

D15

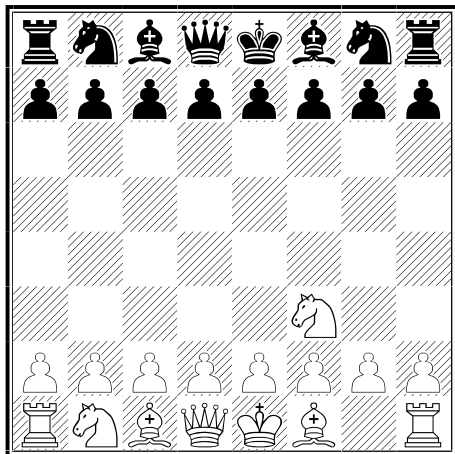
Anand, Viswanathan - Shirov, Alexei

Round: 2 Dos Hermanas 1997.04.02

Annotated by Anand,V

This game was played in the 2nd round. I figured that there wasn't a better time to spring a surprise on Alexei - on the 1st move! I had played 1.Nf3 against Alexei before, but that was a rapid game in Monaco 1997. In our last two "classical" encounters, I played e2-e4 as always, but I didn't get anything in Linares. So here goes...!

1.♘f3



Position after 1. ♘f3

Huebner,R Lisenko

1...d5 2.d4 c6 3.c4 ♘f6 4.♘c3 a6

Alexei plays various types of Slavs and the King' Indian, and I had also taken a look at this obscure system. Well, it's a lot less obscure these days thanks to Shirov's efforts! Even so, I had seen it a long time ago. In the World Junior Championship in Finland 1984, Dreev played an amazing game against Thorsteins. I couldn't believe that this sort of move didn't lose at once! I remember thinking that these were the most creative people on the planet. Informator 36 came out during the event and I saw almost the whole game played before between Tukmakov and Bagirov! Dreev had merely improved on that game! So when I looked for a system against 4...a6 I looked first of all at this move.

5.♗g5

[5.cxd5 cxd5] [5.e3 b5 6.b3 ♘bd7] [5.a4 dxc4 6.g3]

5...♗e4

[5...e6 How many people would play 5...a6 against the Botvinnik system?]

6.♗f4

[6.♗xe4 dxe4]

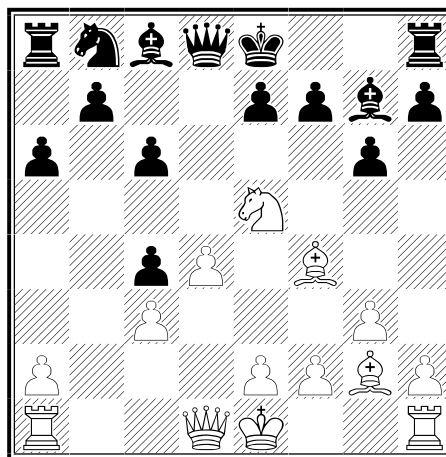
6...♗xc3 7.bxc3 dxc4 8.g3

[8.e4!? Lisenko]

8...g6

Shirov deviates [8...b5 9.♗g2 ♗b7 10.♗e5 f6 11.♗xc4!? g5!? [11...bxc4?! Lisenko 12.♗b1 e5 [12...♗c8 13.♗a4 ♗d7 14.O-O] 13.♗xb7 exf4 14.♗a4 Tukmakov,V-Bagirov,V /SSSR/1983/ Inf 36/449/ [14.♗a4 Huebner,R 14...♗c8 15.♗b6 ♗d6 16.♗xc4 ♗e7 17.O-O] geschah in der Partie Tukmakov-Bagirov, UdSSR 1983, Inf. 36/449. ] 12.♗xb8 [12.♗xg5!? Huebner,R] 12...bxc4 13.♗b1 ♗xb8 14.♗xb7 ♗xb7 15.♗xc6+ ♗d7 16.♗a4 e6 17.O-O ♗d6 [17...♗e7 Lisenko 18.♗xd7 ♗xd7 19.♗xa6±] 18.♗xa6 [18.♗b1 Lisenko 18...♗e7 19.♗xd7 ♗xd7 20.♗xa6 ♗c8 21.♗b7! ♗c7 22.♗xc7 ♗xc7 23.♗b5! [23.a4? ♗b4!! 24.cxb4 c3 25.♗d3 c2 26.♗xh7+ ♗d6-+ ] 23...h5! 24.a4 h4 Dreev,Dvorietzky/] 18...♗f7 19.♗xd7 ♗xd7 20.♗xc4 ♗b8 [20...h5! Lisenko] 21.♗d3! = [21.a4?! Lisenko 21...♗c8! 22.♗d3 ♗g7 23.f4?! Thorsteins,K-Dreev,A /Kiljava/1984 0:1 (51) Inf 38/474/] 21...♗g7 22.c4 ♗a4 23.c5 ♗e7 24.♗a1 ♗b2 25.a3 ♗b3 26.♗e4? [ 26.♗d1!∞ Lisenko ] 26...♗c4! 0-1 Rashkovsky,N-Rublevsky,S/Kurgan 1993/CBM 39/[Lisenko] (37)]

9.♗g2 ♗g7 10.♗e5!



Position after 10. ♗e5!

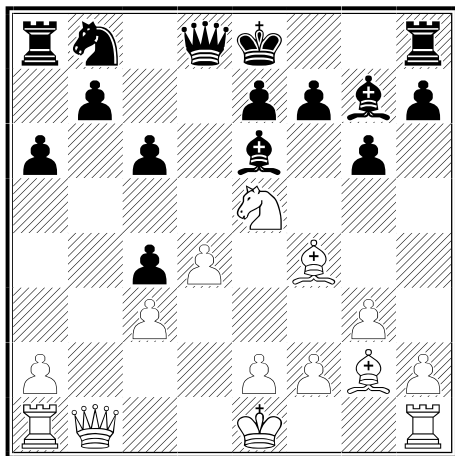
White has to act quickly, otherwise he will simply be a P down.

10...♗e6

[10...♗xe5 11.♗xe5 f6 wird von V. Anand vorgeschlagen ("Schach" 5/ 1997, S.9). Ich habe nach

der einfachen Folge 12.♔f4 ♞ e4~/= [12.♔f4 Huebner,R 12...O-O 13.h4 kein besonderes Vertrauen in die Stellung des Schwarzen. Vielleicht ist 11...0-0 an Stelle von 11...f6 etwas genauer, aber die strukturellen Verhältnisse bleiben dieselben.] 12...O-O] [10...b5]

11.♖b1!



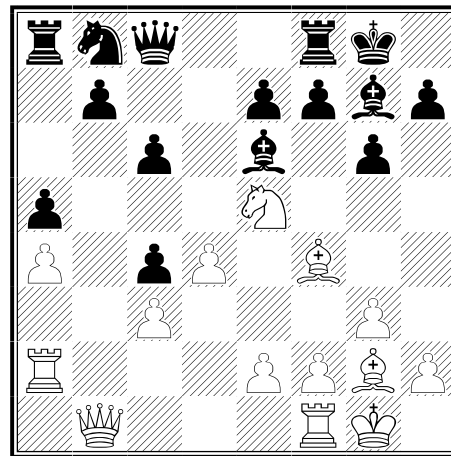
Position after 11. ♖b1!

The Ra1 will be useful on the a-line if Black plays b7-b5 [11.♖b1 ♜a7! [11...f6 Huebner,R 12.♘f3 b5]]

11...♗c8 12.a4! a5

[12...♘d7 13.♘xd7 ♗xd7 14.a5±] [12...g5!? Not the first move you think of, but here White's N is running out of squares! 13.♔e3 [13.♔xg5?? f6] [13.♔c1 Huebner,R 13...g4 ist eine Idee Anands; der Springer auf e5 soll durch f7-f6 erobert werden. Ich habe wenig Zutrauen zu dieser Fortsetzung; nach 14.h3 gxh3 15.♔e4 sieht die Stellung des Schwarzen allzu zerfetzt aus.] 13...g4 Now White has to play the ugly... ♞f7-f6 [13...♔d5 sieht weniger überzeugend aus.] 14.f3 But he should have good chances after he castles - Black's K won't be safe on either flank. [14.O-O f6 15.f4 This is more speculative.]]

13.O-O O-O 14.♞a2!



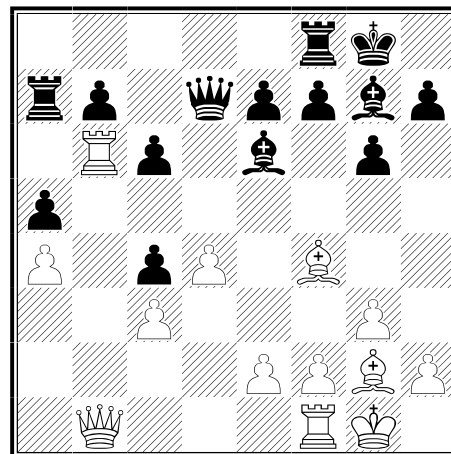
Position after 14. ♞a2!

Surprisingly, Black has no way to prevent Rb2-b6. Xb7

14...♘d7

Ich bin der Meinung, daß Schwarz [14...f6 Huebner, R versuchen sollte; nach 15.♘f3 ♘d7 entsteht eine unklare Stellung mit Aussichten für beide Seiten. Nach dem Textzug ist Schwarz für den Rest der Partie zu passiver Verteidigung verurteilt.]

15.♘xd7 ♗xd7 16.♞b2 ♞a7 17.♞b6



Position after 17. ♞b6

♞Qb2;Rb1 - Xb7 Dieser Zug dient laut Anand dazu, dem Schwarzen den Zug b7-b5 mit Bildung eines Freibauern auf der a-Linie unmöglich zu machen ("Schach" 5/ 1997, S.10). [17.e4 In order to meet f5 with e4-e5. 17...b5! This was what I didn't like - Shirov would have been familiar with similar ideas in the Grunfeld. Black just abandons his centre and puts his hopes on a far advanced a-P. White is probably better in either case, but I preferred the game continuation.

[17...f5 Anand 18.e5]]

17...f5!

Black's only chance. Otherwise White just triples.

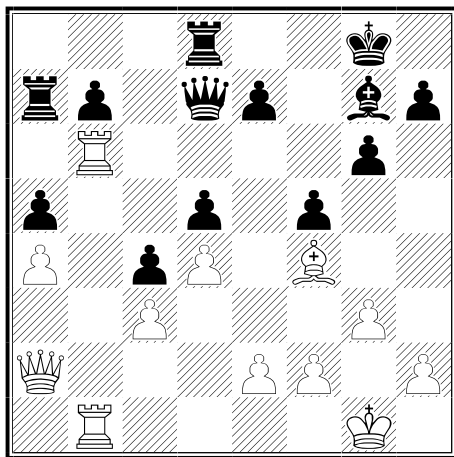
18. ♖b2 ♕d5 19. ♕xd5+ cxd5

[19... ♖xd5 20. ♖xb7 ♖xb7 21. ♖xb7 e5 [21... ♕f6 22. ♖b1 g5 We thought Black had some counterchances here when Kevin Spraggett pointed out the right way. [22... ♖e4 Huebner,R 23. ♖b2±] 23. ♕e5! Spraggett Spraggett 23... ♕xe5 24. ♖b5 ♖b8 25. ♖xd5 ♖xb7 26. ♖xe5 Thanks to g5, Black will lose too many Ps.] 22. ♕xe5 ♕xe5 23. dxe5 ♖xe5 24. ♖xc6 ♖xc3 25. ♖d1 Though material is about equal, White's -> is very strong. Especially Rd7 is hard to meet. [25. ♖d1 steht Weiß laut Anand "riesig" ("Schach" 5/1997, S.10), weil Schwarz Sorgen mit seiner offenen Königsstellung hat. Ganz klar scheint mir die Sache nach 25... ♔g7 gefolgt von Tf8-f7 noch nicht zu sein.]]

20. ♖b1 ♖d8

[20... ♖xa4?? 21. ♖b5 ^ Ra1+-]

21. ♖a2



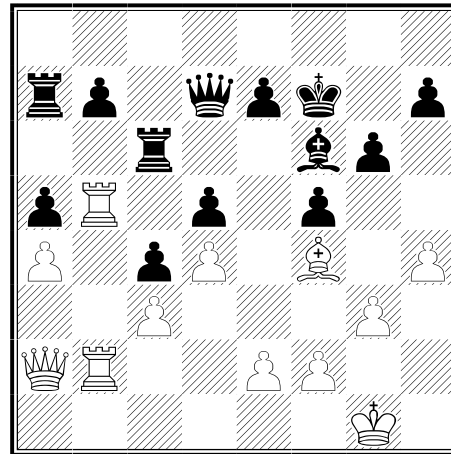
Position after 21. ♖a2

[Auf 21. ♖xb7 Huebner,R folgt 21... ♖xb7 22. ♖xb7 ♖xa4 . Damit wird der Sinn des Zuges 20... ♖d8 klar: der Bauer auf d5 sollte gedeckt werden, um dem Schwarzen diese Fortsetzung zu ermöglichen.]

21... ♖c8 22. ♖6b5 ♕f6 23. h4 ♔f7 24. ♖1b2

^Qa2-b1-c1-e3

24... ♖c6?



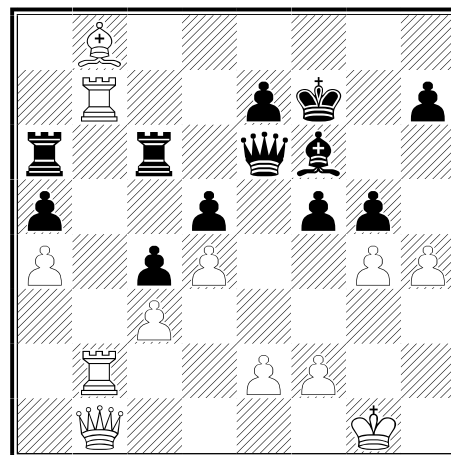
Position after 24. ... ♖c6?

A blunder, but White was threatening to swing his Q to e3 and then to open the kingside. Black's position would eventually collapse. Schwarz stellt den Bauern auf b7 ein. V. Anand meint, ("Schach" 5/1997, S.10), daß die Stellung des Schwarzen ohnehin hoffnungslos sei; Weiß bringe seine Dame nach e3 und öffne die Stellung am Königsflügel. Diese Öffnung scheint mir aber nicht einfach zu erreichen zu sein, wenn Schwarz h7-h5 spielt.

25. ♕b8! ♖aa6 26. ♖xb7 ♖e6 27. ♖b1 g5

Dies beschleunigt den Untergang, aber jetzt dürfte die Stellung des Schwarzen in der Tat hoffnungslos sein.

28. g4!



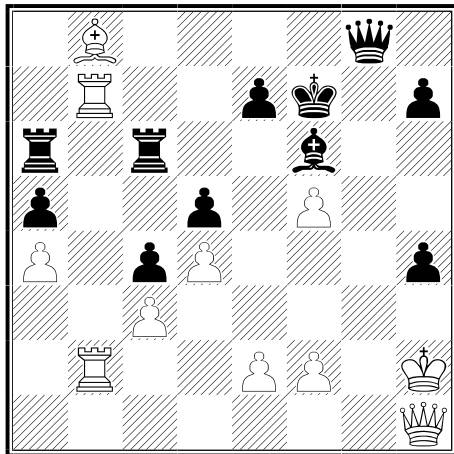
Position after 28. g4!

28... gxh4?

[28... ♖e4 29. ♖xe4 fxe4 30. h5± White plays e3 and

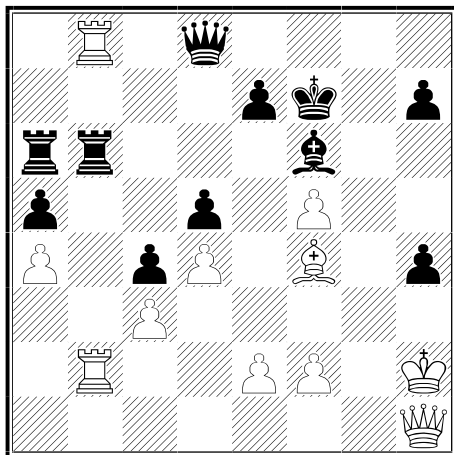
then either penetrates on the 8th rank or attacks the a5 pawn.]

29.gxf5 ♖c8 30.♔h2 ♜g8 31.♜h1!



Position after 31. ♜h1!

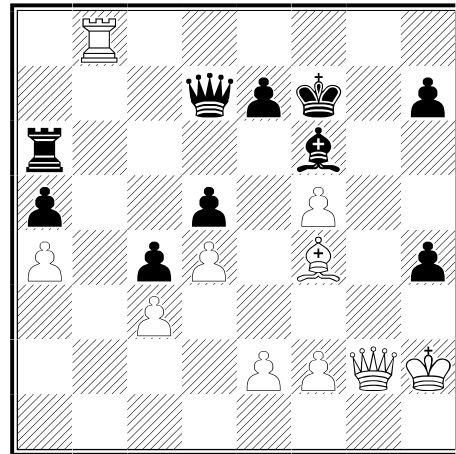
31...♜d8 32.♙f4 ♜cb6 33.♞b8!



Position after 33. ♞b8!

Of course taking on b6 and then capturing the d5 and c4 pawns would also win, but this leads to mate.

33...♞xb8 34.♞xb8 ♜d7 35.♜g2



Position after 35. ♜g2

[35.♜g2 ♙g7 36.♜g4 ♜ Qh5+-]

1-0

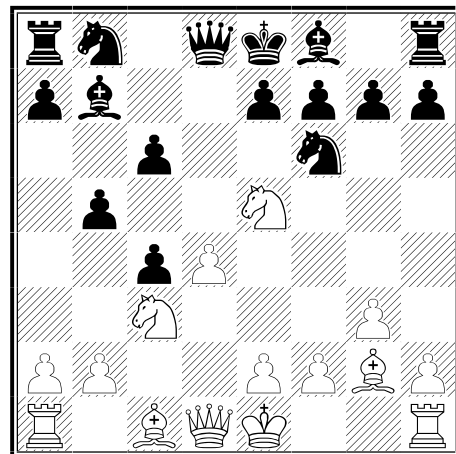
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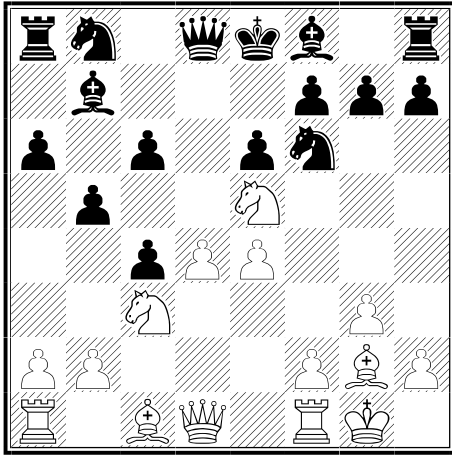
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1.♘f3 d5 2.d4 ♘f6 3.c4 c6 4.♘c3 dxc4 5.♘e5 b5  
6.g3 ♙b7 7.♙g2



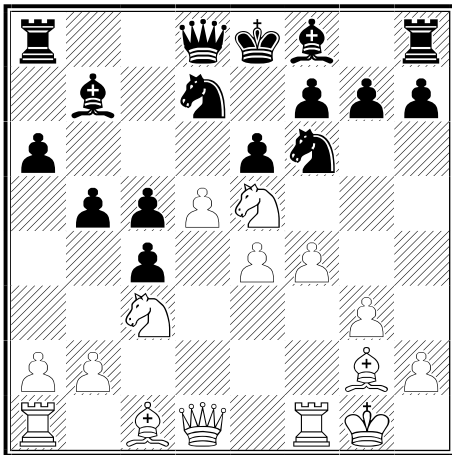
Position after 7. ♙g2

7...a6 8.O-O e6 9.e4



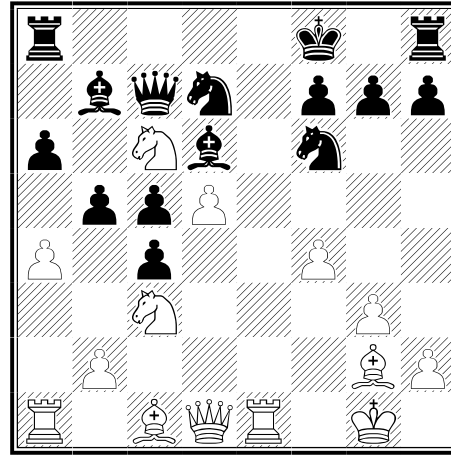
Position after 9. e4

9...♞bd7 10.f4 c5 11.d5



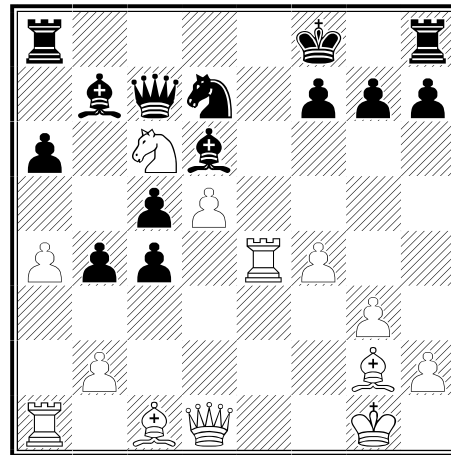
Position after 11. d5

11...exd5 12.exd5 ♙d6 13.♞c6 ♜c7 14.♞e1+ ♘f8  
15.a4



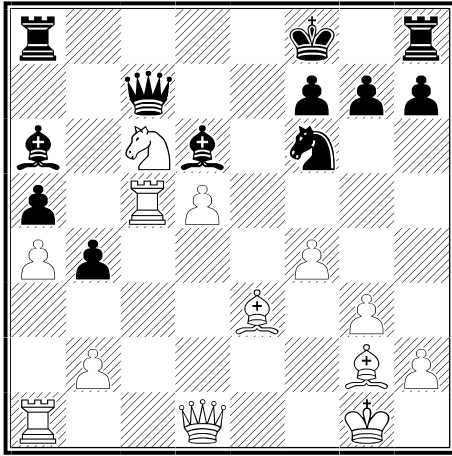
Position after 15. a4

15...b4 16.♞e4 ♞xe4 17.♞xe4



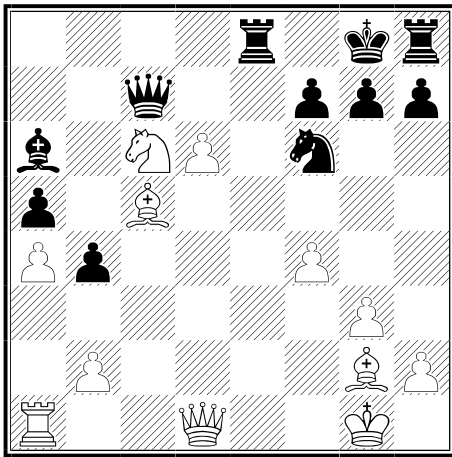
Position after 17. ♞xe4

17...♞f6 18.♞xc4 a5 19.♙e3 ♙a6 20.♞xc5



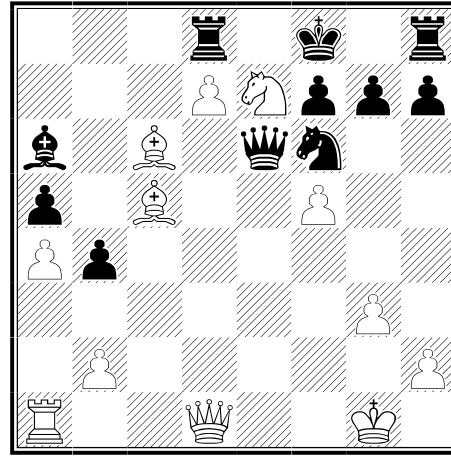
Position after 20. ♖xc5

20...♞e8 21.♙d4 ♘xc5 22.♙xc5+ ♜g8 23.d6



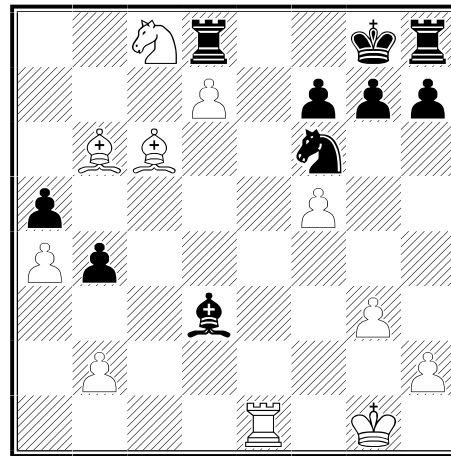
Position after 23. d6

23...♞d7 24.♞e7+ ♜f8 25.♙c6 ♞e6 26.d7 ♞d8  
27.f5



Position after 27. f5

27...♞e2 28.♞c8+ ♜g8 29.♞xe2 ♙xe2 30.♞e1 ♙d3  
31.♙b6



Position after 31. ♙b6

1-0