

TOURNEY STRATEGEMS – 2017

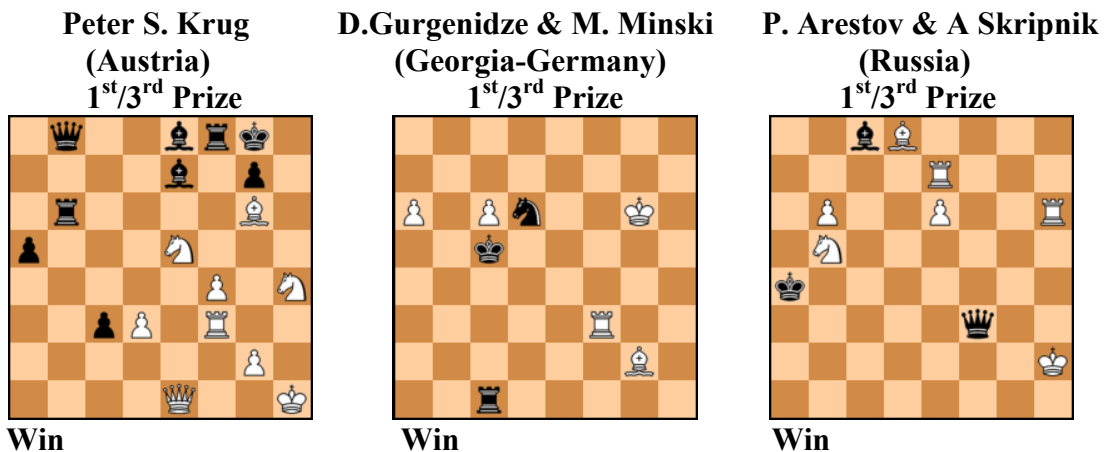
PROVISIONAL AWARD

Special thanks to the editors of the magazine *StrateGems* by appointing me as a judge of such an important event, and in particular to, Franjo Vrabec responsible of the section for studies, also to all participants of this tournament.

The Director sent me 21 studies for the evaluation, with diagrams and solutions in PDF file, corresponding to 22 composers of 16 countries

The technical aspects and possible anticipations have been verified. In this control, an anticipation was found in the study E0331 (h4-h1)

So, my ranking is :



E0338 Peter S. Krug (Austria)

1.Rh3! Bd7! [1...Rxf4 2.Bh7+ Kf8 3.Nhg6 Bxg6 4.Nxg6+ Kf7 5.Dxe7+ mate, or 1...Qc8 2.Nf5 Rxf5 (2...Qxf5 3.Bxf5 Rxf5 4.Qe4 Rh5 5.Rxh5 Bxh5 6.Qc4 +-) 3.Bh7+ Kf8 4.Bxf5 Qxf5 5.Rh8+ mate] **2.Bh7+!** (2.f5? Bg5! =) **2...Kxh7 3.Qe4+!** (3.Nf5+? Rh6 4.Nxh6 Bxh3 =) **3...Kg8 4.Qd5/c4+ Kh7** (4...Be6 5.Nhg6 +-) **5.Qe6!** (5.Nxd7? Rb1+! 6.Kh2 Qxf4+ 7.g3 Qh6! 8.Qe4+ Kg8 9.Nxf8 Bxf8 10.Qc4+ Kh7 =) **5...Rb1+(5...Rxf4 6.Nhf3+ Bh4 7.Ng5+ Kh8 8.Ng6+ mate) 6.Kh2 Rh1+** (6...Bxe6 7.Nf5+ Kg8 8.Nxe7+ mate) **7.Kxh1 Qb1+ 8.Kh2 Qg1+ 9.Kxg1 Bc5+ 10.d4!** (10.Kh2? Bxe6 =) **10...Bxe6 11.f5!** (11.Nf5+? Kg8 12.dxc5 Rxf5 13.Rxc3 Rxf4 =) **11...Bxd4+ 12.Kh1 Bxe5** (12...g5 13.Nhf3+ Kg8 14.Nxd4 c2 15.Rc3 Bxf5 16.Kh2 +-, or 12...g6 13.Nhf3+ Kg7 14.Nxd4 Bxf5 15.Rxc3 +-) **13.Ng6+ Kg8 14.Rh8+ Kf7 15.Rxf8+ mate**

The key, a movement from a competition's game. Then a variety of lines in the attack on the king, culminating in mate and in winning positions. Without a doubt a study of the pleasure for the fans of the resolution and also didactic for the exercise of the combinative game.

E0328 David Gurgenidze & Martin Minski (Georgia-Germany)

1.c7! (1.a7? Ra1 2.c7 Rxa7 =, or 1.Ra3? (Rg1! 2.Ra2 Nb5 3.Kf6 Kb6 =) **1...Rc2** [1...Rg1 2.Rf2 Kb6 3.Kh6!! (3.Kh5? Ra1! 4.Rc2 Ra5+! 5.Kg4 Kxa6 6.Rc6+ Kb7! =) 3...Ra1 (3...Kxa6 4.Rf6! Ka7! 5.Rxd6 Rh1+! 6.Kg5 +-, or 4...Bxg2 5.c8Q+ +-, or 2...Rc1 4.Rf6! Kxc7 5.a7 +-, or 3...Nc8 4.Bb7 +-, or 3...Kxc7 4.a7 +-) 4.Rc2! Kxa6 (4...Rxa6 5.Rc6+ Ka7 6.Rxd6! Rxd6+ 7.Kh5 +-, or 4...Nc8 5.Bb7 +-) 5.Rc6+ Ka7! 6.Rxd6 Rh1+! 7.Kg5 Rh5+ 8.Kf4 Rf5+ 9.Ke3 Rf3+ (9...Re5+ 10.Be4 +-) 10.Kxf3 +-] **2.Bh1!!** (2.Bh3? Kb6! 3.Rf6 Kxc7 =, or 2.Bf1? Kb6! 3.Rf6 Kxc7 =, or 2.a7? Rxc2+ =) **2...Rc1 3.a7 Ra1 4.Rf5+!** [4.a8Q? Rxa8 5.Rc3+ Kd4 =) or 4.Rc3+? Kd4/d4 =, or 4.c8Q+? Nxc8 5.Rf5+ Kd4! =, or 4.Bg2? Rxa7 =] **4...Kb6 5.c8Q+!** (5.a8Q? Rxa8 6.c8Q Rxc8! =) **5...Nxc8 6.a8N+!** (6.a8Q? Ne7+! 7.Kf7 Rxa8 8.Rf6+ Nc6! =) **6...Rxa8** (6...Ka7 7.Rf7+ Kb8 8.Rb7+! Kxa8 9.Rb1+-, or 6...Ka6 7.Nc7 Kb6 8.Nd5 +-) **7.Rf6+ Ka7 8.Rf7+ Kb8 9.Rb7+ mate**

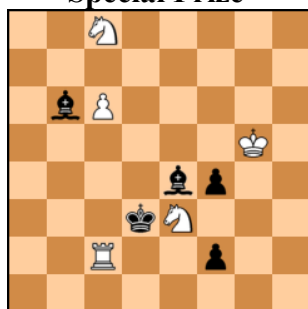
With reduced material, it's surprising the variety of univocal sequences. With the timely coronation of a minor piece, and the culmination in mate on the main line, a very pleasant study is completed.

E0322 Pavel Arestov & Anatoly Skripnik (Russia)

1.Nc3+! [1.Ra7+? Kb4! 2.Rh4+ Kxb5 3.Ra5+ Kc6 4.Rc4+ Kd6 =] **1...Qxc3** (1...Kb3 2.Rf7 +-.) **2.Ra7+** (2.Rh4+? Kb5 3.Rh5+ Kb4 4.Rh4+ Kb5 5.Rh5+ Kb4 6.b7 Qd2+ =) **2...Ba6!** (2...Kb4 3.Rh4+ Kb5 4.Rh5+ Kb4 5.Be7+ +-) **3.Rxa6+** (3.Rh4+? Kb3 4.Rh3 Bd3 5.Rf7 Qd2+ 6.Kg3 Qe1+ 7.Kg2 Kc4 8.Rf4+ Be4+ 9.Rhf3 Kd5=, or 3.Rf6? Qd2+ 4.Kg3 Qxd8 =) **3...Kb5 4.Ra5+!** (4.Ra2? Qe5+ 5.Kg2 Qe4+ 6.Kf2 Qf4+ =, or 4.e7? Qe5+ 5.Kh3 Kxa6 =) **4...Kxa5** (4...Qxa5 5.Rh5+ +-) **5.b7+ Ka6!** (5...Ka4 6.Rh4+! Ka3 7.Rh3 +-) **6.e7+!** (6.b8Q? Qh3+! 7.Kxh3 stalemate) **6...Kxb7 7.Rb6+!** (7.e8Q? Qd2+! 8.Kg3 Qxh6 =) **7...Kc8!** (7...Ka7 8.e8Q +-) **8.e8R!** (8.e8Q? Qg3+! 9.Kxg3 stalemate) **8...Qc2+ 9.Kg3!** (9.Kh3? Qf5+ =) **9...Kd7 10.Rbe6! Qb3+** (10...Qc3+ 11.Kg4 Qc4+ 12.Re4! +-) **11.Re3!** +-

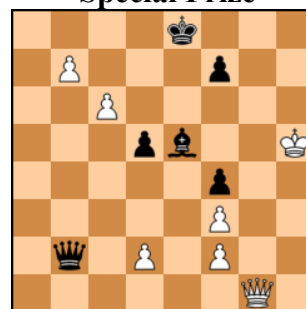
Elimination of the threat of stalemate with a rook's promotion, tests, sacrifices and precise movements to avoid in the end, the exchange of pieces, complete a study of significant artistic level..

**L. Kekely & M. Hlinka
(Slovakia)
Special Prize**



Win

**Andrzej Jasik
(Poland)
Special Prize**



Win

E0323 Ľuboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)

1.Rc3+! [1.Rxf2? fxe3 2.Ra2 e2 3.Ra3+ Kd2 4.Ra2+ Bc2 5.Ra1 Bd8+ 6.Kf4 Bc7+ 7.Kg5 Bd1 8.Ra2+ Ke3 9.Rxe2+ Bxe2!-+] **1...Kxc3 2.Nd1+** with: **a) 2...Kd3 3.Nxf2+ Bxf2 4.c7 Bb7 5.Nd6 Bb6 6.Nxb7 Bxc7 7.Nc5+** (7.Kg4? Ke3 -+) **7...Ke3 8.Kf5! f3 9.Ne4 Bd8** (9...Ba5 10.Nf6 f2 11.Ng4+ =) **10.Nc3** (10.Ke5? Bb6! 11.Kf5Bd4 +-) **10...f2 11.Nd1+ Ke2 12.Nxf2 = b) 2...Kd4 3.Nxf2 Bd8+ 4.Kg4!** (4.Kxf4? Bxc6 zz 5.Ng4 Bc7+ 6.Kg5 Bd7 7.Na7 Kc5 -+) **4...Bxc6** (4...Bd5 5.Na7 Bc4 6.Kxf4 =, or 4...Bg2 5.Nd6 Bxc6 6.Nf5+ Ke5 7.Nd3+ =) **5.Kxf4 Bb7** (5...Bc7+ 6.Kg5=, or 5...Kd5 6.Ne4=, or 5...Bd7 6.Nd6 Bc7 7.Nfe4 =) **6.Na7** (6.Nd6? Bc7 -+) **6...Bc7+** (6...Kc5 7.Ne4+ Kb6 8.Nb5! Kxb5 9.Nd6+ =) **7.Kf5** (7.Kg4/Kg5? Kc5 -+) **7...Kc5 8.Ne4+ Kb4** (8...Kb6 9.Nc3 Kxa7 10.Nb5+ =) **9.Nc3! Kxc3 10.Nb5+ Kc4 11.Nxc7 =**

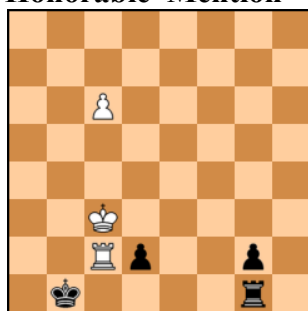
With appropriate trials, in two lines of univocal sequences, the white avoids the domination of the bishops to one of the knights.

E0337 Andrzej Jasik (Poland)

1.d4! (1.Qg4? Qb1 =) with: **A) 1...Qxd4 2.Qg7!!** (2.b8Q+? Bxb8 3.Qg8+ Ke7 4.Qxb8 Qf6 =) **2...Bxg7** (2...Ke7 3.b8Q Bxb8 4.Qxd4 +-, or 2...Qb2 3.c7! Qxb7 4.Qg8+ Kd7 5.Qd8+ Kc6 6.c8Q+ +-) **3.b8Q+ Ke7 4.Qc7+** (4.Qb7+? Kf6 =) +- **B) 1...Bc7! 2.Qg4! Qb6! 3.Qd7+ Kf8 4.Kh6!** (zz) **4...Bb8 5.Qc8+ Ke7 6.Qxb8 Qxc6+ 7.Kg5!** (7.Kh5? Qg6+ +-) **7...Qf6+ 8.Kg4 Qg6+ 9.Kf4 +-**

Study with two lines of short sequences, rich content and surprising movements.

**Yochanan Afek
(Israel)
Honorable Mention**



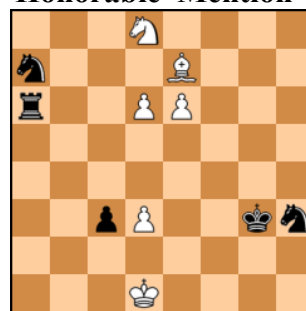
Draw

**Richard Becker
(USA)
Honorable Mention**



Win

**S. S. Nielsen & M. Minski
(Denmark-Germany)
Honorable Mention**



Draw

E0332 Yochanan Afek (Israel)

1.Rb2+! [1.Rxd2? Rc1+ 2.Kb3 Rc3+! 3.Kxc3 g1Q 4.Rb2+ Ka1! (4...Kc1 5.Rb4 / Rb5 =) 5.Rb4 Qc1+ -+] **1...Ka1 2.Rxd2 Rc1+ 3.Kb3** with 2 Echo main lines: 1) Echo main line **3...Rc3+! 4.Kxc3 g1Q 5.Rd4! Qc1+ 6.Kb3! Qb2+ 7.Kc4 Qb6 8.Kd5 Qb5+ 9.Kd6** Positional draw 2) **3...Rb1+!** (3...g1Q is met by 4.Ra2+ Kb1 5.Rb2+ Ka1 6.Ra2+ Perpetual check) **4.Ka3! Rb3+!** (4...g1Q?? 5. Ra2 #) **5.Kxb3 g1Q 6.Ra2+ Kb1 7.Rb2+ Kc1 8.Rc2+ Kd1 9.Rc4! Positional draw**

Miniature, which develops with a notable trial, in two univocal lines. It's notable from the technical point of view how white obtains equality against the queen.

E0335 Richard Becker (USA)

1.Bf2! [Thematic try 1.Be3? Rxd7 2.Bf4+ Kc8 3.Bf3 (3.Be4(g2) Rd8+ 4.Ke7 Rd7+ 5.Kf8 Rd8+ 6.Kg7 Rd7+ 7.Kh6 Bc4 8.Bf5(Bh3) Bxa6 9.Nf7 Be2! 10.Bg3 Bd1 => 3...Bc4(Bd5) 4.Bg4 Be6!5.a7 Rd8+6.Ke7 Kb7!7.Kxe6 (7.Kxd8 Bxg4 8.Be3Bh5! => 7...Rxx8 8.Be3 Re8+ =)] **1...Rxd7 2.Bg3+** (2.a7? Rd8+ 3.Ke7 Rxx8 =>) **2...Kc8 3.Bf3! Rd8+** (3...Bc4(Bd5) 4.Bg4 Be6 5.a7 Rd8+ 6.Ke7 Kb7 7.Kxe6! Rxx8 8.Bf2 Rf8 9.Bc5 +-) **4.Ke7 Rd7+ 5.Kf8!** [Thematic try 5.Kf6? Bc4 6.Bg4 Bxa6 7.Nf7 Bf1! 8.Kg5 (8.Kg7 Bb5! 9.Kf8 Kb7 =, or 8.Kg6 Bd3+ 9.Kh5 Bc2 =) 8...Bb5! 9.Nd6+ Kd8 10.Nxb5 Rd5+ =] **5...Rd8+ 6.Kg7 Rd7+** (6...Rg8+ 7.Kh7 Rxx3 8.a7 +-) **7.Kh6 Bc4 8.Bg4 Bxa6 9.Nf7 Bf1 10.Kh5 Ba6 11.Kh4 Bf1 12.Bf4 Ba6 13.Kg3 Bf1 14.Kf2 Ba6 15.Bg3 Bd3 16.Bxd7+ Kxd7 17.Ne5 +-**

Notable "travel" of the white king, and in particular the thematic trials. If the black avoids the pin of his rook, there is more than one alternative to win. A study with difficulties to solve in any competition with limited time.

E0324 Steffen S. Nielsen & Martin Minski (Denmark-Germany)

1.Bh4+! (1.d7/Bf6? Ra2! -+, or 1.Kc2? Nb5! -+) **1...Kxx4 2.e7 Nf2+** [2...Ra1+ 3.Kc2 Ra2+ 4.Kc1! Re2 5.Ne6! Nf2 6.Nf4! (6.e8Q? Nxd3+ 7.Kd1 Rd2 + mate) 6...Nxd3+ 7.Nxd3 Nc6 8.Nf4 Re1+ 9.Kc2 Kg5 10.Nd5 Nd4+ 11.Kxc3 Nb5+ 12.Kd2 =] **3.Kc2 Ra2+ 4.Kxc3 Re2 5.Ne6! Nb5+** (5...Rxe6 6.d7 =) **6.Kb3! Nxd6 7.e8Q! Nxe8 8.Nd4 8...Re1/Re5/Rd2 (8...Re3/Re7 9.Nf5+) 9.Nf3=**

With a nice key and an interesting complementary line, a domination is shown, not very common to achieve equality.



E0326 Franjo Vracec (Sweden)

1.c7! Rh1+ 2.Kg3! [2.Kxg2? Rh8 3.cxb8Q+ Rxb8 4.Bxb8 Kxb8 5.Kh2 Kb7 6.Kg2 Kb6 7.Kf2 Kc7 8.Ke2 Kd6 9.Kd2 Ke6 10.Kc3 Kf5 11.Kxb3 Kg4 12.Kc2 (12.Kc3 Kxg5 13.Kc4 Kf5 14.Kd5 g5 15.b4 g4 16.b5 g3 17.b6 g2 18.b7 g1Q 19.b8Q Qd1+ 20.Kc5 Qc1+ 21.Kd6 Qa3+ 22.Kd7 Qxe3-+)] 12...Kxg5-+] **2...Rh3+ 3.Kf2! Rf3+ 4.Kg1! Rf1+ 5.Kh2! Rh1+ 6.Kg3! Rh8 7.cxb8Q+ Rxb8 8.Bxb8 Kxb8 9.Kxg2 Kc7 10.Kh1!!** [10.Kf2? Kd7!-+] **10...Kc6** [10...Kd7 11.Kh2 Kc6 12.Kg1=] **11.Kg1 Kd5 12.Kf2 Kc4** [12...Ke6 13.Kg3 Kf5 14.Kh4=] **13.Ke2=**

An appropriate and ingenious introduction to arrive to a pawns ending, which can be seen in configurations by the Hungarian composer K.Ebersz, which contain precise technical movements of the white king.

E0329 Luboš Kekely & Michal Hlinka (Slovakia)

1.Rg5 (1.exd6? fxg6 2.dxe7 Bd7 3.gxh4 Be8 4.Kg7 Kc6 5.Kf8 Kd7 -+) **1...f6!** (1...h3 2.exd6 exd6 3.Kg7 Kc6 4.Kxf7 d5 5.Rg8 =) **2.exf6** (2.Rg7/Rg8? fxe5 3.gxh4 e4 -+, or 2. Rh5? Bxe5 -+) **2...exf6 3.Rg7+** (3.Rb5+? Kc6 -+) **3...Kc6 4.gxh4 Bf5+ 5.Kh6!** (5.Kg8? Be6+ 6.Kh7 f5 7.Rg6 Kd5 8.Rg1 f4 -+, or 5.Kh8? Bd3! 6.h5 f5 7.Rg2 Kd5 -+) **5...Bf8** (5...Bf4+ 6.Kh5 =) **6.h5!** (Thematic try 6.Kh5? Kd6! (6... Bxg7? stalemate) 7.Rb7 Be7! 8.Kh6 Be4 9.Ra7 Bf8+! 10. Kh5 Ke6! -+) **6...Kd5** stalemate.

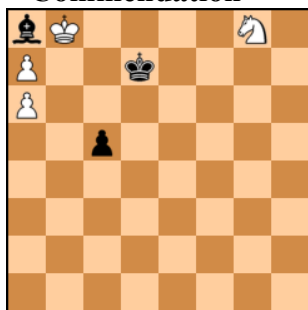
Entertaining game with trial thematic, culminating in stalemate.

E0321 Mihail Neghina (Romania)

1.Ncxe7+! [1.b4? Rxc6 2.Rxc6 Qd7-+; 1.Nfd4? e5 2.Nxe5 Rxc1+ 3.Kxc1 Qc8+--+] **1...Kf8** [1...Rxe7 2.Rc8+ Kf7 3.Nd6+] **2.Ng6+** [2.Rxc7 Qxc7 3.Ng6+ Ke8-+] **2...hgx6** [2...Kg8 3.Nge7+=; 2...Ke8 3.Nd6+] **3.Rxc7** [3.Nd4? Rxc1+ 4.Kxc1 Qf7-+] **3...Qxc7 4.Nd4 Qe5 5.e3 b5 6.a3 Kf7 7.Kd2 Qb8 8.Kd1 a5 9.Kd2 a4 10.b4=** Inspired by V Chekover 1947 study

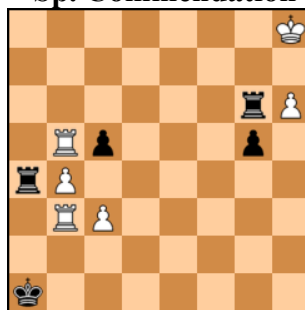
Fortress of the White, which achieves equality with remarkable sacrifice

**Marcel Dore
(France)
Commendation**



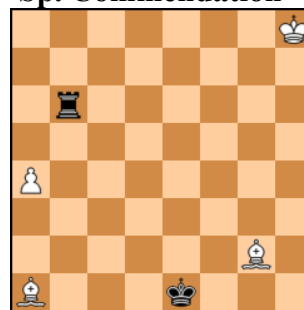
Win

**Vladimir Samilo
(Ukraine)
Sp. Commendation**



Win

**D. Keith & P. Arestov
(France -Russia)
Sp. Commendation**



Win

E0333 Marcel Doré (France)

1.Nf6+! [Thematic try: 1.Ne7? c4! 2.Nc8 c3! (2...Bh1? 3.Nb6+ Kd8 4.Nxc4 +-) 3.Nb6+ Kd6!! (3...Kd8? 4.Nxa8! +-see main line) 4.Nxa8 c2 5.Nc7 c1Q 6.Nb5+ Kd7 7.a8Q Qc8+ 8.Ka7 Qc5+ positional draw] **1...Kd8 2.Ne8 c4 3.Nc7!** (3.Kxa8? Kc8 4.Nd6+ Kc7 5.Nxc4 Kc8 ! =) **3...c3!** (3...Bh1? 4.Ne6+ ! and White wins easily ; eg: 4...Ke7 5.Nc5 Kd8 6.Nb7+ +-) **4.Nxa8!** (4.Kxa8? Kc7! 5.Nd5+ Kc8 6.Nxc3 Kc7! =) **4...c2 5.Nc7** (switchback) **5...c1Q 6.Ne6+! Kd7 7.a8Q Qc8+ 8.Ka7** +-(Perpetual check is not possible for Blacks with the Knight in e6 ; see thematic try 1. Ne7?)

An interesting miniature with appropriate trials

E0330 Vladimir Samilo (Ukraine)

1.Kh7! (1.bxc5? Rxh6+ 2.Kg7 Rc6 =) **1...Rxh6+ 2.Kxh6 c4! 3.Ra3+!** (3.Ra5? Rxa5 4.bxa5 cxb3 5.a6 b2 6.a7 b1Q 7.a8Q+ Qa2! 8.Qh1+ Kb2! =) **3...Rxa3 4.Ra5 Kb2!** (4...Rxa5 5.bxa5 g4 6.a6 g3 7.a7 g2 8.a8Q +-) **5.Rxa3 Kxa3 6.Kh5!** (6.Kxg5? Kb3 7.b5 Kxc3 8.b6 Kd2! 9.b7 c3 10.b8Q c2 11.Qb2 Kd1! 11.Qb3 Kd2! =) **6...Ka4 7.Kg4!** (7.Kg5? Kb3! 8.b5 Kxc3 9.b6 Kd2! 10.b7 c3 11.b8Q c2 =) **7...Kb3** (7...Kb5 8.Kxg5! +-) **8.b5 Kxc3 9.b6 Kd2 10.b7 c3 11.b8Q** +-

An interesting adaptation of thematic addressed by P. Benko

E0327 Daniel Keith & Pavel Arestov (France –Russia)

1.a5! [1.Bc3+? Ke2! 2.a5 Rd6! 3.Be5 (3.Bb7 Rd8+ 4.Kg7 Rd7+ =) 3... Re6 4.Bc3 (4.Bc7 Re8+ 5.Kg7 Re7+ =, or 4.Bd4? Rh6+ 5.Kg7 Rh4 6.Bb6 Rg4+ =) 4...Rd6! 5.Kg7 Rd3! 6.Be5 (6.Bb4 Rg3+ =) 6...Ra3! 7.Bc7 Rc3 8.Bd6 (8.Bb6 Rg3+ =) 8...Rd3 9.Be5 Ra3 positional draw] **1...Rb5** (1...Rh6+ 2.Kg7 +-, or 1...Rb8+ 2.Kh7 Kf2 3.Bc6 +-) **2.Bc3+!** (2.a6? Rh5+! 3.Kg7 Rg5+ =) **2...Kd1!** (2...Ke2 3.a6 Rh5+ 4.Kg7 Rg5+ 5.Kf7 Rxg2 6.a7 +-, or 2...Kf2 3.Bc6! Rc5 4.Bd4+ +-) **3.Bc6!** (3.a6? Rh5+! 4.Kg7 Rg5+ 5.Kf7 Rxg2 6.a7 Ra2 =) **3...Rc5 4.Ba4+** (4.Bf3+? Kc2 5.Bb4 Rb5 6.Be1 Re5 =) **4...Kc1 5. Bb4 Rc4 6. Ba3+ Kb1 7.Bd7!** (7.Be8? Rc8 =, or 7.Bb5? Rh4+! 8.Kg7 Rh5 =) **7... Rd4** (7...Rc7 8.Bb5Ra7 9.a6 +-) **8.Bf5+** (8.Bc6? Rc4 9.Bb5 Rh4+ 10.Kg7 Rh5 =) **8... Ka2 9.Bc5!** (9.Be7? Ra4 10.Bd8 Kb3 11.Bc8 Re4 12.a6 Re8+ =) **9...Ra4** (9...Rd5 10.Be6 +-) **10.Bb6 Kb3 11.Bd3!** (11.Kg7 Kb4 =) **11...Kc3** (11...Kb4 12.a6 Kc3 13.Bf1 +-) **12.Bb5!** (12.Bf1? Rf4 13.Be2 Re4 14.Bb5 Kb4! =) **12...Rb4** (12...Kb4 13.Bxa4 +-) **13.a6!** (13.Bf1? Rf4 14.Be2 Re4 =) **13...Rxb5 14.a7 Rxb6 15.a8Q** +- [A]

A valuable finding, and/or adaptation of it, from a position containing 6 pieces. Surely, this is the result of research. The study has many univocal lines, giving it merit for a distinction.

Salta , Argentina February 13th 2018

**Mario Guido Garcia
International Judge**