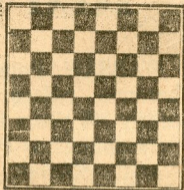# chess

by richard shorman

An outstanding and brilliant miniature masterpiece from the 1968 American Open, annotated in depth by USCF Master Jude Acers.

White: Vladimir Patnutieff (San Francisco). Black: Bruce Antman (Los Angeles)

Santa Monica, Dec. 1, 1968.

Slav Defense

1 P-Q4	P-Q4	13 N-N5	PxN
2 P-QB4	P-QB3	14 BxR	P-B6
3 N-QB3	N-B3	15 Q-Q5!	P-QR3
4 N-B3	PxP	16 RPxP!	P-B7
5 P-QR4(a)	B-N5(b)	17 0-0!(f)	PxR-Q
6 N-K5	B-R4	18 RxQ(g)	B-N5!
7 B-N5(c)	Q-R4	19 Q-Q4!	Q-Q2(h)
8 Q-Q2!	P-N4	20 PxP!	QxQ
9 P-KN4!(d)	NxP	21 RxQ	B-Q2(i)
10 B-N2!	NxN	22 P-R7	N-B3
11 PxN	P-N5	23 RxB!	NxRP
12 R-Q1!(e)	Q-B2	24 RxN	Resigns

(a) White loses a clear Pawn after 5 P-K4 (Geller P-QN4 6 P-K5 N-Q4 7 P-QR4 P-K3 8 PxP NxP 9 PxN PxP.

(b) Alekhine's idea to retard P-K4.

(c) Well charted is the alternative, 7 P-KN3 P-K3 8 B-N2 B-QN5 9 NxP-4 0-0 (9 . . . P-R4!, Acers) 10 P-R5 N-Q4 11 B-Q2 (Taimanov — Petrosian, 1959 USSR Championship), with White best.

(d) By sacrificing a second Pawn White brings terrific pressure to bear on QB6. Won for White is 9 . . . B-N3 10 B-N2 as, of course, is 9 . . . BxP, losing a piece.

(e) Only a marvelous combinative instinct could have determined the real problems Black has in defending this position. If now 12 . . . PxN or 12 . . . Q-N3, then White mates in two (13 BxPch).

(f) Also sufficient is 17 R-QB1.

(g) Threatening to terminate everything with 19 P-N6 (19 . . . Q-B1 20 B-N7 or 19 . . . Q-Q2 20 B-QB6). White's combination appears absolutely sound as investigation by no less than five masters, some extremely skeptical at the outset, proves below.

(h) This reply loses flatly. Black's best is 19 . . . P-R3!, forcing White to produce the analytical goods. Examination discloses seven possibilities for White:

I. 20 QxB PxB 21 P-N6 Q-B4 (not 21 . . . Q-B7 22 Q-Q4 Q-B1 23 B-N7 Q-Q2 24 B-B6 and mate in six) 22 QxKNP QxNP 23 Q-Q2 R-R3!, and Black wins.

II. 20 P-N6 Q-Q2, and Black wins.

III. 20 PxP PxB (20 . . .NxP 21 B-B6ch) 21 QxB P-K3 22 QxKNP B-B4 23 QxP R-R4, and Black wins.

IV. 20 R-QB1 (the most natural move) Q-Q2 21 Q-N6 QxP! 22 Q-B7 PxB, and White is crushed after 23 R-Q1 B-Q2 24 B-B6 QxB 25 QxNch Q-B1.

V. 20 P-K6 PxB wins for Black.

VI. 20 B-B4 (suggested by New York master Steve Brandywine) P-N4! 21 P-K6 PxB 22 QxR (22 PxPch KxP 23 QxR PxP!) RPxP, and White has failed to pursue his initiative properly. Barely adequate may be 21 B-N3 B-K3 22 PxP B-N2 23 P-R7 N-Q2 24 B-N2 0-0 25 P-R8/Q RxQ 26 BxR BxP.

VII. 20 B-R4! P-N4 21 P-K6 (21 B-N3 B-K3, etc.) Q-Q3! 22 PxPch KxP (22 . . . K-Q1 23 B-Q5! R-R2 24 QxB wins). 23 Q-QB4ch B-K3 24 B-Q5 PxB, with another defensive triumph. Found after days of analysis was 22 PxP! and Black has no defense against both 23 P-R7 and 23 B-N3! QxQ 24 RxQ BxP/3 25 BxN B-Q2 26 RxB! KxR 27 B-N7, as the Pawn marches on to victory (Acers).

(i) Best after 21 . . . NxP 22 B-B6ch B-Q2 is 23 BxBch! K-Q1 24 B-N5ch, winning everything. A well played game by White.

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CFNC CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 1969 CFNC Championships, CFNC-USCF Open Qualifier, and Junior Championship Play-offs take place February 22-23 at the Eagles Lodge in Hayward, 21406 Foothill Blvd. (corner of Foothill Blvd. and Grove Way). Almost $300 in prize money (may be adjusted depending on number of entries) and a dozen trophies will be awarded to the winners of the various divisions. Entry fees are $10 plus membership for the CFNC — USCF Open, $5 for the CFNC "B" and "C" Divisions, and $2 for the Junior Play-off Qualifiers. Round one of this five-round Swiss systems event begins at noon, Saturday, February 22.