

(The annotations to this game, by V. V. Smyslov, are from his autobiographical work *V poiskakh garmonii* (Fizkultura i Sport, 1979). Annotations by Gligorić, from the tournament book *Turnir pretendetov na match s chempionom mira* (co-authored with V. V. Ragozin and published in Belgrade in 1960) have been included at key junctures. In each case the translation from the Russian is by Douglas Griffin.)

Gligorić – Smyslov

19th round, FIDE Candidates' Tournament, Zagreb, 10th October 1959

1.d4 Nf6 2.c4 e6 3.Nc3 Bb4 4.e3 0–0 5.Bd3 c5 6.Nf3 d5 7.0–0 dxc4 8.Bxc4 Qe7

The queen move to e7 was first employed by me in this game. Further practice confirmed the viability of this novelty.

9.a3 Ba5 10.Qc2 Bd7!

With the position of the queen on c2 it is necessary for Black to immediately develop the rook on c8.

11.dxc5 Qxc5 12.Ne4 Nxe4 13.b4 Qh5 14.Qxe4

On 14.bxa5 Black could have replied 14...Nd6 with active play.

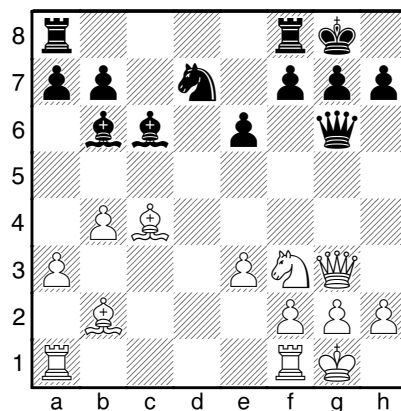
14...Bc6 15.Qf4 Bb6 16.Bb2 Nd7

Black has achieved a fully playable game. White has to reckon with the possible continuation ...Rac8 and ...Bc7.

17.Qg3

(*Translator's note:* Gligorić considers 17.Nd4 to be more energetic, considering that after the forced 17...Ba4 (17...Bxd4 18.Qxd4 e5 19.Qd6; 17...e5 18.Qf5) White has nothing to worry about.)

17...Qg6



18.Nd4

It is of course difficult to attach a question mark to such a move. However, as the course of the game shows, the bishop on a4 occupies a very strong position, and it should not be 'invited' there. Preferable is the prophylactic 18.Bb3.

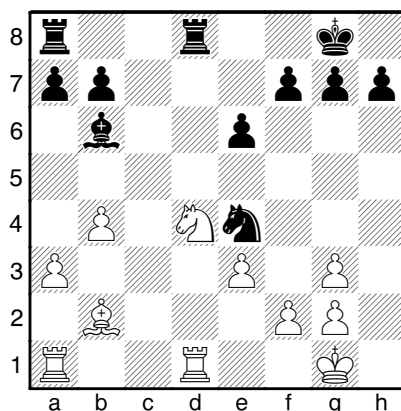
18...Ba4! 19.Rfc1 Qxg3 20.hxg3 Rfd8

A move which underlines Black's desire aspiration to continue the struggle.

21.Be2 Nf6 22.Bd1

Better was 22.Bf3.

22...Bxd1 23.Rxd1 Ne4



The knight has taken up a strong position in the centre. Black threatens, with the moves ...e6–e5 and ...f7–f6, to limit the sphere of action of White's minor pieces and to seize the initiative.

24.Nb3

On 24.Kf1 Black wins with 24...Rac8 25.Rac1 e5 26.Nf5 Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Rc2. If 26.Ne2, then 26...Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 f6 28.f3 (28.Rc1 Rd8) 28...Rc2 with the better game.

24...f6

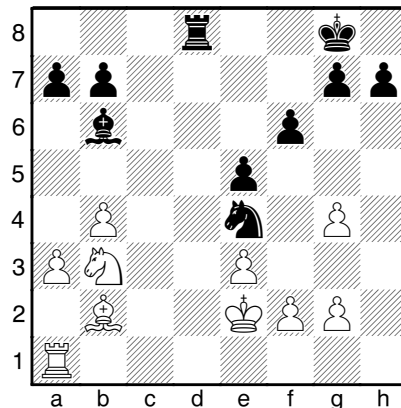
(Translator's note: Gligorić also mentions the possibility of 24...h5, to fix White's pawns on dark squares, but Smyslov clearly had a different approach in mind.)

25.g4

On 25.Bd4 there would have followed 25...e5 26.Bxb6 Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 axb6 with the advantage. Or on 25.Kf1 – 25...Rac8 26.Rxd8+ (26.Rac1 Rxd1+ 27.Rxd1 Rc2) 26...Rxd8 27.Ke2 (27.Rc1 Rd3) 27...Nxf2 28.Kxf2 Rd3 with advantage.

25...e5 26.Kf1 Rac8 27.Rxd8+ Rxd8 28.Ke2

28.Rc1 is bad on account of 28...Rd3. If White instead continues 28.Re1, then 28...Rd3 29.Na1 (or 29.Nc1 Rd2 30.Re2 Rd1+ 31.Re1 Nd2+ 32.Ke2 Rxe1+ 33.Kxe1 Nc4, winning an important pawn) 29...Rd2 30.Re2 Bxe3! 31.Rxe3 (31.fxe3 Ng3+) 31...Rxf2+ 32.Ke1 Rxb2, and Black wins.



28...Nxf2 29.Kxf2 Rd3!

Black regains the piece, retaining an extra pawn.

30.Nc5 Bxc5 31.bxc5 Rd2+ 32.Kf3 Rxb2

For the time being the rook endgame involves definite technical difficulties.

33.Rd1 a6 34.Rd7 h6 35.Rc7 a5 36.Ke4 Kh7 37.Kd5 a4 38.Kd6

(Translator's note: Gligorić considers this time-trouble move to be a mistake. He indicates instead the attempt to blockade Black's kings' flank with 38.e4 Kg6 39.g3 Rb3 40.Ke6, "when White is guaranteed a draw".)

38...Kg6 39.Kd7

This facilitates the achievement of victory by Black, since he activates his king.

(Translator's note: In Gligorić's opinion, instead of the "blunder" in the text it was still possible to draw with 39.Ke6 e4 40.Kd5 etc.)

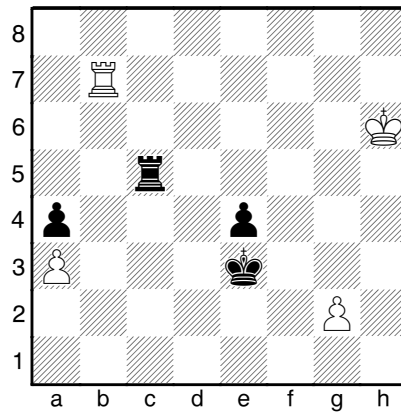
39...f5! 40.gxf5+ Kxf5 41.Kd6

If 41.Kc8, then 41...Rb5 42.Rxg7 Rxc5+ 43.Kxb7 Rc3, winning.

41...Rd2+ 42.Ke7 Rd5 43.Kf7 Ke4 44.Kxg7

On 44.Ke6 possible is 44...g6 45.g4 g5 46.Rc8 Rd3 47.Rc7 Rb3, winning.

44...Kxe3 45.Kxh6 e4 46.Rxb7 Rxc5



White has achieved material equality, but Black has a very dangerous passed pawn.

47.g4 Kf4 48.Rb4

On 48.Re7 there follows 48...Re5 49.Rxe5 Kxe5 50.g5 e3, and the pawn endgame is won for Black. (*Translator's note:* The win is simple: 51.g6 e2 52.g7 e1=Q 53.g8=Q Qh4+ 54.Kg6 Qg3+ 55.Kf7 Qxg8+ 56.Kxg8 Kd4, etc.)

48...Kf3 49.g5 e3 50.g6 e2

White resigned.