Vrnjacka Banja 1985.

However, Black may consider 6...♖e7!?. The point is to prevent e4 and to press on d5 but still it is a dubious early queen move I must admit: 7.♗f4! (7.♗g5?! h6 8.♗xf6 ♖xf6 9.♗f3 ♗a6 10.g3 ♗c5 11.♗g2 a5 12.0-0 ♗d6 13.♗d2 0-0 14.♖c2 ♗e5±, Tyomkin-Kogan, Tel Aviv 1997) 7...♗e4! 8.♖c1 ♖f6 (8...g5? 9.♖d4) 9.g3 (9.♗h3) 9...♗xc3 10.♖xc3 ♗d6 11.♖c3+ ♗f8 12.♗xd6+ ♖xd6 13.♗g2 and

White was slightly better in Schroer-Kreuzer, New York 1983.



**6.♗f3**

Black quickly gains an advantage after 6.e4 ♗e5! (6...0-0 7.f4 exd5 8.e5 ♖e8 9.cxd5 0-0 was Löffler-Horn, Königfeld 1985) 7.♖c2 ♖e7 8.♗e2 ♗a6 9.f3 c6, Arlandi-Horn, Geneva 1988.

**6...0-0**

Black should just castle and not interpolate 6...exd5 7.cxd5 0-0 as after 8.♗g5 ♖e8 9.e3 ♗a6 (9...♗e7 10.♗c4 h6 11.♗f4 ♗a6 12.♖d3 ♖c8 13.0-0±, Petrosian-Planinc, Ohrid 1972) 10.♗c4 h6 11.♗h4 c6 12.0-0 b5 13.♗a2 White is just better. Quinteros-Larsen, San Martin 1995.

**7.e4**

Or 7.♗g5 ♗e7 8.♗f4 ♗h5 9.♗g3 ♗xg3 – Sloth-E.Pedersen, Denmark 1987 – and now if 10.hxg3 then 10...f5 is interesting.

**7...exd5 8.exd5 c6 9.♗e2**

Black was slightly better in Bertok-Planinc, Zagreb 1972, after 9.dxc6 dxc6 10.♗e2 ♖c7 11.0-0 ♗bd7.

**9...cxd5 10.cxd5 ♗a6 11.0-0 ♖e8 12.♗g5 ♗c5 13.♗d4 ♗e5** The point of 5...♗d6, Black has grasped the initiative and won after **14.♖a2 ♖b8 15.f4 ♗xd4+ 16.♖xd4 ♗xd5 17.♗xd5 ♖xe2 18.♖f3 ♖e8 19.♗h6 ♖e1+ 20.♗f2 ♖e2+ 21.♗g3 ♗e4+ 22.♗h3 f6 23.♗e7+ ♗h8 24.♖xd7 ♗f2+ 25.♖xf2 ♖xe7 0-1**

□ Efim Bogoljubow

■ Alexander Alekhine

Germany/Netherlands Wch-m 1929 (8)

**1.d4 ♘f6 2.c4 b6 3.♗c3 ♖b7 4.f3**

White fights for central control but misses out on his development – this usually leads to very original and sharp play.

**4...d5 5.cxd5 ♗xd5**



**6.e4**

In case of 6.♗xd5 Black has to make up his mind to take back with the queen or the bishop.

● 6...♗xd5 7.e4 ♗d7 (or 7...♗d6 8.a3 e5 9.♗e2 ♖e7 10.♖e3 0-0 11.♗c2 ♗d7 12.♖d1 ♖ad8 13.♗c3 exd4 14.♖xd4 ♗h6 15.♗f2 ♖g5, Bern-Pedersen, Aarhus 1989) 8.♖c4 g6!? (this was the way the great Bobby played in his best years. Tartakower managed to hold the ex world champion with 8...e6 9.♗e2 ♖b4+ 10.♖d2 ♖xd2+ 11.♗xd2 0-0 12.0-0 c5 13.♖fd1±, ½-½ Euwe-Tartakower, Stockholm ol 1937) 9.♗b3!? (9.♗e2 ♖g7 10.0-0 0-0 11.♖e3 ♗c6 12.♖c1 ♗a5 gave Black counterplay in Chabanon-Haik, Montpellier 1991) 9...e6 10.♗e2 ♖g7 11.♖e3 ♗c6 12.♖d1 ♗a5 13.♗c2 ♗c6 14.♖d3 ♗xc2 15.♖xc2 0-0-0 16.♗f2 ♖d6 17.b3 ♗c6 18.♖d2 ♖hd8 19.♖hd1 ♗b4 20.♖b1 ♖a6 21.a3 ♗c6 22.♖d3 ♖xd3 23.♖xd3 f5!, Black got some

pressure on White's centre and went on to win, Agdamus-Fischer, Buenos Aires 1970.

● Another interesting game saw 6...♖xd5 7.e4 ♖b7 8.♖b5+!? (8.♖e3 e6) 8...c6 9.♖c4 e6 10.♗e2 ♖b4+ 11.♖d2 ♗h4+! (weakening White's pawn structure) 12.g3 ♗e7 13.a3 ♖xd2+ 14.♗xd2 ♗d7 15.0-0-0?! (safer is 15.0-0 0-0 16.♖ac1 c5 with equality) 15...0-0 16.♗b1 (Black is also doing very well after 16.♗f4 e5!) 16...c5! 17.dxc5 ♗e5! (now White is in trouble) 18.♗c3 ♗xc5 19.♖d4 19...♖ac8 20.♖c1 ♗xc4 21.♖xc4 ♗xc4 22.♗xc4 ♖xc4 23.♖xc4 ♖a6 with a winning edge in Duchamp-Frydman, Prague Olympiad 1931.

**6...♗xc3 7.bxc3 e6**

This 'solid' move was played in many games. Also playable is 7...g6, for those who like Grünfeld-type structures 8.♖c4 (8.♖e3 ♖g7 9.♖c4 0-0 10.♗e2 c5 11.h4 h5 12.♗d2 ♗c7 13.♖c1 ♗c6 14.0-0 ♖fd8, P.Varga-Medvegy, Budapest 1995) 8...♖g7 9.♗e2 0-0 10.0-0 c5 11.♖e3 ♗c7 12.♖c1 ♗c6 13.♗d2 ♖fd8 14.♖fd1 ♖ac8, Black looks OK and went on to win in Ruiz Garcia-Jerez Perez, Spain 1992.

See the next game for 7...e5!?

**8.♖b5+**

Black need not fear the alternatives:

– 8.♗a4+ c6 9.♖f4 ♗d7 10.♗h3 ♖e7 11.♖e2 0-0 12.0-0 ♗h8 13.♖ad1 b5 14.♗b3 a6 15.♖e3 ♗c7 16.f4 c5, Van Doesburgh-Bogoljubow, Zandvoort 1936  
 – 8.♖e3 ♖e7 9.♖b5+ c6 10.♖d3 0-0 11.♗e2 c5 12.dxc5 ♖xc5 13.♖xc5 bxc5 14.♖b1 ♗c7 15.♗b3 ♖c6 16.0-0 ♗d7 17.♗a3 ½-½ L.Popov-Keene, Dortmund 1973.

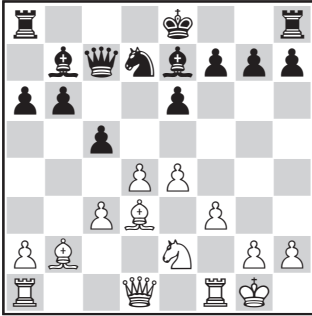
**8...♗d7 9.♗e2 ♖e7 10.0-0 a6 11.♖d3 c5**

Black also gained good counterplay after 11...0-0 12.♖e3 c5 13.♗d2 ♗c7 14.♖fd1 ♖fd8 15.♖ac1 b5, Dufrenoy-Haik, France 1991.

**12. ♖b2!?**

This is not the best move. White should prefer any of the following moves: 12. ♖e3, 12. ♖f4, or 12. a4.

**12... ♖c7**



**13.f4?!**

And here 13.e5 was stronger.

**13... ♖f6 14. ♘g3 h5! 15. ♖e2 h4 16. ♘h1 ♘h5 17. ♖g4?**

This is a mistake – 17. ♖c1! ♖d6!?.

**17... 0-0-0 18. ♖ae1**

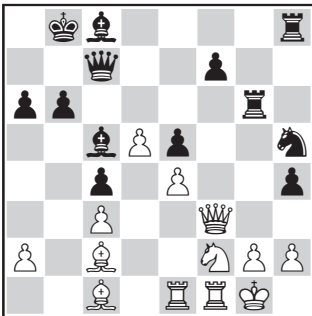
Or 18.f5 ♘f6 (planning ...e5) 19. ♖xg7? ♖h7.

**18... ♖b8**

With a strategically lost position for White.

**19.f5 e5 20.d5 c4! 21. ♖c2 ♖c5+ 22. ♘f2 g6! 23.fxg6 ♖dg8 24. ♖c1 ♖c8 25. ♖f3 ♖xg6**

With the annoying threat of ...♖g4.



**26. ♖h1**

White's position is beyond saving: 26. ♖e3 ♖xe3 27. ♖xe3 ♘f4 28.g3 hxg3 29.hxg3 f5! (29... ♖b7!?-+) with the idea of 30... ♖h7.

**26... ♖g3+! 27.hxg3**

Black wins after 27. ♖g1 ♖g4.

**27... hxg3+ 28. ♘h3**

Or 28. ♖g1 gxf2+ 29. ♖xf2 ♖g4 30. ♖g3 ♖e2, and now:

– 31. ♖xg6 fxg6 32. ♖xe2 ♖h7-+.

– Better is 31. ♖g5 f5 32.d6 (32.exf5 ♖xg5 33. ♖xg5 ♖h7-+) 32... ♖g7 33. ♖xe2 ♖xg5, but Black is still winning.

**28... ♖xh3 29.gxh3 ♖xh3+ 30. ♖g2 ♖h2**

Mate.

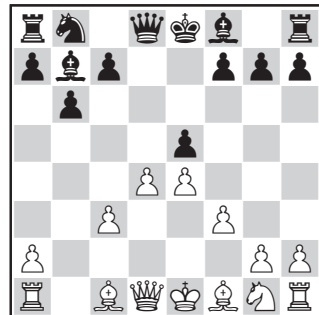
□ Erik Dignum

■ Arthur Kogan

Utrecht 1999

**1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 b6 3. ♘c3 ♖b7 4.f3 d5 5.cxd5 ♘xd5 6.e4 ♘xc3 7.bxc3 e5!**

An aggressive and interesting gambit. It was this idea that I had in mind when I first started analysing the line. In fact I could implement it in the first game in which I tried the 2...b6 line!



**8. ♖c4**

● Here 8. ♖a4+ led to no advantage in

Lutikov-Van Geet, Amsterdam B 1968, after 8...♖d7 9.♗xd7+ ♘xd7 10.♖b1 ♕e7 11.♗e3 0-0.

● Black also got a good position after 8.♗e2 exd4 9.cxd4 ♕e7 (9...♗d6!?) 10.♗e3 0-0 11.♗b3 ♗g5 12.♗f2 ♗a6!?, Beliavsky-Panchenko, Grozny 1969.

● 8.dxe5 is the critical line, where I would recommend 8...♗d7! (8...♗h4+ 9.g3 ♗h5 10.e6! fxe6 11.♗b3, J.Graf-Horn, Geneva B 1990; 8...♗xd1+ 9.♗xd1 ♗c6 10.♗f4±) 9.♗f4 ♕c5 (it seems that Black has more than enough compensation for the pawn) 10.♗c4 ♗h4+ (10...♗e7) 11.♗g3 ♗e7 12.e6 fxe6 13.♗e2 e5! with ...0-0-0 coming up and a nice position. But not the immediate 13...0-0-0? 14.♗d4!.

● 8.♗b5+ c6 9.♗c4 ♗d7 10.♗b3 ♗h4+ 11.♗f1 ♗f6 12.♗h3 h6 13.♗f2 ♗d6 was unclear in Levitas-Tolush, Leningrad 1938.

**8...exd4 9.♗e2!**

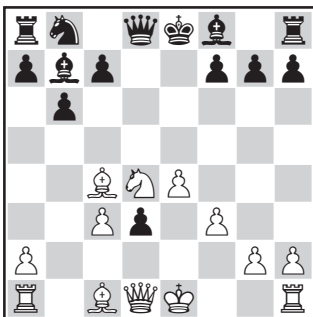
Here 9.cxd4 ♗b4+ will force the king to move to avoid losing the d4 pawn: 10.♗f2 0-0 gives Black the initiative.

**9...d3!**

Destroying White's pawn structure.

**10.♗d4!?**

10.♗xd3 ♗xd3 11.♗xd3 ♗d7 and with such a square as c5 for the knight, Black must be OK!



**10...♗c5**

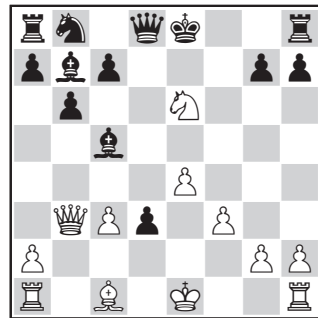
This is stronger than 10...c5, which weakens the d5 square: 11.♗e2! (11.♗f5 g6) 11...♗c6 (11...dxe2?? 12.♗xf7+!+-) 12.♗xd3 unclear (12.♗f4 ♗d6).

**11.♗xf7+?!**

White got too emotional, but in fact he really made me sweat for a while. The normal 11.♗xd3 would be answered by 11...♗c6.

**11...♗xf7 12.♗b3+ ♗e8 13.♗e6**

This is a position that is really hard to play as Black.



**13...d2+!**

This was part of my calculation. However, maybe even better, but still harder to calculate was 13...♗f6!, for example 14.♗g5 (14.♗xc5 bxc5 15.♗xb7 ♗xc3+ 16.♗f2 ♗xa1 17.♗xa8 ♗xa2+♠) 14...♗g6 15.♗xc5 ♗xg5! 16.♗xb7 (16.♗e6+ ♗e7+-) 16...♗d7! and ♗b7 is in trouble! If 17.0-0 then 17...♗c6!♠.

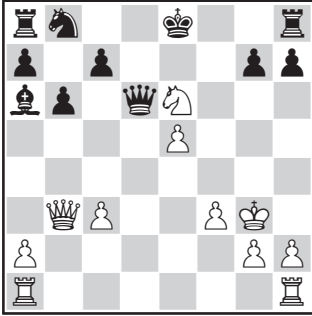
**14.♗xd2 ♗f2+!**

This was the point! Black should calculate carefully of course.

**15.♗e2**

15.♗xf2 ♗xd2+ 16.♗g3 would have forced me to find a hard move such as 16...♗e7!! (wrong is 16...♗d6+ 17.e5! ♗xe5+ - 17...♗e7 18.♗c4!? - 18.♗f2 and with ♖h1 coming, Black is danger) 17.♖hd1 (17.♗xc7 ♗d6+) 17...♗h6 18.♗d4 ♗g6+ 19.♗f2 ♖e8 20.♗f5+ ♗f8 21.♗a3+ ♗f7 22.♖d8 ♗e6

23. ♖ad1 ♜xd8 24. ♜xd8 ♘d7 25. ♜xa8 ♙xa8  
 26. ♜xa7 ♜c6 and Black has an edge.  
**15... ♙a6+! 16. ♖xf2 ♜xd2+ 17. ♖g3  
 ♜d6+ 18.e5**



**18... ♜e7?!**

Better was 18... ♜xe5+ 19.f4 (19. ♖f2 ♜e2+

20. ♖g3 ♙c4 winning) 19... ♜e3+ 20. ♖h4,  
 but I ‘missed’ 20... ♖d7! ♜ and my king escapes from the danger zone, leaving Black with a material advantage and the white king on h4.

**19. ♜d5! c6 20. ♜d6 ♖f7!?**

Correct was 20... ♜xd6! 21.exd6 ♙c4  
 22. ♖c7+ ♖d7 23. ♖xa8 ♖xd6 and Black will win the knight on a8 and will retain the better chances.

**21. ♜xe7+**

The best chance for White was 21. ♖c7! ♙b7  
 (21... ♜d8 22. ♜xe7+ ♖xe7 23. ♖xa8 ♙b7  
 24. ♖xb6 axb6∞) 22. ♖ad1 ♜c8 with unclear play.

**21... ♖xe7 22. ♖c7 ♙b7 23. ♖ad1 ♖d7  
 24. ♖xa8 ♜xa8 25.f4 ♜f8 26.a4 ♖c5  
 27. ♖d4 ♖b3 0-1**