Kariouch Boujema MT<br>Endgame studies<br>Director: Abdelaziz Onkoud (Morocco)<br>Judge: Siegfried Hornecker (Germany)

## Prelude

The tourney was originally intended as a tourney to celebrate the $55^{\text {th }}$ birthday of the name patron. Because of the unfortunate passing of Boujema, it is held as memorial tourney instead.

A biographical overview :
Boujemâ KARIOUCH est né le 2 novembre 1956 à
Meknès , décédé à Khémisset le 3 septembre 2011. Boujemâ KARIOUCH a vécu son enfance et sa jeunesse en France entre Valberg, Juan - Les Pins, Antibes et Nice. Il a obtenu son Baccalauréat Lettres modernes, type français (éducation et étude scolaire en France-Nice). CV complet au lien suivant http://www.maroc-echecs.com/article2153.html


## Award

There were a total of 26 entries of which one was impossible for us to decipher. The remaining 25 entries were judged anonymously. For an overview of the judging criteria, I refer to the tourney „Schach 2006-2007" and to the refinements at the beginning of my studies composing career by having extensively used the databases by Harold van der Heijden, so I hope to intuitively be able to give a good judgment that will honor the deceased. To ensure a balanced view from a composer and solver point of view, the friendly help of Klaus Rubin once more proved invaluable. Gary Kevin Ware has proofread, and corrected, my English.

Much to my dismay, the overall level was not very high. Many studies did not even have a sufficient point.
I received an anonymous PGN file with a different numbering in the "White" field than the PGN order. For the award, the "White" field numbering will be used.

Since this is a formal tourney where unawarded studies won't be published, I don't see much reason to go into detail for each study why it was not included. Instead, a reason is given without concrete variations. Also, usually only the selection of studies for actual distinctions were tested for anticipations and correctness, all others were not tested.

3 - No, sorry! The play has no points except the very well known sacrifice.
4 - A correct line of moves with arbitrary themes added does not make a study.
5 - The endgame of BBSS-SSS should be won for White, therefore 2.Bxe3 is in my opinion a dual.
6 - A lot of themes, and it also seems to be correct. However, I do not feel competent enough to judge this correctly. If I look at the themes, this must get a high distinction, but if I look at the impression the study makes to me, I don't see anything special. Yes, the sacrifices are a theme here but they also make the whole play feel very forced. In an informal tourney this would be ranked, but in a formal tourney I feel the author should have the possibility to add something more spectacular, for example, an interesting ending.
7 - This kind of study very well has a right to existence, but the game-like play and position offers at least one very difficult side variation that could not be fully evaluated, but looks very much like a dual: 5.Qxf7+Kh8 6.Sf6 Se5 7.Sxe4 Sxf7 8.Rxf7 Rxe4! 9.Rb6 Rxe3 10.Rbxb7.

11 - Well-known opposition with interesting tries, but in my opinion not enough originality for a distinction. 14 - Uninteresting play with only $5 . g x f 6$ being a small point that is however in my opinion not sufficient for a distinction.

19 - The beginning is known by a study of the judge (chessproblem.net, $28^{\text {th }}$ June 2011) which is of course bad luck for the author who found it independently. Leaving this aside, the sidelines are too complicated, e.g.
5...Qf4 6.Qg1 Bg3 7.Qh1 + Bh2 8.Kg6 Qf5 + 9.Kh6 c3 10.Sg5 + Kg3 11.Sfe4+ Kf4!! 12.Qxh2 + Ke3 and I don't see how White can win.
20 - I must repeat myself: A correct line of moves does not make a study.
21 - The play is too forced.
After this first evaluation, there were 15 studies of acceptable quality remaining for judging. Of them, the following ones were excluded:

2 - Not enough study-like content.
10 - With the exception of the mutual zugzwang that is easy to see there seems to be no artistic content. 16 - At this time it is impossible to look through all possible predecessors in view of the recently published books with six piece positions by Christian Poisson, therefore an anticipation check is impossible. Of course, this constitutes an "in dubio pro reo" case where the judge has to assume the study is original. Assuming it is so, he finds that while the king walk is interesting, it does not allow for a distinction. All in all, he finds the study offers no sufficient battle and the starting and ending points of the White king might constitute a task, but are too artificial to be artistical.
17 - The underpromotion is nice, and should in my opinion be published somewhere, but it does not allow a distinction, the forced play in the rest of the study does not help either. The case would be different if an en passant capture would be shown, when there would be a Valladao.
23 - The checkmate is very well known, while the road leading to it is hardly noteworthy.
25 - The overall play is too forced.

## Participants :

Peter KRUG (1), Marcel DORE (2), Marco CAMPIOLI (3,4,5 and 6), Gerhard JOSTEN (7), Alain PALLIER (8 and 9), Iuri AKOBIA ( 10,11 and 15), János MIKITOVICS (12), Richard BECKER (13), Gert Wilhelm HORNING (14*), Gerhard JOSTEN (14*), Christian POISSON (16), Luis Miguel GONZALES (17) , Sergiy DIDUKH (18), Mario Guido GARCIA (19 and 20), Daniel KEITH (21), Yochanan AFEK (22), Jarl H. ULRICHSEN (23) and Emil MELNICHENKO (24,25 and 26)

A total of nine studies are for this reason included into the award. Those were on average, of medium quality, but there were two studies that in the opinion of the judge stood out. Two prizes, three honorable mentions and four commendations are awarded.


## $1^{\text {st }}$ prize

Study no. 1
After a highly geometrical introduction, including a logical foreplan to remove the Pa4, the seemingly paradoxical switchback 13.Qh8, when the position after the second move is reached without Pa4 - but with Black to move - forces said Black to sacrifice his knight. The White play has to remain very exact, in the end, allowing Black counterplay that succeeds in the promotion of his pawn to a queen. However, White manages to quickly win this queen. The study overall maintains an excellent flow, with the exception of the deeper moves like 17.Qg7. In conclusion, I find this the best study of the tournament and in the complete view of the composition find awarding a prize acceptable.

## Solution auteur :

1.Se4+Kb1 2.Sc3+ Ka1 3.Sxa4+Kb1 4.Sc3+Kc2 5.Dh7+ Kb2 6.Sa4+ Ka1
7.Dg7+ Kb1 8.Sc3+ Kc2 9.Dg6+ Kb2 10.Sa4+ Ka1 11.Df6+ Kb1 12.Sc3+ Ka1!
[12...Kc2 13.Df5 + Kb2 14.Sa4+ Ka1 15.De5 + Kb1 16.Sc3 + Kc2 17.De4+ Kb2 18.Sa4+ Ka1 19.Dd4+ Kb1 20.c6
Sxb6 21.cxb7] 13.Dh8! Sxb6 14.cxb6 c5 + 15.Kb5! [15.Kxc5? Kb2=] 15...Da3 [15...Dc2 16.Da8 + Kb2 17.Sa4+ Kb1
18.Dxb7 Db3+ 19.Kxc5] 16.Sd5 + Ka2 17.Dg7 g3 [17...Dd3 + 18.Kxc5 Dc2 + 19.Dc3] 18.Dxb7 Dd3 + [18...g2
19.Sc3+] 19.Kxc5 Dc2 + 20.Kd4! Dd2+ 21.Ke4 [21.Ke5? g2 22.Da7+ Kb1 23.b7 Dg5 + =] 21...g2 22.Da7+!
[22.Da6+? Kb2 23.Db5 + wird sehr schön widerlegt 23...Ka1!! 24.Da4+ Kb2 25.b7 De2 + 26.Kf5 Dh5 + 27.Ke6 Dg6+ 28.Sf6 Dg3 = ]22...Kb1 23.b7 De2 + [23...De1 + 24.Kf5! (24.Se3? Db4 + 25.Kf3 g1D 26.b8D Dh1 + = ) 24...Df1 + 25.Ke6 (25.Sf4? Db5 + 26.Kg4 Dg5 + 27.Kf3 g1S+=) ] 24.Se3 g1D 25.b8D + Db2 26.Dxb2 + Kxb2 27.Sc4+

$2^{\text {nd }}$ prize : Study no. 24.
An interesting battle between the reduced White army and the Black pieces unfolds, culminating in several sacrifices of Black to gain a queen in the end. Just in this moment, White closes the mating net - the queen can't help her king. Like the first prize, this study also maintains an excellent flow during the solution, it has however not the depth and paradox of the first prize, while also the technical difficulties in composing become apparent. The play is very forced, and there are many pieces on the board, but the overall composition, in my opinion still can be awarded a prize, since the play is still partially surprising. I also believe that players would have a good tactical training from solving this study.

## Solution auteur:

1.Fe6+ Rh8 [1...Rf8 2.Tf7+ Rg8 3.Txf6+ Rh8 4.Cf7+ Rg8 5.Cd8+ Rh8 6.Tf8\#] 2.Cf7+ Rg8 3.Ce5+ Rh8 [3...Rf8 4.Tf7+ Re8 (4...Rg8 5.Txf6+ Rh8 6.Cf7+ Rg8 7.Cd8 + Rh8 8.Tf8\#) 5.Fd7+ Rd8 6.Cc6\#] 4.Cg6+ hxg6+ 5.Rxg6 Tg8 6.Fxg8 Fxb5 7.Txg7 [7.Fe6 Ta6 8.Fxc4 f5+] 7...Fe8+ [7...Ta6 8.Rf7 Fe8+ 9.Rf8 Fg6 10.Txg6 Ta8+ (10...f5 11.Txa6 Fe7+ 12.Rf7 Fd6 13.Ta1) 11.Rf7 Txg8 12.Th6\#; 7...Fc6 8.Fe6 Fe8+ (8...Fe4+ 9.f5 Fxf5 + 10.Fxf5 Ta6 11.Rf7 Ta8 12.Th7\#) 9.Rh6] 8.Rh6 Fxg3 [8...Ta6 9.Fxc4 f5 + 10.Fxa6 Ff6 11.Txc7 Rg8 12.dxc3 d2 13.Fe2 Rf8 14.c4 Fd4 15.b5 Fb6 16.Tb7 Fc5 (16...Fd8 17.c5 Fe7 18.Tb8 Fxc5 19.Fh5) 17.Ff3 Ff7 18.Tc7 Fb6 19.Tc6 Re7 20.Txb6] 9.Txg3 Ta1 [9...Ta6 10.Fxc4 Ff7 11.Fxa6 c2 (11...cxd2 12.Txd3) 12.Tg1; 9...Ta8 10.Fd5 Fc6 11.Fxc6 Td8 (11...cxd2 12.Fxa8 d1D 13.Fd5) 12.dxc3 d2 13.Fa4 d1D 14.Fxd1 Txd1 15.Te3 Rg8 16.Rg6 Tg1+ (16...Rf8 17.Te4 Ta1 18.Txc4 Tg1+ (18...Ta6 19.Txc7 Tb6 20.Tf7+ Re8 21.f5 Tb8 (21...Tc6 22.b5 Txc3 23.b6 Tb3 24.b7) 22.Txf6 Rd7 23.Tf7+ Rd6 24.f6 Tc8 25.Ta7 Txc3 26.Ta6+ Rd7 27.f7 Tg3 + 28.Rf6 Tf3 + 29.Rg7 Re7 30.Ta7+) 19.Rxf6 Tg7 20.Td4 Tf7+ 21.Re6 Te7+ 22.Rd5 Rg7 23.Rc6 Rg6 24.b5 Rf5 25.c4 Tg7 26.c5 Re6 27.f5 +) 17.Rxf6 Rf8 18.Te7 Tf1 19.Txc7 Txf4+ 20.Re6 Th4 21.Tc8+ Rg7 22.Rd5 Rf7 23.b5 Th6 24.Rc5 Th5 + 25.Rxc4] 10.Fd5 Ff7 [10...Th1+ 11.Fxh1 Ff7 (11...c6 12.dxc3) 12. $\mathrm{Tg} 7 \mathrm{c} 2(12 \ldots \mathrm{Fe} 6$ 13.Te7 Rg8 (13...cxd2 14.Te8 + Fg8 15.Fd5) 14.Rg6 Ff5 + (14...Ff7 + 15.Txf7 c6 16.Td7 Rf8 17.Rxf6 Re8 18.Fxc6 c2 19.Txd3+) 15.Rxf5 Rf8 16.Rxf6 c2 17.Fc6) 13.Txf7 Rg8 14.Fd5 c6 15.Fe6 c1D 16.Txf6+ Rh8 17.Tf8\#] 11.Fxf7 Th1+ 12.Rg6 cxd2 [12...c2 13.Te3 Tg1+ 14.Rxf6 Tg7 15.Te8+ Rh7 16.Te1 Rh8 17.f5 c3 18.Te8+ Tg8 19.Txg8+ Rh7 20.Tg2] 13.Te3 Tg1+ 14.Rxf6 Tg7 15.f5 [15.Te8+ Rh7 16.f5 Txf7+; 15.Fh5 c3 16.Te8+ Tg8 17.Te3 Td8 18.Rf7 (18.Th3 Td6+ 19.Rf7 Td7+ 20.Rf6 (20.Rf8 Th7) 20...Rg8 21.Tg3+ Rf8) 18...Td7+ 19.Rf6 Td6+] 15...d1D 16.Te8+ Tg8 17.Txg8+ Rh7 18.Ta8 1-0

$1^{\text {st }}$ honorable mention .Study no. 22
The average, and forced, introduction leads to a mutual zugzwang, set up by two sacrifices, that is the main point in this study. Behind the zugzwang, a famous stalemate is shining out (for example E.B. Cook 1853). The position after $4 . . . \mathrm{g} 3$ shows White with material superiority but he is left with no choice but to sacrifice bishop and rook in order to win, adding a slight paradox. Still, the author managed to avoid difficult analysis that often comes with zugzwang studies, so while in our (the judge's and his helper's) opinion, it is of average artistic value the study is of great value for the presentation of studies to the public. On a comprehensive view, a honorable mention can be awarded.

Solution auteur :
1.b7 Fxe3 +! [1...Txc5 2.b8D + Rxh4 3.hxg6 Fxe3 + 4.Rg2 Tc2 + 5.Rf1 Fh6 6.Dh8 Rg5 7.g7+-] 2.Fxe3 Tb5 3.Ff2 + Rf3 4.hxg6 g3! 5.Fxg3! [5.Tf4+? Rxf4 6.g7 gxf2+ 7.Rxf2 Tb2+ 8.Rg1 Tb1+ 9.Rg2 Tb2+ 10.Rf1 Rf3 11.Rg1 Tb1+ 12.Rh2 Tb2+=] 5...Rxg3 6.Th3+! [Thematic try: 6.Tg4+? Rxg4 7.g7 Rh3! ZZ White to play! 8.Rf2 Tf5 + 9.Rg1 Tb5! 10.g8D Tg5+! 11.Dxg5 Stalemate1] 6...Rxh3 7.g7 ZZ Black to play! 7...Tg5 + 8.Rh1! [8.Rf2?! Tf5 + 9.Rg1 waste of time] 8...Tb5 9.g8D Tb1+ 10.Dg1 1-0

$+\quad(4+6) \mathrm{C}+$
$2^{\text {nd }}$ honorable mention. Study no. 18.
This pawn endgame shows the symbiosis of three pawn endgame ideas that are, however, well known. I believe this high distinction can be awarded for the good symbiosis, even if the play is without any other specific points.

## Solution auteur :

1.94 with:
I. In the first main line Black tries to promote his pawn.
1...b5 2.g5 b4 3.Ke4! b3 (3...Kc4 4.g6 b3 5.g7 b2 6.g8Q+ check) 4.Kd3
A. 4...Kb4. Black sticks to his initial plan. 5.g6 Ka3 6.g7 b2 7.Kc2! Ka2 8.g8Q+ check!
B. 4...Kd5. Black swerves to defensive strategy. 5.g6 Ke6 6.Kd2 c5 7.Kc1 c4 8.Kb2 b6 9.Ka3 b5 10.Kb2 b4 11.Kb1! (11.Kc1? d3 12.exd3 cxd3 zz) 11...d3 12.exd3 cxd3 13.Kc1 zz win.
II. In the second main line Black tries to stop the white pawn.
1...Kc6 2.g5 Kd7 3.Kf5! b5 (3...c5 4.e6+ Ke8 5.Kg6 c4 6.Kh7! c3 7.g6) 4.e6+ Ke8 5.Kg6! b4 6.Kh6! The kings swapped their roles. The black king is a hunter now and he lures his white opponent under the check: 6.?h7? b3 7.g6 b2 8.g7 b1Q+. 6...b3 7.g6 Kf8 (7...b2 8.g7 b1Q 9.g8Q\#) 8.Kh7! win.

## Comments

Synthesis of two studies by N.Grigoriev. The second main line improves his idea from the Izvestia spoiled by duals after move 5. The "monkey effect" in the tactical play of kings is now perfect. The idea of "trap" with mutual zugzwang from the Grigoriev's 1952 was first shown by A.Troitsky in 1928 but with duals. A bonus of this study is the play of wK on every square of the diagonal b1-h7!

## N.Grigoriev

Isvestia 1928

$+\quad 2+2$
1.Kd4! (1.f4? Kb5)
I. 1...b5 2.f4 b4 3.f5 b3 4.Kc3! Ka3 5.f6 b2 6.f7 b1Q 7.f8Q+ Ka2 (7...Ka4 8.Qa8+) 8.Qa8\#
N.Grigoriev

Shakhmatnoye Tvorchestvo
Grigorieva 1952

1.g4! Kb6! 2.h4 Kc5 3.g5! (3.h5? Kd5! 4.g5 Kxe6! 5.g6

Richard BECKER
MT Boujemâ Kariouch
Maroc Echecs 2011
Mention honneur spéciale


Special honorable mention. Study no. 13
Another pawn endgame I liked. Here, the interesting mutual zugzwang, in combination with the highly paradoxical move 8.Kb8, that still can be deduced by strong players, allows me to give this high distinction. Since the study is, in my opinion, not comparable to other studies, but of high quality, a special honorable mention is awarded. Of course, such studies are always a matter of personal taste, and mine says this one is a very good and presentable study, but not in the prize range. As a comparison for the distinction - but by no means for this original study - see also Zinar, $1^{\text {st }}$ special prize, Shakhmaty v SSSR 1981. Here, like there, we have a highly paradoxical mutual zugzwang king move, on the other side of the board, but with very different mechanisms.

## Solution auteur :

1.Rd4! [1.Rd3? b5! 2.Rd4 Rd6 -+; 1.Re5? g5! zz 2.Rd4 Rd6! (2...Rf6? 3.Rc4 Re5 4.Rxb4 Rd4 5.Rb3! e5 6.Rb2 e4 7.Rc1 e3 8.Rd1 =) 3.Rc4 e5 4.Rxb4 Rd5 5.Rb5 e4 6.Rb6 Rd4 7.Rxb7 e3 8.dxe3+ Rxe3 zz 9.Rb8 (9.Rc6 (Kb6) 9...Rf2 10.c4 Rxg2 -+) 9...Rd4 10.Rc7 Rc3 11.Rd6 Rxc2 12.Re5 Rd2 13.Rf5 Re2 14.Rg4 Rf2 15.Rh3 g4+ -+; 1.Rf4? (Kf3?) 1...Rf6 2.Rxg3 Rg5! zz (2...Rf5? 3.Rf3! zz 3...g5 4.d4 g4+ (4...e5 5.g4+ Re6 6.Re4 exd4 7.Rxd4 Rd6 8.Re4 Re6 9.Rd4 =) 5.Re3 b6 6.g3 b5 7.Rd3 e5 8.d5 e4+ 9.Rd4 e3 10.Rxe3 Re5 11.d6 Rxd6 12.Rf4 =) 3.Rf3 Rf5 zz 4.Re3 (4.d3 Re5 -+; 4.d4 e5 $5 . d 5 \mathrm{e} 4+6 . \operatorname{Re} 3 \operatorname{Re} 5-+$ ) 4...e5 5.g4+ (5.Rf3 e4+ -+; 5.d3 g5 6.Rf3 g4+ -+) 5...Rxg4 6.Re4 g5 7.Rxe5 Rf3 8.d4 g4 9.d5 g3 10.d6 g2 11.d7 g1D 12.d8D Dh2+ 13.Re6 Dh6+ 14.Re5 Df4+ 15.Re6 De4+ 16.Rf7 Dh7+ (Also 16...Re3 -+) 17.Re6 Dg6+ 18.Rd5 Dc6+ 19.Re5 De4+ -+] 1...Rd6 [1...b3 2.cxb3 Rd6 3.Re4 (b4) 3...e5 4.b4 (Ke4) 4...Re6 5.b5 b6 6.Rf3! (Kd3!) (6.Re3? Rd5 zz 7.Rf3 Rd4 8.Rxg3 Rc4 (Kc5) -+) 6...Rd5 7.Re3! zz 7...g5 8.Rf3 Rc5 (8...Rd4 9.Rxg3 Rd3 10.Rg4 Rxd2 11.Rf5 =) 9.Re4 Rc4 10.Rxe5 Rd3 11.Rf6 (Kf5) 11...Re2 12.d4 Rf2 13.d5 Rxg2 14.d6 Rf3 15.d7 =] 2.Rc4 e5 3.Rxb4 Rd5 4.Rb5! [4.Rc3? e4 5.d3 (5.Rb2 e3 6.dxe3 Re4 -+) 5...e3 6.d4 Re4 7.d5 b5! 8.d6 b4+ 9.Rb2 e2 10.d7 e1D 11.d8D Dc3 + 12.Rb1 Re3 -+] 4...e4 5.Rb6 Rd4 6.Rxb7 e3 7.dxe3 + Rxe3 8.Rb8! zz [8.Rc6? (Kb6?) 8...Rf2 9.c4 Rxg2 +; 8.Ra6? Rd4 9.Rb5 Rc3 10.Rc5 Rxc2 11.Rd4 Rd2 12.Re4 Re2 13.Rf4 Rf2 -+] 8...g5 [8...Rf2 9.c4 Rxg2 10.c5 Rh2 $11 . \mathrm{c} 6 \mathrm{~g} 212 . \mathrm{c} 7 \mathrm{~g} 1 \mathrm{D} 13 . \mathrm{c} 8 \mathrm{D} \operatorname{Db6}+14 . \mathrm{Ra} 8=;$ 8...Rd4 9.Rc7 Rc3 10.Rd6 Rxc2 11.Re5 Rd2 12.Rf4 =] 9.Rb7 zz 9...Rd4 10.Rc6 Rc3 11.Rd5 Rxc2 12.Re4 Rd2 13.Rf3 = $1 / 2-1 / 2$

$1^{\text {st }}$ commendation
Study no. 12
After the introduction, an interesting battle between the bishop and the two rooks unfolds that, in the end, is won by the rooks, with precise but interesting play. Had the author managed to show a positional draw here, in the main line (then with switched colors, obviously), a much higher distinction might have come into reach.

## Solution auteur:

1.Kc1!
1.Rb6+? Kc4 2.Rxb7 d2 = (2...Bc2+? 3.Kc1 Bb3 4.Rxb3+-)
1...Be2
1...Sc5 2.Rb6+ Kc4 3.Kxd1+-;
1...c2 2.Rb6+ Kc3 3.Ra3++-;
$1 \ldots \mathrm{Bg} 42 . \mathrm{Rb} 1+\mathrm{Kc} 4(\mathrm{Ka} 4) 3 . \mathrm{Rf} 4++$;
1...Bh5 2.Rb1+ Kc4 3.Rf4+ Kc5 4.Rf5 + +-;
1...Bf3 2.Rb1++-
2.Rxf3? d2+ 3.Kd1 Kb2 4.Rd3 Kxa1!=
4...Sc5? 5.Rb1+!! Kxb1 6.Rxc3 Se4 (6...Se6 7.Rc6 Sd4 8.Rb6+Ka2 9.Kxd2 Ka3 10.Kc3+-) 7.Rc2 Ka1 8.Rc4 Sf6 9.Rf4 Sd5 10.Rd4 Sc3 + 11.Kxd2 Sb1 + (11...Sa2 12.Kc2+-) 12.Kc2 Sa3 + 13.Kb3 +-
$2 . \mathrm{Rb} 6+\mathrm{Kc} 43 . \mathrm{Rxb} 7 \mathrm{~d} 2+4 . \mathrm{Kc} 2 \mathrm{Bd} 3+5 . \mathrm{Kd} 1 \mathrm{Bf} 5!(\mathrm{thr}: 6 . . \mathrm{Kd} 3-+$ ) 6.Ra4+!
6.Rg7? Kb3 7.Rb7+ Kc4 8.Ra4 + loss of time;
6.Rb8? $\mathrm{Bg} 4+7 . \mathrm{Kc} 2 \mathrm{Bf} 5+8 . \mathrm{Kd} 1 \mathrm{Bg} 4+$ positional draw
6...Kd3 (thr: 7.c2\#) 7.Rb3 pin

Thematic try 7.Rc7? Be6 (thr: 8.Bb3\#) 8.Rb4 Bd5! (thr: 9.Bf3\#) 9.Rxc3 + (9.Rf4? Bb3\#) 9...Kxc3 10.Rc4+ Bxc4 ideal stalemate.
7...Be6 (thr: 8...Bxb3\#)
7...Bg6 8.Rh4+-
8.Rba3!
8.Raa3?? Bg4\#
8...Bd5 (thr: 9.Bf3\#) 9.Rf4 Bc6! 10.Ra2! unpin
10.Rb3? Bd5 11.Ra3 Bc6 12.Ra2 loss of time;
10.Rf6?? Ba4+ 11.Rxa4 unpin c2\#
10...Bd5! 11.Rc2!
11.Ra3? Bc6 12.Ra2 loss of time.
11...Bb3 pin, (thr: 12...Bxc2\#) 12.Rf3 + wins.

Iuri AKOBIA
MT Boujemâ Kariouch
Maroc Echecs 2011
$2^{\circ}$ recommandé

$+\quad(6+3) \mathrm{C}+$
$2^{\text {nd }}$ commendation. Study no. 15 .
The study shows an interesting battle of the White pieces against the Black pieces. To conquer the Black knight, White must sacrifice both pawns. However, one has the impression that the ideas below the actual play would have been also interesting to show, for example, the variations after $3 \ldots \mathrm{Qd} 2$ are very difficult. White needs to play $4 . \mathrm{Rd}$ !! ! with $4 . . \mathrm{Qc} 25 . \mathrm{Sc} 6+\mathrm{Kb} 76 . \mathrm{Sd} 4$ ! Qxc5 7.Sb3! eventually winning the knight. The rather sterile main variation also has its small points, and the whole construction is very economical, so a commendation can be awarded.

## Solution auteur :

1.Re7+!
1.Ne5!? Ka8 2.Nf3 (2.Nc6 Qd5 + 3.Kxb2 Qxc6=) 2...Qh8 3.Rab1 (3.Ne5 Na4 4.Kb3 Nxc5 + = ) 3...Qf6 4.Rxb2 Qa6+5.Kb1 Qd3 + 6.Ka2 (6.Rc2 Qb3 + 7.Kc1 Qxf3 = ) 6...Qa6+=; 1.Rab1!? Ka8 2.Rxb2 Qc4+ (2...Qd5 + 3.Ka1) 3.Kb1 Qd3+; 1.a8Q+? Kxa8 2.Re8+ (2.Ne5 Qc3!=) 2...Kb7! (not 2...Ka7? 3.Ne7 main line)
1...Ka8 2.Re8+ White forced bK to square a7 2...Kxa7 3.Ne7! with two main lines:
A) - 3...Qf2 (with the mutual pin of Nights) $4 . \mathrm{Kb} 3+$ ! Kb7 5.c6+ Kc7 6.Nd5 + !
6.Raa8? Nd1 7.Nd5 + Kxc6=
6...Kxc6 7.Nb4 + Kd7 8.Ree1! Qb6 (pin of wS) 9.Re4

Thematic try 9.Ra6!? Qc5! (9...Qd4? 10.Re7+! Kxe7 11.Nc6++-) 10.Rh1! Qc4+ 11.Ka3 Qe4! 12.Rhh6 (12.Rh7+? Kc8! 13.Rc6+Kd8 = ) 12...Nc4+ 13.Kb3 Na5 + ! 14.Ka4 Nb7! =
9...Nd3 10.Rd1! pin of bS 10...Kc8 11.Rxd3 and easy win;
B) - 3...Qxc5 4.Kxb2 + Kb7 5.Rb1! (battery wK-wR) 5...Ka7! 6.Nc8 + Kb7 7.Rg8! Qa5 (or also: 7...Qd4 + 8.Ka3+! Kc7 9.Rc1 + Kd7 10.Rg3!+- and 7...Qe3 8.Kc2+! Kc7 9.Rc1 (echo battery wK-wR) 9...Kd7 10.Rd1++-) 8.Ne7 Kc7 (or also - 8...Qe5 + 9.Ka3+! Kc7 10.Rc8+ Kd6 11.Nd5!!+-) 9.Rc1 + Kd7 10.Nc6 and with:
B1)- 10...Qb5 + 11.Ka3! Qd3 + 12.Ka4!
Thematic try 12. Kb4!? Qd2+13.Rc3 Qb2+14.Rb3 Qd2+15.Rc3 Qb2+ positional draw.
$12 . . \mathrm{Qa} 6+(12 \ldots \mathrm{Qe} 4+13 . \mathrm{Nb} 4$ (echo self pin of wS$) 13 . \mathrm{Na} 5+-$ (echo self pin of wS )
B2) - 10...Qb6+ 11.Ka2!!
Thematic try $11 . \mathrm{Ka} 3$ !? (compare with with $16 . \mathrm{Ka} 3$ ! in the main line) $11 \ldots \mathrm{Qe} 3+12 . \mathrm{Kb} 2 \mathrm{Qe} 2+13 . \mathrm{Rc} 2 \mathrm{Qb} 5+$ 14. $\mathrm{Kc} 1 \mathrm{Qf} 1+15 . \mathrm{Kb} 2 \mathrm{Qb} 5+16 . \mathrm{Ka} 3 \mathrm{Qd} 3+17 . \mathrm{Kb} 2$ positional draw.
11...Qf2 + 12.Ka1! Qf6 + 13.Kb1! Qf5 + 14.Kb2! Qf2 + 15.Rc2 Qb6+ 16.Ka3! Qa6+ (or also 16...Qe3 + 17.Ka4 Qe4 + 18.Nb4 (echo self pin of wS) 17.Kb4! Qb6+18.Ka4 Qa6+19.Na5+-(echo self pin of wS).

Batteries, selfpins, exchanges of a thematic try and main lines.

$+\quad(4+2)$
$3^{\text {rd }}$ commendation. Study no. 8 .
The interesting battle between the rook and bishop is short, but repeated once more in the study. However, apart from this, the study has no particular highlights. In view of the study as a whole, a commendation is in my opinion justified for the repetition of the rook-bishop-battle. Other artistic value in this endgame was not found; although it is certainly interesting for players.

## Solution auteur:

1.Bg7!
1.Sf5? Rg6! (1...Rf6? 2.Se3+! Kd3 3.Bc5 +-) 2.Se3+ Kc3! (2...Kd3 ? 3.Bc5 +-) 3.Bc5

Ra6! = (3...Rc6 ? 4.Bb6! +-)
1...Rd7
1...Kd3 2.Kb4 Rb6+ 3.Kc5 Ra6 4.Kb5 Ra7 5.Bf6! Rb6+ 6.Ka6 Rd7 7.Sc8 Rc7 8.Sb6 +2.Bf6 Rd6 3.Bh8!
3.Bg7(?) $\operatorname{Rd7} 4 . \mathrm{Bf6} \operatorname{Rd} 65 . \mathrm{Bh} 8$ ! is a loss of time.
3...Rh6 4.Bg7!

Switchback.
4.Bd4? Rh3 + 5.Kb4 Rb3 + 6.Ka5 Kd3 7.Bb6 Kc4 8.Ka6 Rh3! 9.a5 Rh7+ 10.Sc6 Kd5 11.Kb5 Kd6 12.Bc5 + (12.a6 Rh5 +) $12 . . . \mathrm{Kc} 7=$
4...Rh3+
4...Rb6 (4...Rh7 5.Bf6! Rh6 6.Sd5 +-) 5.a5! Rb7 6.Bf6 Kd3 7.Sc8 Rc7 8.Sb6 +-
5.Kb4 Rh4+ 6.Kb5 Kb3 7.a5 Rh5 + 8.Kb6 Kc4 9.Sc6!
9.Sc8? Rb5 + ! (9...Rg5? 10.Sd6 Kd5 11.Se8 Kc4 12.a5 +-) 10.Ka6 Rb1(3)= 9...Rb5 + 10.Ka6!
10.Kc7(?) Rh5 11.Kb6 Rb5 + 12.Ka6! is a loss of time.
10...Rh5
10...Kc5 11.Sa7 Rb3 12.Be5 +-
11.Sa7!
11. Kb 6 (?) $\mathrm{Rb} 5+12 . \mathrm{Ka} 6$ is a loss of time.
11.Be5? Rh6! (11...Kc5 12.Kb7 Rh7+ 13.Bc7 +-) 12.Kb7 (12.Kb6 Kd5=) 12...Kb5=
11...Rh7 12.Bf8!

Switchback. 12.Be5 ? Kc(d) $5=$
12...Rf7 13.Bd6!

Split move : if directly 13.Ba3? Rf6+14.Kb7 Rf7+ 15.Kb8 Rf5! 16.Sc6 Rf6 17.Kb7 Kb5 =
13...Kd5
13...Rf6 14.Sc8 +-
14.Ba3! +-
14.Bb4(?) $\mathrm{Kc} 415 . \mathrm{Bd} 6 \mathrm{Kd} 516 . \mathrm{Ba} 3$ is a loss of time.
eg 14...Rf3 15.Bb4 Rb3 16.Kb5! Ke6 17.Sc6 Kd7 18.Kb6! Rg3 19.Kb7 Rg5 19.Sa7!


Special commendation. Study no. 9.
The study shows an interesting Rundlauf and flight of the White king. However, it is bought for a very high price, as the huge amount of material shows. Here, I feel the study can't be compared to normal studies, because it is too special in its theme and setting. Therefore, it is impossible to give a normal distinction. Note, that to give this distinction, the economy can't be valued too high.
The study is special, because it shows - behind its bland execution - a fine logical maneuver, where 4.Kd3? fails to $4 \ldots \mathrm{Sd} 6+$, so a foreplan blocks d 6 by the chess provocation $5 \ldots \mathrm{~d} 6+$, now allowing $8 . \mathrm{Kd} 3$ so the White king can flee. Recently, a good elaboration on logical studies has appeared in Die Schwalbe, so we would like to encourage the composition of more logical studies. However, in view of the heavy construction, and the mainly unsatisfying play, only a commendation can be awarded.

## Solution auteur:

1.Kd2 !

White king flies from black battery. 1.Qc7? e3+ 2.Kc3 Se4+ 3.Kd3 Sd6+ 4.Ke2 Bg4+ 5.Kxe3 Re1+ 6.Kf2 Re2+ 7.Kf1(g1) Rd2 = ; 1.Qxg3? e3+ 2.Kb3 e2 3.Re8 Bg4 4.Qd3+ Kb6 5.Qd4+ Kb7 6.Rxe2 Bxe2 =
1...e3+! 2.Kxe3 Se4!
$2 . . \operatorname{Re} 1+3 . \mathrm{Kd} 2 \mathrm{Re} 2+4 . \mathrm{Kd} 1 \mathrm{Re} 45 . \mathrm{Qc} 7 \mathrm{Bg} 4+6 . \mathrm{Kc} 2 \mathrm{Rc} 4+7 . \mathrm{Kd} 3 \mathrm{Be} 2+8 . \mathrm{Kd} 2+-$
3.Qc7!
3.Qe5? Re1+ or 3.Qh2? Re1+ and White cannot win.
3...Re1+ 4.Kf4!
4.Kd4? (4.Kd3? Sd6+5.Kd2 Re5) 4...Rd1+5.Ke5 Rd5+! (not 5...d6+6.Kf4 Rf1+ as in main line) $6 . \mathrm{Kff} \mathrm{g} 5+7 . \mathrm{Kf} 3 \mathrm{Sd} 6$ and no win for White.
4...Rf1+5.Ke5 d6+ 6.Kd4 Rd1+ 7.Ke3
7.Kc4? Be6 \#
7...Re1+ 8.Kd3!

Now White king is not afraid by black battery.
$8 \ldots . \operatorname{Sg} 5+\left(\right.$ battery ${ }^{\circ} 1$ ) $8 \ldots . . \mathrm{Sc} 5+9 . \mathrm{Kd} 2+-$
9.Kc3!
9.Kd2? Sf3 + 10.Kc3 Re3 + 11.Kc4 Be6 \#
9....Se4+ 10.Kc2!
10.Kc4(b3)? Sd2+11.Kc3 Sb1 + 12.Kb3 Be6+ 13.Kc2 Bf5 $+=$
$10 . . . S g 5+\left(\right.$ battery n$\left.{ }^{\circ} 2\right) 11 . \mathrm{Kb} 3!$ Be6 $+12 . \mathrm{Kc} 3+-$ (no more battery)
12.Ka3? Ra1 \# or 11...Re3+ 12.Ka4 Bc2+ 13.b3 +-

