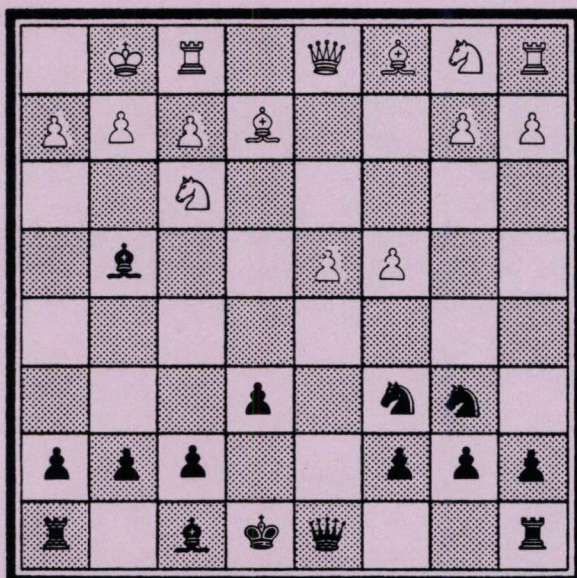


CENTER

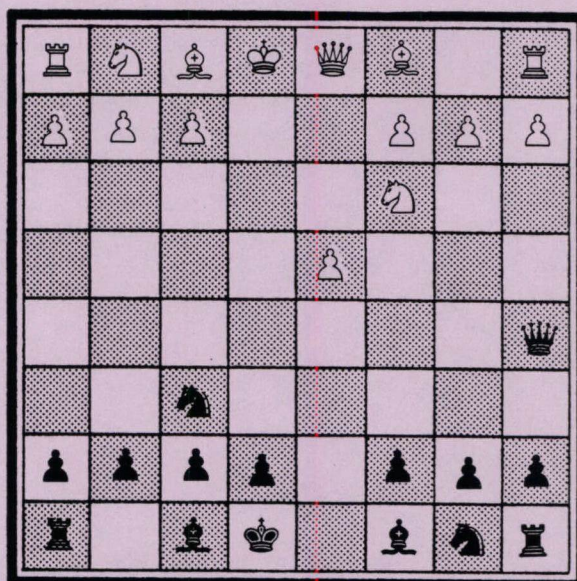
COUNTER (... QX D 5)

TAULBUT

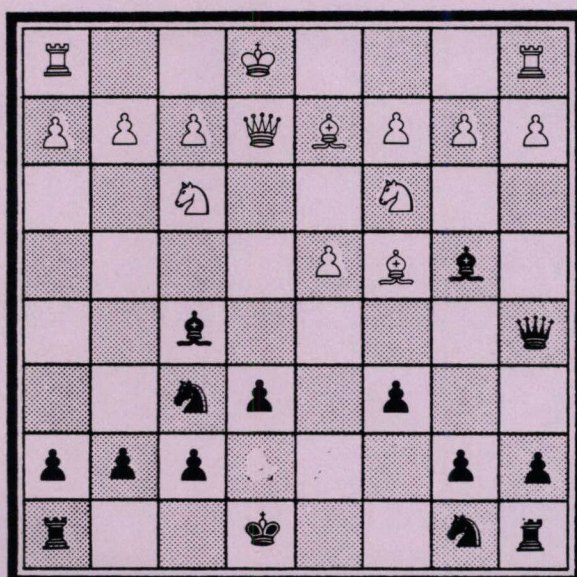
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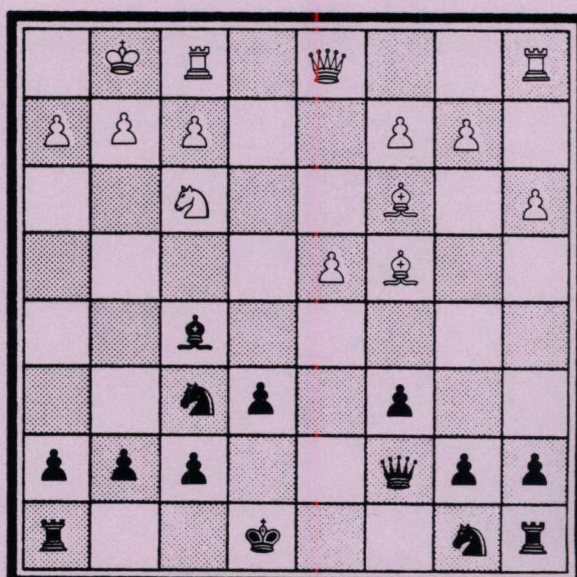
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3



4



CENTRE COUNTER

LIUBOJEVIC-KURAJICA Bugojno 1980

1 e4 d5 2 ed5 Qxd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 Nf3 Nf6 5 d4 Bf5 6 Bd2 c6 7 Bc4 e6 8 Qe2 Bb4
9 O-O-O Nd5 10 Nxd5 Bxd2ch 11 Nxd2 cxd5 12 Nb3 Qa2 13 Bxd5 Nc6 14 g4 Bg6 15
Bc6ch bc6 16 f4 O-O 17 h4 h6 18 h5 Bh7 19 g5 Bf5 white is better.

Karpov-Larsen Montreal 1979 1e4 d5 2 ed5 Qxd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Bd2
Bg4 6 Be2 Bxe2 7 Ncxe2 Qb6 8 Nf3 Nbd7 9 O-O e6 10 c4 Be7 11 b4 O-O 12 a4 c6
13 Qc2 Qc7 14 Rfel b6 15 a5 Rfb8! equal game

Kinlay-Talbut ARC young masters 1 e4 d5 2 ed5 Qxd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Nf3
Bf5 6 Bd2 c6 7 Bc4 e6 8 O-O Bb4 9 a3 Bxc3 10 Bxc3 Qc7 11 Bd2 Nbd7 12 Ba2 O-O
13 b4 Rad8 14 Rel Ne4 15 c4 Ndf6 16 h3 h6 17 Qcl Nxd2 18 Qxd2 Be4 19 Radl Bxf3
20 gf3 b6 21 Khl c5 22 bc5 bc5 23 d5 ed5 24 Rgl Nh5 25 Qxh6 Ng3ch 26 Rxg3 Qxg3
27 fg3 gh6 28 cd5 Rd6 29 Rcl Rc8 30 Bc4 Rb8 31 Rc2 Rblch 32 Kg2 Rdb6 33 Kf2
Rb2 34 Rb2 Rb2ch 35 Ke3 Kf8 36 Kf4 Rd2 37 Ke5 Ke7 38 Bb5 f6ch O-1

Radulow-Taulbut Copenhagen 1981 1e4 d5 2 ed5 Qxd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 d4 Nf6 5
Nf3 Bf5 6 Bd3 e6 7 O-O Nbd7 8 Bf4 c6 9 a3 Bxd3 10 Qxd3 Be7 11 Ne4 Nxe4 12
Qxe4 Nf6 13 Qe2 Qf5 14 Bg3 O-O 15 Radl Rad8 16 Rd3 Qb5 17 Ne5 Rxd4 18 c4 Qb6
19 Rxd4 Qxd4 20 Rd1 Qe4 21 Qd2 h6 22 Rel Rd8 23 Qa5 Qc2 24 h3 Qd2 25 Qxd2 Rxd2
26 b4 Ra2 27 Re3 Kf8 28 Rd3 Ke8 29 Bf4 a5 30 ba5 Ralch 31 Kh2 Rxa3 32 Rxa3 Bxa3
33 Nxc6 bc6 34 a6 Nd7 35 Be3 c5 O-1

Jansa-Taulbut Copenhagen 1971 1 e4 d5 2 ed5 Qxd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 d4 Nf6 5 Nf3 Bf5
6 Bd2 c6 7 Bc4 e6 8 Qe2 Bb4 9 Ne5 Nbd7 10 O-O-O Nxe5 11 de5 Nd7 12 a3 b5 13
Ba2 Bxa3 14 ba3 Qa3ch 15 Kbl O-O 16 Bcl Qb4ch 17 Bb2 Nb6 18 Kal Rb8 19 Nbl Nc4
20 Bc3 Qa4 21 Rd4 Rb6 22 Rxc4 bc4 23 Qxc4 Qc2 24 Bd4 Qxc4 25 Bxc4 Rb4 26 Na3
Ra4 27 Ka2 Rb8 28 Bc3 Be4 29 f3 Rxc4 30 Nxc4 Bd5 31 Bd4 Bxc4ch 32 Ka3 a5 33
Rcl Bd5 34 Rc3 Rbl 35 Rd3 Rcl 36 Bb2 Rc2 37 g3 Rxh2 38 f4 h5 39 Rc3 Rf2 40
Rc5 Rf3ch 41 Rc3 Rf2 42 Rc5 h4 43 gh4 Rxf4 44 h5 Rf3ch 45 Rc3 Rf5 46 Rb3 Rf3ch
47 Rxf3 Bxf3 48 Ka4 Bxh5 49 Kxa5 Bf3 50 Kb6 Kh7 51 Kc5 g5 52 Kd4 Kg6 53 Ke3 Bd5
54 Ba3 Kf5 55 Bd6 g4
Black won.

CENTRE COUNTER

Transcript of material which could not be fitted on tape.

I The 2...Nf6 Line

This was previously considered superior to the ...Qxd5 line, because it develops a piece rather than exposes the queen. However, the knight travels a lot too, allowing white to build a pawn centre at d4 and c4, so the line is not without drawbacks.

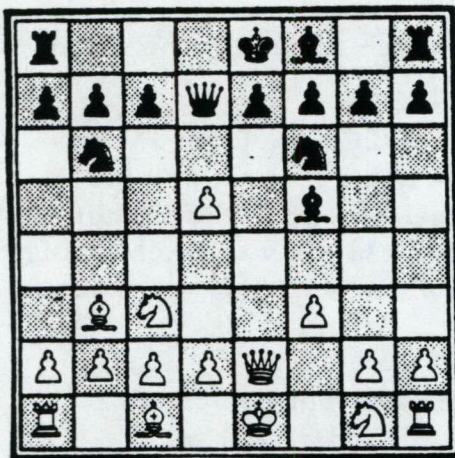
After 1e4 d5 2exd5 Nf6 white has several possible moves. He can play Bb5+, Pc4, Pd4 or Nf3. We'll look at Bb5+ first.

After 3Bb5+ black will have problems if he plays ...Nbd7, in that the pawn is hard to recover. Instead he plays 3...Bd7 4Bc4 Bg4 5f3 Bf5 6Nc3 Nbd7.

Black hopes to be able to recover his pawn at d5, and has weakened white's king side pawns. White also does not have the square KB3 for his knight. White, therefore, plays actively to compensate for his potential disadvantage.

7Qe2 Nb6 8Bb3

At this point black cannot immediately regain his pawn due to an eventual forking check at b5. He blocks this with 8...Qd7. White now returns the pawn with 9d6.



Black does not now capture with the c pawn because white could then play Pa4 - a5 and next Ba4, pinning the queen at d7.

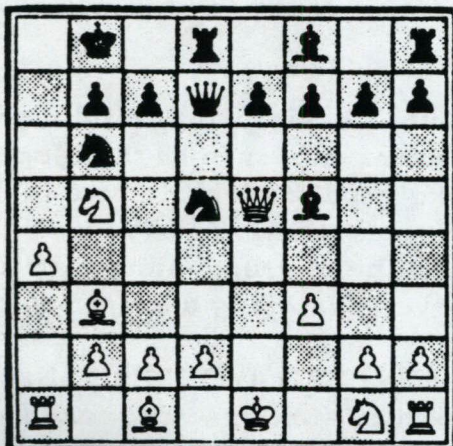
If black answers 10a4 with a5, his knight at b6 is very loose.

Therefore, from the diagram, black recaptures with the queen 9...Qxd6 10Nb5 Qd7 1Qe5 White is still trying to land damaging blows before black catches up with him. The whole line has an air of frenzied desperation about it.

11... 0 - 0 - 0! Black offers a pawn and goes ahead in development.

12 Nxa7+ Kb8 13Nb5 Nfd5.

At this point black is threatening ...Qxb5, so white defends his knight with 14a4, threatening also to advance into the attack with 15 a5.



Theory here gives 14...f6 as black's best move, followed by 15Qe2 Nf4 16Qf2 when white consolidates his extra pawn.

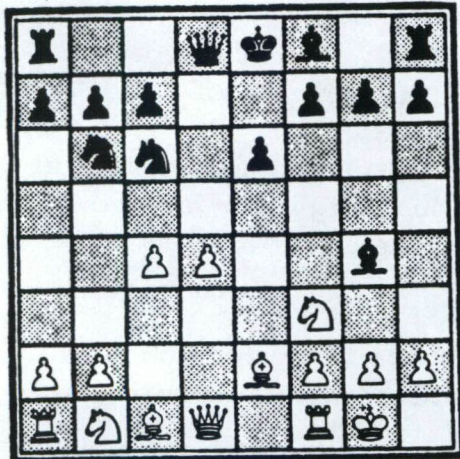
In fact a better move than 14...f6 is 14...e6, which is a subtler way to take advantage of the advanced white queen.

After 15Nge2 f6 16Qd4 e5 17Qf2 black now plays 17...Nb4. If now 18d3 black can even sacrifice by 18...Bxd3 19cxd3 Nxd3+. White could also try the immediate queen retreat by 15Qe2, but again ...Nb4 is possible, answering 16d3 with ...e5.

So, black has sufficient compensation for this pawn in this line, though it is further analysed in Myers Bulletin No. 3 (available from Audio Chess).

We'll leave the check 3Bb5 now, and look at the moves where white does not try to hold his pawn but goes for the positional plus of a good centre.

After 3d4 Nxd5 white now does not play 4c4 immediately, but first develops with 4Nf3. Black pins with 4...Bg4 and some natural moves can follow:
5Be2 Nc6 6c4 Nb6 7 0-0 e6



Surveying the position we can see white has a less exposed king than black, having already castled. He is liable to obtain the advantage of the two bishops in an open position. His centre is not yet consolidated, because black is threatening, with his knights, both pawns.

One threat is 8...Bxf3 followed by Nxd4; the other threat is 8...Bxf3 and if white recaptures with the bishop, then ...Nxc4 picks off the undefended c pawn.

So how can white defend himself in this sharp position? It looks like he will have to make concessions.

We'll consider the moves 8b3, 8Be3 and 8Nc3 all of which accept some dismantling of the white centre.

First 8Be3 Bxf3 9Bxf3 Nxc4 10Bxc6+ bxc6 11Qa4 Nb6 12Qxc6+ Qd7 13Qxd7+ Kxd7. A rapid exchange of positional and material advantages has just taken place! black gave up a bishop for a knight to gain a pawn; white then swapped his bishop to weaken black's queen side pawns and then immediately regained his pawn, exchanging to an ending which is, actually, in black's favour because white's bishop at e3 lacks scope as it is blocked by the central pawn at d4.

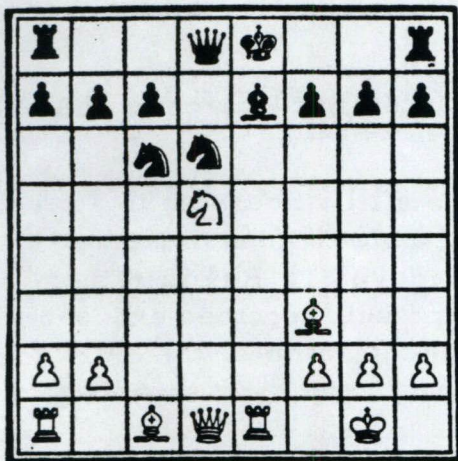
Now 8b3. This accepts the temporary loss of the d pawn, but definitely saves the c pawn.

8...Bxf3 9Bxf3 Nxd4 10Bxb7 Rb8 11Be3 Rxb7 12 Qxd4 Qxd4 13Bxd4.

We reach another ending which this time is slightly favourable for white. His bishop at d4 is powerful, his pawns on the queen side are better than black's, and the black knight at b6 is limited in scope by the pawns at b3 and c4. After the further moves 13...c5 14Be3 Be7 15Nc3 black may hold the draw.

Finally, 8Nc3. This is the most aggressive of the white possibilities which hope to take advantage of the mobile centre pawns and the present exposure of the black king. Here 8...Bxf3 9Bxf3 Nxd4 10Bxb7 Rb8 11Be4 looks good for white - two bishops in an open position, black having split pawns and still uncastled. Also 11...Nxc4 here loses a piece to 12Qa4 ch. This looks better than the corresponding position arising in the 8b3 line, because white has spent a move developing a knight rather than on an unnecessary pawn advance.

Black can of course take the other pawn, the one at c4 (by 8...Bxf3 9Bxf3 Nxc4) but here the central exposure of his king is critical. White answers 10d5 exd5 11Re1+ Be7 12Nxd5 Nd6.



Despite the extra pawn black is under heavy pressure. White plays 13Bf4 and even if black gratefully puts his king away (13... 0-0) white has enough to regain the pawn straight away by 14Nxe7+ Nxe7 15Bxb7 Nxb7 16Qxd8 followed by Rxe7.

Alternatively, white can pile up the central pressure with 14Rc1 and certainly the position is not much fun for black.

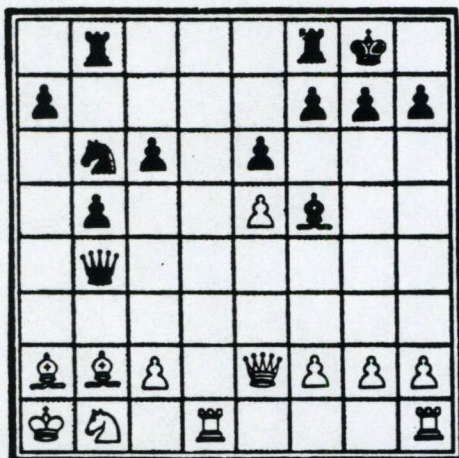
Let's return again to the diagram position at white's move 8.

I had this position against American I.M. Jack Peters, and after 8Nc3, Peter's did not like the aforementioned exchanges of pawns and pieces. He decided to catch up on his laggard development with 8...Bb4, but I still played 9d5 Ne7. Here instead of 10dxe6, which is a premature liquidation, I should now have gone 10Qb3, followed by Rdl with a powerful line up down the d file. 10h3 would also be a good idea, since after 10...Bxf3 11Bxf3 Nxc4 white can capture at e6 and then as we have seen before, regain the pawn at b7.

Following the game Taulbut - Peters, after 9d5 Ne7 10dxe6 (?) Bxe6 11Qb3 Nc6 12 Rdl Qc8, I now played 13Nd5, a natural clobber move which, however, proved ineffectual. Instead 13 Bf4 makes life difficult for black, so much so that his best reply may be to straight away give up the two bishops with ...Bxc3 14Qc3. This is an advantageous position for white.

All this shows the problems of playing 2...Nf6 for black. If he doesn't contest the white centre then white retains a space advantage; on the other hand, sudden counter attack often rebounds in his face, leaving him with shattered queen side pawns, the loss of the two bishops, or an exposed king.

II Conclusion of game Jansa - Taulbut

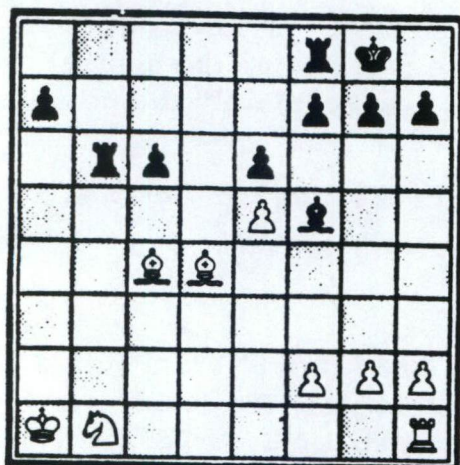


In the diagram position white has an extra piece, and by way of compensation black has two pawns plus an attack against the exposed white king. However, black has not got many pieces in the attack, as his rooks cannot break through, so the game seems favourable to white.

Jansa here played 1Nb1 retreating with a threat of 2Ba3 black moved in with ...Nc4 3Bc3 Qa4. At this juncture there are threats of both ...Bxc2 and perhaps most dangerous, ...Rb6 - a6 with mating possibilities. White found a way to return some material yet still retain credible winning chances.

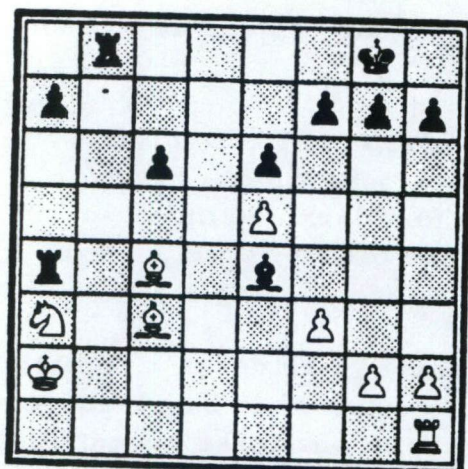
He played 4Rd4! Rb6 5Rxc4 bxc4 6Qxc4 Qxc2 and now we get another interesting material balance of rook and two pawns against two bishops. If the board is open, two bishops will usually be quite strong, and white's case is aided here by the fact that the black pawns on the queen side are split.

First white forces the exchange of queens by 7Bd4 Qxc4 8Bxc4 reaching the diagram position.



White's pieces are still vulnerable to attacks and he needs to be able to consolidate. Possibly my next move 8...Rb4 is rather risky, as the rook itself becomes exposed at b4, but in a time scramble, the extra pieces on the board were a reasonable gamble to take.

White played 9Na3 Ra4 and now white should have gone 10Bc5, but fumbled with 10Ka2. Now tactics take over completely. 10...Rb8 11Bc3 Be4 12f3



White has been set up for the heavy punch, and black obliges with 12...Rxc4 13Nxc4 Bd5 when black wins a piece. This ending is in fact fairly easy to win despite the bishops of opposite colour, because with rooks on, the stronger side can usually penetrate decisively. Black duly won in 55 moves all told.