

(The annotations to this game, by V. V. Smyslov, are from his autobiographical work *V poiskakh garmonii* (Fizkultura i Sport, 1979). The translation from the original Russian is by Douglas Griffin.)

Smyslov (Moscow) – Spassky (Leningrad)

Board 2, 2nd round, Moscow v. Leningrad match, Moscow, 5th December 1960

1.e4 Nf6 2.e5 Nd5 3.d4 d6 4.Nf3 Bg4 5.Be2 Nc6 6.c4 Nb6 7.exd6 exd6 8.0–0 Be7 9.Nc3 0–0

Black could almost go in for the following variation: 9...Bxf3 10.Bxf3 Nxc4 11.Bxc6+ bxc6 12.Qa4 Nb6 13.Qxc6+ Qd7, but after 14.d5 0–0 15.a4 White's position is somewhat preferable.

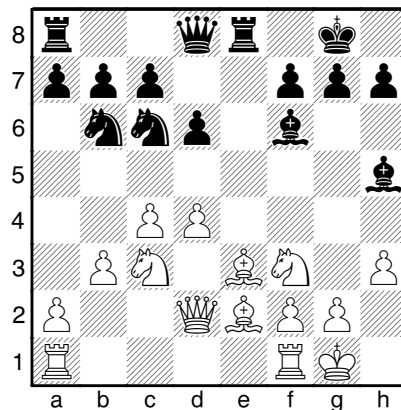
10.b3 Bf6

10...d5 is insufficient for equality on account of 11.c5 Nc8 12.h3 Be6 13.Bb5 Bf6 14.Bxc6 bxc6 15.Bf4, and the chances are on the side of White.

11.Be3 Re8 12.h3!

It is useful to drive the bishop to h5. In the case of 12.h3 Bxf3 13.Bxf3 Black does not succeed in carrying out the important advance of the pawn to d5.

12...Bh5 13.Qd2



13...d5

Black's desire to achieve equality in the centre is natural, but now there arise complications that are advantageous for White. Deserving attention is the move 13...Bg6.

14.c5 Nc8 15.Rad1 a5 16.Rfe1 N8a7

This knight has no other square. On 16...N8e7 there follows 17.g4 Bg6 18.g5 winning a piece.

17.Bf4 Qd7

The attempt to free himself from the pressure – 17...Bxf3 18.Bxf3 Rxe1+ 19.Qxe1 Nxd4

20.Nxd5 – fails to achieve its aim, since the game is opened to White's advantage.

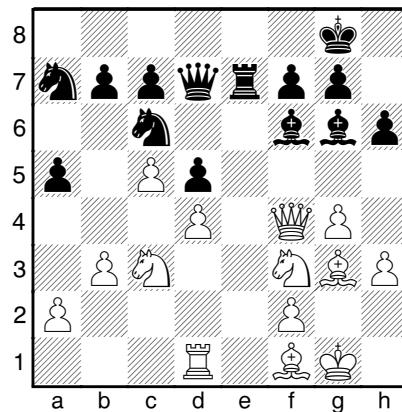
18.g4

An important move, limiting the mobility of the black pieces.

18...Bg6 19.Bg3 h6 20.Qf4

The c7–pawn proves to be under attack.

20...Re7 21.Bf1 Rae8 22.Rxe7 Rxe7



23.h4!

Now 24.g5 is threatened, and there is no satisfactory defence.

23...Re4

If 23...Be4, then 24.g5 Bxf3 25.gxf6 Bxd1 26.fxe7 Bh5 27.Nxd5!, and White wins. Therefore Black decides to give up the exchange.

24.Nxe4 dxe4 25.h5! Bh7 26.g5 hxg5 27.Nxg5 Bxg5

On 27...Nxd4 there follows 28.Nxh7 Nf3+ 29.Qxf3!.

28.Qxg5 f6

In the case of 28...Nxd4 White could play 29.Qe3 Nac6 30.Bb5, and the knight on d4 is hanging.

29.Bc4+

Black resigned.