



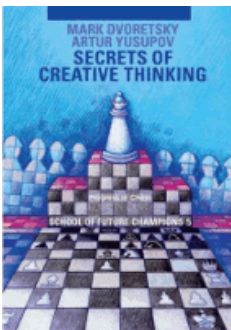
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The Queen Exchange
Part Four

Which Version of the Exchange to Choose

At a lecture that he gave in 1990 at the first session of the Yusupov-Dvoretsky school for gifted young chess players, master Alexei Kosikov wisely remarked that "any exchange in a chess game is a kind of business deal. You offer your product, you're offered something else, and each side tries to extract some kind of benefit from that." This is worth repeating often in order to carry out the exchange in the most favorable way for you.

Tukmakov – G. Kuzmin
Zonal Tournament, Yerevan, 1982



[FEN "2r2rk1/1pp2pp1/p3p1bp/3Pn1q1/P3P3/2N4P/BP1Q1PP1/2R1R1K1 w - - 0 21"]

1.?

Check with the knight on f3 is threatened; it also follows on 21.Re3?? The tense variation 21.f4?! Nf3+ 22.Kf2 Nxd2 23.fg ed finishes with an endgame that's playable for Black (24.Nxd5 Nxe4+; 24.Bxd5 c6; 24.ed Rfe8). In the case of 21.Qxg5?! hg the exchange sacrifice 22.de Nd3 23.Nd5 Kh7 is questionable, and on 22.Red1 there follows the simple 22...Rfe8 23.de fe (with a subsequent Kf7-e7). Black's defense holds because of the e5-knight, superbly positioned in the center, and chasing it away from there isn't easy, as the g5-pawn prevents the move f2-f4.

21.Qd2-e3!

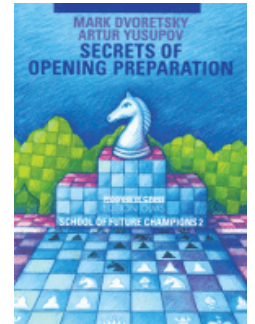
This simple move solves all the problems. Vladimir Tukmakov defended against the knight fork and prepared f2-f4. For example, 21...Qxe3 22.Rxe3 Rfe8 23.f4 Nd7 24.de fe 25.Rd1 (25.e5) 25...Nf8 26.Red3+/-.

21...Qe7 22.f4 Nd7 23.e5 Rfd8 24.Red1 Nf8 25.Rd4 h5 26.Rcd1 Bf5 27.a5!

White has a clear positional advantage, which he gradually made the best of.

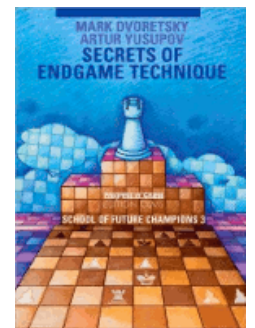
Beliavsky – Chernin
Interzonal tournament, Tunis, 1985

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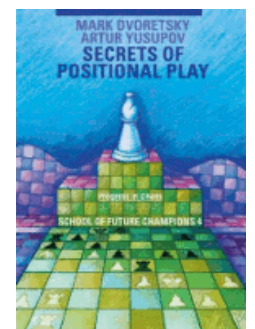
Secrets of Opening Preparation

by Mark Dvoretsky & Artur Yusupov



Secrets of Endgame Technique

by Mark Dvoretsky & Artur Yusupov



Secrets of Positional Play

by Mark Dvoretsky & Artur Yusupov



[FEN "r3r1k1/1b3ppp/p2p4/1p1p4/2qPn3/PQN3PB/1PR1PP1P/2R3K1 w - - 0 21"]

1.?

In the case of 21.Qxc4 dxc Black wouldn't be bad.

21.Qb3-b4!

On 21...Nxc3, you can reply both 22.Qxc3 (22...Qxc3 23.Rxc3 Rxe2? 24.Rc7 Rb8 25.Rxb7 loses immediately) and 22.Rxc3 Qxe2 23.Rc7 Rab8 24.Qxd6 Qxb2 25.Qf4 Rf8 26.Be6! Black has a difficult ending after 21...Qxb4 22.ab Nf6 23.e3 Re7 24.Ne2 g5 25.Bc8!.

21...a5!? 22.Qxb5 Nxc3 23.Qxc4 dc 24.bc Rab8

If 24...Be4, then not 25.Rb2 Rab8, but 25.Rd2 Rab8 26.d5 Rb3 27.a4 Re5 28.Rd4 (Beliavsky).

25.Bd7! (by transferring his bishop to a4, Alexander Beliavsky prevents an invasion by the enemy rook on b3) **25...Re7 26.Ba4 Bd5 27.g4!**

Technical play! In the case of 27.f3?! Black would reply 27...f5! (in essence we're seeing the same method of reinforcement of his central piece as in the previous example – in the variation 21.Qxg5?!). And now, to prevent f2-f3 and e2-e4, his opponent has to allow the g-file to be opened, which the white rook occupies.

27...g6 28.f3 (not 28.g5 h6!) **28...f5 29.gf gf 30.Kf2 Kf7 31.Kg3** (centralizing the king) **31...Kf6 32.Kf4 Bf7 33.Rg1 Bg6**

As usual, switching to a rook endgame promised him more practical chances of saving himself: 33...Be8!? 34.Bxe8 Rbxe8. Beliavsky analyzes 35.Rg5?, overlooking 35...Re4+! Instead I can suggest, for example, 35.Rg2!? (planning a3-a4, h2-h4, and so on) 35...a4 (35...Rb8 36.Rg5) 36.Rb2!? (36.h4) 36...Re3 37.Rb6 Rxc3 38.d5, with a very dangerous attack.

34.h4, and White made the best of his extra pawn.

Mering – Plachetka

Strbske Pleso, 1978



[FEN "3rbbk1/1p3ppp/q3p3/P3P3/3NBP2/P1r3P1/4Q2P/3R1R1K b - - 0 30"]

1...?

30...Qxe2? 31.Nxe2 Rxd1 32.Rxd1 Re3?! doesn't work because of 33.Bxb7!
Rxe2 34.a6 Bc5 35.Rd8+-.

A dubious queen sacrifice: 30...Rxd4? 31.Qxa6 Rxe4. Your opponent can either play more solidly: 32.Qa8 (on which the best thing for Black is to force a draw with 32...Re2! 33.Qxe8 Rcc2), or fight for a win in the variation 32.Qb6 Re2 (32...Bc6 33.Kg1 with the threat of Rd8) 33.Rf2 Rxf2 34.Qxf2 Bc6+ 35.Kg1 h5 36.Qb2.

30...Qa6-c4!-+

This way Black gets a material advantage. For example, 31.Bd3 Qxd4 32.Bxh7+ Kxh7 33.Rxd4 Rxd4+-.

31.Qxc4 Rxc4 32.Bxh7+? (time trouble spasms – but 32.Bxb7 Rcx4 33.Rxd4 Rxd4 34.a6 Ra4 35.Rb1 Rxa3 is also hopeless) **32...Kxh7 33.Nxe6 fe 34.Rxd8 Bc6+ 0-1**

Benko – Damjanovic
Monte Carlo, 1968



[FEN "8/qpk5/4p3/1QPpPp1p/3P2pP/1K2P1P1/8/8 w - - 0 47"]

1.?

47.Qe8 Qa1 48.Qe7+ Kb8= gives nothing. Pal Benko tries his only practical chance of winning.

47.Qa4 Qxa4+?

A different version of the queen exchange should have been carried out: 47...Qa6! 48.Qxa6 ba 49.Kb4 Kc6 50.Ka5 Kb7 51.c6+ Kc7! 52.Kxa6 Kxc6=. But now Black falls into *zugzwang* and loses.

48.Kxa4 Kd7 49.Kb4! (*zugzwang*) **49...Kd8** (49...Kc6 50.Ka5! Kc7 51.Kb5 didn't change anything) **50.Ka5! Kd7 51.Kb6 Kc8 52.c6 Kb8 53.Kc5!** (but not 53.cb?? f4=, of course) **1-0**

Improving Your Pawn Structure

Sometimes the motivation for a queen exchange is the desire to fix defects in your pawn structure.

Fedorowicz – Miles
Lone Pine, 1980



[FEN "1r3rk1/1p3p1p/pNBR4/2P1ppq1/4Pn2/5P2/PP3Q1P/2R2B1K w - - 0 23"]

1.?

23.Qf2-g3!

An exchange of queens allows you to chase the knight off the strong f4-square.

23...Qg5xg3

Black is right to decline the offer by playing 23...f6. In actual fact 24.Rxf6?!, which suggests itself, doesn't promise an advantage: 24...Qxg3 25.Rxf8+ Rxf8 26.hg Nh5 27.Kh2 fe. On the other hand you can force an exchange of the dangerous c6-bishop by playing 24.Nd7! (threatening 25.Nxf6+) 24...Bxd7 25.Rxd7+/-.

24.h2xg3 Nf4-h5 25.Kh1-h2 f5xe4 26.f3xe4

The position is clearly in White's favor. He wants to play 26.Bxa6 or 26.Be2. The e4-pawn is invulnerable for now: 26...Bxe4? 27.Nd7.

26...Kg7 (to get the f6-square for the knight) **27.Bxa6 Nf6 28.Bd3 Ne8** (28...Bxe4 29.Rxf6) **29.Rd5! Bxd5** (29...Nf6!?) **30.ed Rd8 31.Bf5!** (31.d6? Nxd6) **31...Nf6 32.d6**, and White won.

Lalic – Hoi

Olympiad, Manila, 1992

1.d4 g6 2.e4 Bg7 3.Nc3 d6 4.Be3 Nf6 5.Qd2 Nc6 6.f3 0-0 7.0-0 e5 8.d5 Nd4 9.Nge2 c5 10.dc bc 11.Nxd4 ed 12.Bxd4 Be6 13.h4 Qa5? A mistake that reminds me of the one that Kamsky made against Anand in an example we looked at previously. He should have chosen between 13...Rb8 and 13...c5 14.Be3 Qa5.



[FEN "r4rk1/p4pbp/2ppbn1/q7/3BP2P/2N2P2/PPPQ2P1/2KR1B1R w - - 0 14"]

1.?

14.Qd2-g5!

Black is a pawn down, so exchanging queens, especially in this situation, with

the g5-pawn falling, is unfavorable to him. But a queen retreat isn't very attractive either.

14...Qd8 15.e5 Nh5

The alternatives are no better: 15...h6 16.ef! hg 17.fg Re8 18.Ne4, or 15...de 16.Bxe5 Nd5 17.Qxd8.

16.ed Bxd4 17.Rxd4 Qb6 18.Qe5! Rae8 19.Na4 Qb8 20.Bd3 Bd5 21.Qh2, and White won.

Hübner – Wockenfuss

Bundesliga, 1985



[FEN " 2kr3r/pp1b3p/4pp2/2qp3P/6n1/P1PB2B1/2PQ1PP1/R3R1K1 w - - 0 19"]

1.?

19.Kh1?! Rdg8 20.f3 seems like a tempting idea. The thrust 20...Ne3 counting on 21.Bf2? d4! (threatening to take on h5 with check) is refuted by the modest move 21.Bh2!, establishing White's advantage: after the knight retreat the queen jumps out to f4. Black is right to give up the pawn: 20...Ne5, preserving a defensible position, but the advantage remains with White here too.

But the tactical retort 20...d4! has been found, suggested by Ernesto Inarkiev. In the case of 21.fg?! Rxc4 22.cd Qxh5+ 23.Bh2 Rh4! (23...Bc6 24.Be4! is weaker) 24.g4 Rxc4 25.Be4 Rxe4 the advantage transfers to Black, and 21.cd Qxh5+ 22.Kg1 Ne3 leads to an unclear position.

White gets a noticeably better endgame in the variation 19.c4!? dc 20.Qf4 e5 21.Qxc4 Qxc4 22.Bxc4, but after 22...Nh6! 23.Bh4 Rhf8 24.f3 Nf5 25.Bf2 Kb8+/- Black's position remains defensible.

It seems that the immediate transfer of the queen to b4 that Robert Hübner undertook promises White more.

19.Qd2-f4! e6-e5 20.Qf4-b4!+/-

After exchanging queens Black has a difficult endgame, and in the case of 20...Qc7!? 21.Rab1 the queen on b4 sharply increases White's attacking possibilities.

20...Qxb4?

20...b6!? is considerably more stubborn, on which White should probably choose 21.Bh4 Rdf8 22.c4! d4 23.c3 dc 24.Qxc5+ bc 25.Rac1+/-.

21.ab a6 22.Ra5! Be6

Here good advice is already hard to come by: if 22...Bc6, then 23.Bf5+ Bd7 24.Rc5+ Kb8 25.Bxd7 Rxd7 26.f3 Nh6 27.Rxe5!

23.Bh4 Rdf8 24.f3 Nh6 25.b5 Rhg8 (25...ab 26.Bxf6!) **26.ba ba 27.Rxa6 1-0**

A Non-Standard Exchange (Doubling Pawns)

Concern about our pawn structure isn't the only positional problem we have to solve in the process of the battle, of course. On the contrary – in order to achieve more important goals we sometimes have to violate the "Philidor" principle of compactness of the pawn chain. Still, these kinds of situations don't arise very often, and so exchanges associated with damaging our own pawns usually produce a strong aesthetic impression because of their oddness.

Nikolic – Mirumian

Olympiad, Yerevan, 1996

1.Nf3 Nf6 2.c4 g6 3.b3 Bg7 4.Bb2 0-0 5.g3 c5 6.Bg2 Nc6 7.0-0 d6 8.d4 cd 9. Nxd4 Bd7 10.e3 Rc8 11.Nc3 a6 12.Rc1 Nxd4 13.Qxd4 Bc6 14.Qd3 (14. Nd5) 14...Nd7 15.Rfd1 Qa5 16.Qe2 Rfe8 17.Bh3 Ne5 18.e4 Bd7 19.Bxd7 Nxd7 20.a3?!



[FEN "2r1r1k1/1p1nppbp/p2p2p1/q7/2P1P3/PPN3P1/1B2QP1P/2RR2K1 b -- 0 20"]

1...?

20...Qa5-h5!!

White intended 21.b4 (with a subsequent 22.c5) or 21.Nd5. By exchanging queens Black prevents his plans and in his turn creates the dangerous threat of attacking the enemy pawns with the move Nc5.

21.Qe2xh5

On 21.f3 there follows 21...Nc5 (21...b5 22.cb ab 23.Rd5 is worse) 22.Rd5 Qh6=/+.

21...g6xh5

Now it isn't easy to choose a suitable means of parrying 22...Nc5. He should probably play 22.Rc2! Nc5 23.b4 Ne6 (23...Bxc3 24.bc! Bxb2 25.cd! ed 26. Rxb2=) 24.Na4 b5 25.Bxg7 Kxg7 26.Nb2 Ng5 (26...Rc6!?) 27.Re2! (27. Rd5?! Nxe4 28.Rxh5 e5! 29.f3 Kg6! 30.Rh4 Ng5-/+) 27...bc 28.f4 c3 (28... Ne6 29.Rc2) 29.fg cb 30.Rxb2, and the defects in White's pawn structure are probably compensated for by the opportunities for counterplay on the queenside (Rd1-d5-a5).

22.Ba1?! Nc5 23.Rb1 (23.b4?? Nb3 24.Rc2 Nxa1 25.Rxa1 Rxc4-+) **23... Bxc3 24.Bxc3 Nxe4-/+** **25.Ba1 Rc6 26.Rd4 f5 27.Rbd1 Kf7 28.f3 Nc5 29. Rb1 Rec8 30.Kg2 Rb6! 31.b4 Ne6 32.Rd5 Rxc4 33.Rxf5+ Kg6 34.Rd5 Rc2 + 35.Kh1 Ng5-/+** **36.Rd3 Rbc6 37.Bd4 Re2 38.h4 Nf7 39.Kg1 Rcc2 40.Kf1 Nh6! 41.Re1 Nf5 42.Rxe2 Nxc3+ 43.Ke1 Rxe2+ 44.Kd1 Rh2 45.Rc3 Rxh4 46.Bf2 Rh1+ 47.Kd2 Nf5 0-1**

Kholmov – Suetin

Soviet Championship, Leningrad, 1963

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 Nc6 3.d4 cd 4.Nxd4 e6 5.Nc3 Qc7 6.Be2 a6 7.a3 b5 8.Nxc6 dc (8...Qxc6!?) 9.0-0 e5 10.Qd3! (10.Bg4 Nf6=) 10...Ne7! (10...Nf6 11.Qg3) 11. a4 b4 12.Nb1 Ng6 13.Qb3 Bc5 14.Bc4 0-0 15.Be3 Qe7 16.Nd2 a5 17.Rad1 Nf4 18.Bxc5 Qxc5



[FEN "r1b2rk1/5ppp/2p5/p1q1p3/PpB1Pn2/1Q6/1PPN1PPP/3R1RK1 w - - 0 19"]

1.?

It isn't easy for White to deploy his forces. Bad, for example, is 19.g3? Nh3+ 20.Kg2 Ng5, threatening 21...Bh3+.

You have to exchange the black queen or chase it off the strong c5-square.

19.Qb3-e3!

If 19...Qxe3 20.fe Ne6 (with 20...Ng6 21.Nb3 or 21.Nf3 the black knight is out of play), then 21.Nf3 Ba6 22.Bxa6 Rxa6 23.Nxe5 Nc5 24.Nd7!+/-.

19...Ne6 20.Bxe6 Qxe3 21.Bxf7+ Rxf7 22.fe+/- is no better (Black has a weak pawn on e5).

And with a queen retreat, by playing 20.Nb3 White starts a struggle for the c5-square and the d-file.

19...Qe7 20.Nb3 Be6 21.Bxe6 Nxe6 22.Rd2 c5

Mass exchanges didn't make Black's position any easier: 22...Rfd8 23.Rfd1 Rxd2 24.Rxd2 Rd8 25.Rxd8+ Qxd8 26.Qd3!+/-.

23.Rd5 c4 (23...Nd4 24.Rxc5 Nxb3 25.cb+/-) **24.Nc5 Rfc8 25.Nxe6 Qxe6 26.Rfd1 Qc6** (26...Qe7 27.Qb6!) **27.Rb5 c3?! 28.b3 Rd8 29.Rbd5! Rxd5** (29...Qc7? 30.Qa7!) **30.Rxd5**

Control of the only open line secured White a significant advantage, which Ratmir Kholmov gradually made the best of.

Smyslov – Tal

Candidates tournament, Yugoslavia, 1959

1.e4 c5 2.Nf3 d6 3.d4 cd 4.Nxd4 Nf6 5.Nc3 a6 6.Be2 e5 7.Nb3 Be7 8.0-0 0-0 9.Be3 Qc7?! (according to theory 9...Be6 is more precise) 10.a4 Be6 (10...b6) 11.a5 Qc6

In the famous game Geller – Fischer (candidates tournament, Curacao, 1962) there was played 11...Nbd7 12.Nd5 Nxd5 13.ed Bf5 14.c4 Bg6?! (as Edmar Mednis pointed out, 14...Rac8 15.Rc1 Qd8 16.Qd2 h6+/- is better, with the idea of Bg5) 15.Rc1 Nc5? (15...f5?! 16.f4!; 15...Rac8) 16.Nxc5 dc 17.b4!+/-

12.Bf3

Of course, not 12.f3? d5. Isaac Boleslavsky recommended 12.Qd3!? Rd8 13.Rfd1 Nbd7 14.Nd5.

12...Nbd7 13.Nd5! Bxd5 14.ed Qb5

In the game Stein – Boleslavsky (Soviet Team Championship, Grozny, 1969) Black tried 14...Qc4 15.Nd2 Qb5 (15...Qh4 16.g3 Qh3 17.Ra4!?), but after 16.Qb1! with the idea of 17.c4 he ran into serious difficulties.



[FEN "r4rk1/1p1nbppp/p2p1n2/Pq1Pp3/8/1N2BB2/1PP2PPP/R2Q1RK1 w - - 0 15"]

1.?

15.Qd1-d3!!

"The correct treatment of the position. An exchange of queens on d3 is good for White, as he gets favorable possibilities for rook operations on the c-file. Having the advantage of the bishop-pair and strong pressure on the queenside, he can count on success in the endgame" (Smyslov).

15...Rfc8 16.Rfc1 Qxd3?! After the exchange White's advantage is in no doubt. Preferable is 16...Qb4 17.Bd2!? (17.c4? e4! 18.Bxe4 Ne5 is bad; 17.Nd2 Nc5 leads to equality, although 17.Be2!? deserves attention) 17...Qh4+/=.

17.cd g6

As Vasily Smyslov pointed out, 17...Nc5? 18.Nxc5 dc 19.d6! lost. According to Artur Yusupov it was worth thinking about 17...Kf8!? 18.Rc3 Ke8 19.Rac1 Kd8.

18.Rc3 Rxc3 19.bc Rc8 20.c4 e4! (otherwise by playing 21.Rb1 White would put pressure on b7) 21.de Rxc4 22.Nd2 Rc2 23.Bd1 Rc3 24.Kf1 Nc5 25.Bd4 Rd3 26.Bxc5 dc 27.Ke2 Rxd2+ (27...Rd4 28.f3 is also joyless) 28.Kxd2 Nxe4+ 29.Kc2 Nd6 (29...Nxf2? 30.Bf3 f5 31.Rb1 is very bad) 30.Be2 Bf6 31.Rb1 Kf8 (31...Bd8? 32.Bxa6! ba 33.Rb8) 32.Kb3 Ke7 (it's better to play 32...Bd4 33.f4 h5 and put the king on f6) 33.Bd3 Kd7 34.f4!, and White gradually made the best of being the exchange up.

In conclusion I suggest that you take a small test: six exercises that are associated with the problem of exchanging queens one way or another. I hope that after studying this article the problems will seem easy to you.

Exercises

1.



[FEN "2r4r/qp1kbppp/4p3/p2pPn2/P2P4/BP1Q1NP1/5PIP/R4K1R b - - 0 19"]

1...?

2.



[FEN "k2rr3/pp1bn1p1/1q1Bp2p/1B1pP3/P1p5/2P1QP2/2P2P1P/R3R1K1 b - - 0 21"]

1...?

3.



[FEN "1n1r1rk1/1pq1bPPP/3p1n2/pB1Pp3/8/PN2BP2/1PP1Q1PP/1K1R3R w - - 0 19"]

1.?

4.



[FEN "2r3k1/5pp1/1p2pn1p/8/2NP1q2/1R2Q2P/1P3PP1/6K1 b - - 0 33"]

1...?

5.



[FEN "1rr3k1/1pqn1pp1/p3p1p1/3pP3/P2Q4/2P1R2P/1P1N1PP1/R5K1 b - - 0 22"]

1...?

6.



[FEN "r3r3/3nqpk1/p2n2p1/P3p3/1Pp1P3/5NNP/B4PP1/2QR2K1 w - - 0 32"]

1.?

Solutions

1. **Paulsen – Tarrasch**, Nuremberg, 1888

19...Qa6! 20.Qxa6 (20.Ke2?? Rc2+) 20...ba

The bad b2-bishop and the weakness of the b3- and d4-pawns determine Black's big advantage.

21.Kg2 (21.Ne1 Rb8 22.Bc3 Rxb3 23.Bxa5 Nxd4-+) 21...Rc2 22.Bc1 Rb8 23.Rb1 Rc3 24.Bd2 Rxb3 25.Rxb3 Rxb3 26.Bxa5 Rb2! 27.Bd2 Bb4!, and Black won.

2. **Stefansson – Dolmatov**, New York, 1989

An exchange of queens is favorable for White both on e3 (fixing his pawn configuration on the kingside) and on b6 (severely weakening Black's queenside).

The interesting try 21...d4?! 22.Qxd4 Qxd4 23.cd Nf5 is justified with 24.Bc7 Nxd4 25.Red1 Bxb5 unclear, but White retains slightly better chances after 24.c3 Nxd6 25.ed Bxb5 26.ab Rxd6 27.Ra4.

The strongest move is 21...Qa5! By preserving a pawn structure that's favorable for him, Black gets an advantage. For example, 22.Bb4 (22.Qc5!? Rc8 23.Qb4=/+ is preferable) 22...Qc7 23.Bd6 Qc8-/+ (with a subsequent 24...Nf5).

In the game there was 21...Qxe3?! 22.fe Bc6 (22...Bxb5 23.ab b6?! 24.Bc7 or 23...Nc8 24.Bc7!? Rd7 25.b6) 23.Bxc6 Nxc6 24.Kf2 Ne7 25.e4! de 26.fe+/=.

3. **Sax – Quinteros**, Interzonal tournament, Moscow, 1982

19.Qc4!+/- In essence the black queen is the only defender of the queenside, and it's favorable to exchange it off.

19...Qxc4 20.Bxc4 Rc8 21.Bb5 (another path is 21.Nxa5! Bd8 22.Nxb7 Rxc4 23.Nxd6+/-) **21...Bd8 22.g4 Nfd7 23.Nd2 Bb6 24.Bg5** (threatening 25.Be7 and 25.Nc4)

The exchange of bishops 24.Bxb6?! Nxb6 25.Ne4 Rfd8 (with the idea of Rc7, Nc8) would have allowed Black to reinforce. But this other version of the exchange 24.Rhe1!? Bxe3 (24...Rfd8 25.Nc4+-) 25.Rxe3 Nb6 26.Ne4 Rfd8 27.Rb3! Rc7 28.Bc6!+/- (28.Ba6) was fairly strong.

24...Bd8 (Black also has a difficult position with 24...f6 25.Bh4, for example, 25...Rc5 26.c4 and 27.Ne4; 25...g5 26.Be1 and 27.Nc4; 25...Bc7 26.Nc4, intending 27.Be1 b6 28.b4+/-) **25.Bxd8 Rfxd8 26.Nc4** (two pawns are attacked at the same time) **26...Rc7 27.Nxd6 Nf6 28.Nf5 Rc5 29.c4**, and White won.

4. Knaak – Inkef, GDR – Bulgaria match, 1982

With any version of a queen exchange (33...Qxe3; 33...Nd5; 33...e5; 33...g5!?) White can count on equalizing. The strongest plan is an attack on the king.

33...Qf5! (threatening 34...Qb1+)

34.Nd6 (34.Nd2 Rc1+ 35.Kh2 Nd5 or 35...Qc2) **34...Qb1+ 35.Kh2 Rc1 36.Qd3 Rh1+ 37.Kg3 Qe1 38.Rc3** (38.Qe3 Qc7 39.Qe5 Qxd6!) **38...Qg5+ 39.Kf3 Qh5+** (39...Qd5+!? 40.Ke2 g6 with a double attack on d6 and g2) **40.Kg3 Qg5+ 41.Kf3 Qh5+ 42.Kg3 g5! 43.Qe3** (43.Rc8+ Kg7 44.Ne8+ Nxe8 45.Rxe8 Qh4+ 46.Kf3 Re1-+) **43...g4! 44.Rc8+ Kh7** (44...Kg7 is inaccurate because of 45.Qe5! Rxh3+ 46.Kf4) **45.Ne8 Nxe8** (but not 45...Rxh3+? 46.gh Qxh3+ 47.Kf4 Nd5+ 48.Ke5 Nxe3?? 49.Nf6+ with mate) **46.Rxe8 gh 47.Qe4 + Kg7 48.gh Qxh3+ 49.Kf4 Qh4+ 0-1**

5. Illescas – Anand, Linares, 1994

In future White could have started an attack on the kingside by means of Nf3, then either Qh4 and Ng5, or Qg4 and h4-h5. It's useful to eliminate the eventual danger to the king immediately by forcing an exchange of queens.

22...Qb6!/=+ It's impossible to avoid the exchange – the b2-pawn is under attack.

23.Qxb6 Nxb6 24.h4 (otherwise at some point he'd have to deal with g6-g5, g7-g6, Kg7, Rh8-h4) **24...Kf8 25.g3 Ke7 26.b3?!**

The start of a dubious plan. The Indian grandmaster's superior class is beginning to make itself felt – his opponent isn't coping well with the ending that has arisen.

26...Rc7 27.a5 Nd7 28.c4 Rbc8 29.Kg2 (after 29.cd Rc1+ 30.Rxc1 Rxc1+ 31.Kg2 ed the a5- and e5-pawns are vulnerable) **29...Nb8 30.Ra4?!** (it's easy to prevent the threat of 31.cd ed 32.e6 and 33.Rg4) **30...Rd8 31.f4 Nc6 32.Rd3 Rcd7 33.c5 f6 34.Nf3 d4 35.ef+ gf 36.Nd2 e5 37.Ne4 Rd5** (Black has prepared f6-f5) **38.fe Rxe5 39.Nd6 Rxc5 40.Nxb7? Rc2+ 0-1**

6. Karpov – Spassky, Moscow, 1973

32.Qd2? Rad8 33.Qxd6? Nf8-+ is wrong.

32.Qg5!!+-

32...f6?! (32...Rac8 33.Rxd6 Qxg5 34.Nxg5 Nf6 35.Ne2 c3 36.Bxf7 isn't much better) **33.Qg4** (threatening 34.Rxd6) **33...Kh7 34.Nh4 0-1**

Black resigned on account of 34...Nf8 35.Nxg6!; 34...Rg8 35.Bxc4 (or 35.

Rxd6 Qxd6 36.Nhf5 immediately) 35...Rg7 36.Rxd6 Qxd6 37.Nhf5.

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