

(The annotations to this game, by V. M. Ivanchuk, are from '64' (№ 9, 1989). The translation from the original Russian is by Douglas Griffin.)

Ivanchuk – Timman

2nd round, Linares, 20th February 1989

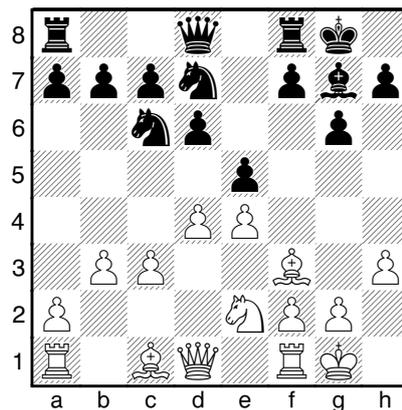
1.e4 d6 2.d4 Nf6 3.Nc3 g6 4.Nf3 Bg7 5.Be2 0–0 6.0–0 Bg4 7.h3 Bxf3 8.Bxf3 Nc6 9.Ne2 e5
10.c3

Also possible is the immediate 10.d5 Ne7 11.c4, but it is better to wait, aiming to carry out this manoeuvre at a more suitable moment.

10...Nd7

In the case of 10...Re8, 11.d5 would have gained in strength.

11.b3!?



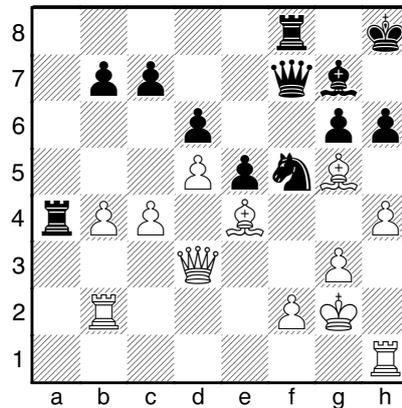
Black cannot immediately exploit the weakening of the long diagonal, and therefore it is useful to take the c4-square under control.

It would also have been possible to play immediately 11.Be3, but then Timman would have replied 11...Nb6, and unfavourable is 12.b3 in view of 12...d5!. Therefore I would have had to play 12.d5 Ne7 13.b3, and in this case the bishop at e3 occupies a rather poor position (Black would have had the possibility of carrying out ...f7–f5–f4 or ...f7–f5xe4 followed by ...Ne7–f5 – both the former and the latter with the win of a tempo).

11...Nb6?

A poor move, after which I have a clear advantage.

12.d5 Ne7 13.c4 f5 14.Nc3 Nd7



28.h5! gxh5 29.Qd1

A double attack on the a4-rook and the pawn at h5.

29...Ra3 30.Qxh5 Kg8 31.Qxf7+ Rxf7 32.Bd2 Rf6 33.Rbb1!

White wins the a-file from the opponent.

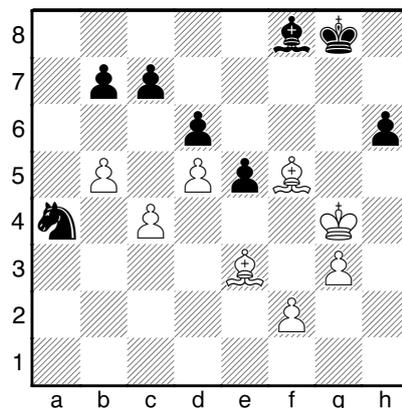
33...Ra2 34.Rhd1 Nd4 35.Ra1 Rxa1

The Dutch chessplayer exchanges all the rooks and obtains an altogether hopeless endgame. 35...Rb2, retaining some practical chances, should have been played.

36.Rxa1 Nb3 37.Ra8+ Rf8 38.Rxf8+ Bxf8 39.Be3 Nd4 40.b5

This move removes from Black the possibility of undermining the white pawns with the move 40...b5, and now White wins easily, picking up the h6-pawn.

40...Nb3 41.Kh3 Nc5 42.Bf5 Na4 43.Kg4



Here the game was adjourned, and Black resigned. If 43...Nb2, then 44.Kh5 Nxc4 45.Bxh6,

and the g-pawn promotes to a queen.

(Translator's note: Incidentally, the tournament record shows that Black indeed sealed the move 43...Nb2.)