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Chess

THE MAX LANGE ATTACK Unexplored Possibilities for White By Otto Hardy

The following game, published in "Shakhmatny bulletin" (April 1970), has shed an entirely new light on one of the key systems in the main line.

1	P-K4	P-K4
2	N-KB3	N-QB3
3	B-B4	N-B3
4	P-Q4	PxP
5	O-O	B-B4
6	P-K5	P-Q4
7	PxN	PxB
8	R-K1ch	B-K3
9	N-N5	Q-Q4
10	N-QB3	Q-B4
11	P-KN4!?	...

(A sharp divergence from the stereotyped 11 QN-K4 usually played here. Black then castles queen side, removing his king from the central furnace, after which the battle rages unabated on the king side, e.g., 11 QN-K4 0-0-0! 12 P-KN4 Q-K4 13 N(5)xB PxN, and now either 14 B-N5 P-KR3! or 14 PxP KR-N1 15 B-R6 P-Q6! produces analytical nightmares. — Ed.)

11 ... Q-N3

Black could counter 11 P-KN4!? with 11 ... QxP(3) instead, but White has the strong rejoinder 12 N-Q5 (not 12 QN-K4 in view of 12 ... Q-K2!) Q-Q1 13 RxBch! PxR 14 NxKP Q-Q3 15 B-B4!

12	NxB1	BPxN
13	RxPch	K-Q2
14	P-B4!	...

The "Shakhmatny bulletin" source game proceeded 14 N-Q5?, whereupon Black missed his opportunity by playing 14 ... Q-B2? 15 N-B4 P-KN4 16 Q-B3 B-Q3 17 Q-Q5 QR-KB1 18 Q-KB5 K-Q1 19 N-Q5 P-Q6 20 BxP N-Q5 21 RxBch PxR 22 Q-K4 N-K7ch 23 K-B1 R-K1 24 N-K7 P-Q4 25 Q-B5 K-B2 26 NxPch K-Q3 27 N-K3 R-K4 28 B-B4 N-B 29 QxN P-N4 30 PxP PxP 31 R-Q1 R(1)K1 32 RxPch K-B3 33 Q-B3ch K-B2 34 N-Q5ch K-N1 35 N-K7 Resigns. The refutation of White's play in this not so fashionable variation still seems to be 14 ... KR-K1, which is known to be both simple and good. Indeed, the system has never been put under the microscope.

14 ... P-KR4

White also obtains the better game after 14 ... P-Q6ch 15 K-R1 NPxP (or, even worse, 15 ... QR-K1 16 P-B5 Q-B2 17 N-K4 B-N3 18 N-N5 Q-B1 19 RxR, etc.) 16 P-B5 Q-B2 17 N-Q5 B-K2 18 NxB NxN 19 PxP P-B6 20 Q-N3 and 14 ... PxP 15 N-K4 B-K2 16 P-B5 Q-N2 (if 16 ... QxPch 17 QxQ QR-KN1, then 18 B-N5 or 18 QxR) 17 B-K3.

15 N-K4 B-B1

The alternative, 15 ... B-N3, results in White winning material by 16 P-B5 QxPch 17 QxQ PxQ 18 PxP.

16 P-B5 QxPch

Retreating allows White to advance his pawn forcefully: 16 ... Q-B2 17 N-N5 Q-N1 18 P-B7.

17	QxQ	PxQ
18	PxP	BxP
19	N-B5ch	K-B1
20	P-B6	B-B1
21	R-K8ch	N-Q1
22	N-K6	K-Q2
23	P-B7!	

Without pretending that the above analysis is exhaustive, it does cast some doubts on Black's established defense. And since, according to present expert opinion, other digressions from the main line favor White, Black may have to adopt 6 . . . N-KN5 as a payable alternative to 6 . . . P-Q4.

(Adapted from "Chess," April 1971, pp. 242-43)

ATTACKING WITH CARELESS ABANDON

Here is a semi-sound, semi-brilliant and highly entertaining collection of regional games, recorded in stream-lined coordinate chess notation (files lettered "a" to "h," ranks numbered "1" to "8," always counting from White's lower left corner regardless of whose turn to move; pawn captures designated by file letters only).

White: Robert Fojt (1749). Black: Laszlo Szalvay (1760). Hayward Summerfest, June 26, 1977. Greco Counter Gambit 1 e4 e5 2 Nf3 f5 3 Bc4 fe 4 Ne5 Qg5 5 d4 Qg2 6 Qh5 g6 7 Bf7 Kd8 8 Bg6 Qh1 9 Ke2 c6 10 Nf7 Kc7 11 Bf4 d6 12 Nd2 hg 13 Qh8 Bg4 14 Ke3 Qa1 15 Ke4 Qe1 16 Kd3 Bf5 17 Kc3 Nd7 18 Qg8 Re8 19 Qh8 Qe6 20 Ng5 Qd5 21 Nc4 Re2 22 Ne3 Qa5 23 Kb3 b5 24 a3 Bc2 25 Ka2 Qa4 26 Qg8 b4 27 Nc2 Qc2 28 Qb3 Qb3 29 Kb3 ba 30 Ka3 Bh6 31 Ne6 Re6 32 Bh6 Nf6 33 h3 Re4 34 Be4 Nd5 35 Resigns.

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White: Ernest Curto (1749). Black: Robert Pellerin (1538). Fremont Chess Club, 5-minute game, April 20, 1977. Center Counter Defense 1 e4 d5 2 ed Qd5 3 Nc3 Qa5 4 b4 Qb4 5 a4 Qa5 6 Rh1 c6 7 Bc4 e6 8 Nf3 Bb4 9 Ne4 Qa4 10 0-0 Nf6 11 Nf6 gf 12 Nh4 Bd2 13 Nf5 Bc1 14 Qd6 Ba3 15 Ng7mate.

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White: John Spargo (1711). Black: Richard Hobbs (1673). Berkeley Quads, May 7, 1977. Hobb's Gambit (Bird's Opening) 1 f4 g5 2 fg e5 3 d3 h6 4 Nf3 Nc6 5 e4 hg Bg5 f6 7 Be3 Nh6 8 Nc3 Ng4 9 Bd2 Bc5 10 Qe2 Bf2 11 Kd1 d6 12 Nd5 Nd4 13 Nd4 Bd4 14 Be3 Bb2 15 Rb1 Bd4 16 Bd4 ed 17 Qf3 c6 18 Nf4 Ne3 19 Kc1 Qa5 20 Qg3 Bg4 21 Be2 Qa2 22 Rb2 Qa1 23 Rb1 Qc3 24 Rb2 Rg8 25 Bg4 Rg4 26 Qh3 0-0-0 27 Qh7 b5 28 Ne2 Qc5 29 g3 a5 30 Qf7 Qg5 31 Qe6 Kc7 32 Kb1 Qe5 33 Qa2 b4 34 Rb4 ab 35 Qa7 Kc8 36 Qa8 Kd7 37 Qb7 Ke6 38 Qb6 Qc5 39 Nd4 Kf7 40 Qd8 Rg8 41 Qd7 Kg6 42 Qe6 Ra8 43 h4 Qd4 44 h5 Kg5 45 Resigns.

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White: Andy Ansel (1539). Black: Peter Garneau (1749). Berkeley Club Championship Qualifying Open, Feb. 4, 1977. French Wing Gambit 1 e4 e6 2 Nf3 d5 3 e5 c5 4 b4 cb 5 a3 Nc6 6 ab Bb4 7 c3 Ba5 8 d4 Nge7 9 Bd3 Bd7 10 Bd2 h6 11 Na3 a6 12 Nc2 b5 13 0-0 Qc7 14 Qe2 Ng6 15 Bg6 fg 16 Qd3 Ne7 17 Nh4 0-0-0 18 Nb4 Kb7 19 Na6 Ka6 20 c4 Qc4 21 Qa3 Qd4 22 Qa5 Kb7 23 Qa6 Kb8 24 Qa8 Resigns.

EXHIBITION BY U.S. CHAMP

International grandmaster and U.S. champion (since 1974) will take on all comers up to 40 boards in a simultaneous chess exhibition, outdoors, at College Avenue and Kieth Street in Berkeley beginning at noon today. Bring your own chess set and register from 10 a.m. to noon at the site. Entry fee is \$7.50 to play, nothing to watch the champ in action. This special event is co-sponsored by the College Avenue Merchants Association and the Northern California Chess Association.

WHERE TO PLAY CHESS

The Hayward Chess Club, Palma Ceia Park (corner of Miami Avenue and Decatur Way; phone, 785-9904). Monday and Friday, 8 p.m.-midnight.

Captain Anchovy's Pizza Chess Group, 1456 136th Ave. (Palma Plaza shopping center; phone, 352-7115), San Leandro. Wednesday, 7 p.m. to midnight.

The Fremont Chess Club, 40204 Paseo Padre Parkway (near city hall at Lake Elizabeth). Wednesday, 7-11 p.m.