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## Game 15 V. Anand – R. Hübner

*Dortmund 1992*

Petroff Defence

1 e4 e5  
2 ♘f3 ♘f6

Round about this time I was very well prepared against the Petroff, because I had played the opening myself for many years, so I was quite happy with Hübner's choice. I had many interesting ideas stored up for White and was hoping that I would be able to use one of them.

3 d4 ♘xe4  
4 ♙d3 d5  
5 ♘xe5 ♘d7  
6 ♘xd7 ♙xd7  
7 0-0 ♚h4  
8 c4 0-0-0  
9 c5 g6

An unusual move instead of the normal 9...g5. Hübner had played it once before, in 1983, but I had never seriously looked at it. One reason was that Hübner had annotated the earlier game in *Informator*, and had spent about two pages explaining why the move was really lousy!

For the moment I decided to continue as if Black had played 9...g5.

10 ♘c3 ♙g7  
11 g3

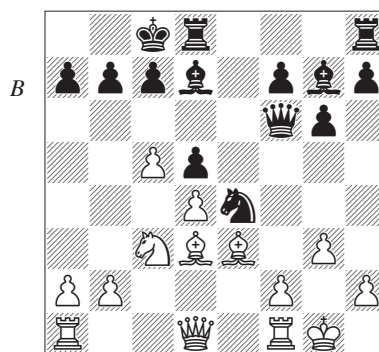
The earlier game, Timman-Hübner, Tilburg 1983, had gone 11 ♘e2 ♘f6

12 b4 ♘h5 13 b5 and White gained the advantage, but presumably there was an improvement somewhere.

11 ... ♚f6

Perhaps this is the point behind 9...g6; with the pawn on g5 this retreat would not be possible.

12 ♙e3 (D)



12 ... ♙f5?

Black should have attempted to make use of the fact that g5 is free by playing 12...♘g5!?. Then White can try:

1) 13 ♘xd5 ♘h3+ (if 13...♙c6, then 14 ♚g4+ wins) 14 ♙g2 (14 ♙h1 ♙c6 15 ♚g4+ ♚e6 and Black wins) 14...♙c6 15 ♚g4+ (15 ♙xh3 ♙xd5 leaves the king miserably placed)

15...♔b8 16 ♖xh3 ♗xd5 and Black is much better.

2) 13 ♕e2 ♕h3 14 ♖e1 ♘e6 is unclear.

3) 13 f4 and now:

3a) 13...♘e6? 14 ♘d5 wins.

3b) 13...♘h3+ (a difficult move to make; of course the knight is rather annoying for White, but it has no way out) 14 ♖g2 ♗he8 (14...h5? 15 f5! is very good for White) 15 ♗d2 with an unclear and double-edged position.

3c) 13...♗e6! 14 ♖e1 ♘e4 15 ♕xe4 dx4 16 d5 is another unclear line. Black can try to develop light-squared counterplay, while White can use his pawn-mass for attacking purposes.

The text-move is a clear mistake. I didn't realize this immediately, because I was trying to imagine what this position would be like with the pawn on g5. Suddenly I noticed that ♘b5 was very strong, precisely because with the pawn on g6 my bishop has access to f4.

**13 ♘b5! ♕h3**

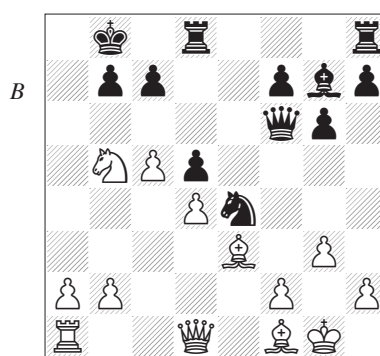
After 13...a6 White continues 14 ♘xc7! ♘xc7 (14...♗c6 15 ♘a8! and the knight escapes via b6) 15 ♕f4+ ♘c8 16 ♕e5 ♗c6 (16...♗e6 is the same) 17 ♕xg7 ♗hg8 18 ♕e5 f6 19 ♕f4 g5 20 ♕e3 with a safe extra pawn and an attack by b4-b5.

**14 ♘xa7+! ♔b8**

**15 ♘b5 ♕xf1**

**16 ♕xf1 (D)**

I didn't think long about this exchange sacrifice or even bother to calculate variations; it's clear that without the black a-pawn, White's own a-pawn can just run all the way through.



**16 ... ♗he8**

More or less forced, to meet ♕f4 by ...♗e7.

**17 ♗a4 ♗a6**

**18 ♗b4 ♗a8**

White wins after 18...♗c6 19 ♗a5 f5 (...♗a6 is no longer possible because c7 is also attacked) 20 ♕f4 ♗e7 21 ♘xc7 ♗xc7 22 ♕b5.

**19 a4!**

Intending to tuck in her majesty with a5-a6.

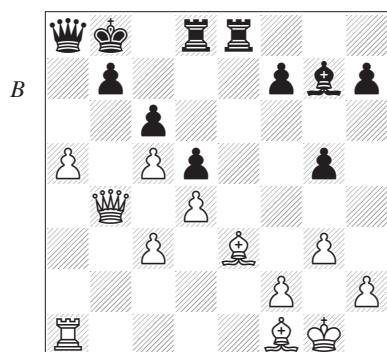
**19 ... g5**

Black even has to spend a tempo preventing ♕f4+ before he can play ...c6.

**20 a5 c6**

**21 ♘c3 ♘xc3**

**22 bxc3 (D)**



Black is dead lost.

22	...	<b>h6</b>
23	<b>a6</b>	<b>f5</b>
24	<b>g4</b>	<b>f8</b>
25	<b>a7+</b>	<b>c8</b>
26	<b>b1</b>	

Forcing the g-pawn forwards and so gaining f4 for the dark-squared bishop.

26	...	<b>g4</b>
27	<b>f1</b>	<b>d7</b>
28	<b>d3</b>	<b>e6</b>
29	<b>f4</b>	<b>f7</b>

I was tempted to toss in **b8**, but it isn't really necessary!

30	<b>c2</b>	<b>f8</b>
31	<b>e2+</b>	<b>1-0</b>

White finishes off by 31...**f6** 32 **e5+** **g6** 33 **e6+** **f6** (33...**g7** 34 **e5+** **g8** 35 **xf5** **e8** 36 **h7+!** mates) 34 **xf5+** **g7** 35 **e5** and mate in three more moves.

A nice crisp win, though Black's 12th move made it easy for me.

The above two games were my only two wins from Dortmund and I finished fourth with a score of 5/9 – not one of my most memorable results.

In July 1992 we had the GMA 'farewell party'. The organization had fallen into difficult times and with the failure of the second World Cup cycle it was recognized that its tournament-organizing days were over. SWIFT sponsored a final rapid-play knock-out event held in Brussels. It was superbly organized.