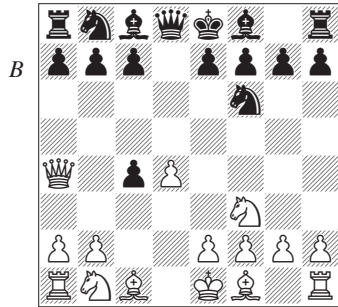
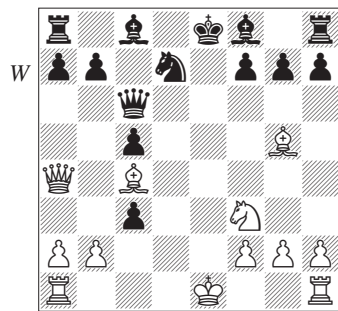


Contents

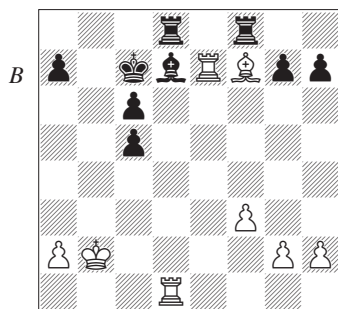
Introduction	4
Symbols	5
Irregular Flank Openings (Traps 1-2)	6
English Opening (Traps 3-9)	8
1 d4 Miscellaneous (Traps 10-17)	15
Modern Benoni (Traps 18-19)	23
Dutch Defence (Trap 20)	25
1 e4 Miscellaneous (Traps 21-22)	26
Centre Counter (Trap 23)	29
Pirc Defence (Traps 24-25)	30
Caro-Kann Defence (Traps 26-33)	32
Sicilian Defence (Traps 34-44)	40
French Defence (Traps 45-49)	52
1 e4 e5 Miscellaneous (Traps 50-52)	57
Petroff Defence (Traps 53-54)	61
Scotch Gambit (Traps 55-56)	63
Two Knights Defence (Trap 57)	65
Ruy Lopez (Traps 58-67)	66
1 d4 d5 Miscellaneous (Trap 68)	76
Queen's Gambit Miscellaneous (Traps 69-71)	77
Queen's Gambit Accepted (Traps 72-76)	80
Queen's Gambit Declined (Traps 77-86)	85
Grünfeld Defence (Traps 87-88)	96
Catalan Opening (Trap 89)	98
Bogo-Indian Defence (Trap 90)	99
Queen's Indian Defence (Traps 91-95)	100
Nimzo-Indian Defence (Traps 96-97)	106
King's Indian Defence (Traps 98-100)	108
The Game that Started it all (Trap 101)	111



74a: after 4 ♖a4+



74b: after 11... ♖c6



74c: after 21 f3

Trap 74 – Embarrassment at Oakham

In Trap 54 above, we saw an example of a young Soviet player catching a Western opponent with some old analysis the latter was unaware of. This next example, however, sees the reverse happening. The starting point is a game in the USSR Championship of 1960.

Taimanov – Polugaevsky
USSR Ch (Leningrad) 1960

**1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 ♘f3 ♘f6 4 ♖a4+ (74a)
4... ♗bd7?! 5 ♗c3 e6 6 e4 c5 7 d5 exd5 8 e5
d4 9 ♙xc4 dxc3 10 exf6 ♖xf6 11 ♙g5 ♖c6
(74b) 12 0-0-0!!**

The splendid point of White's play. Now taking the queen loses: 12... ♖xa4 13 ♖he1+ ♙e7 14 ♖xe7+ ♗f8 15 ♖xf7+ ♗g8 (15... ♗e8 16 ♖e1+ ♗e5 17 ♖xe5+ ♙e6 18 ♙xe6) 16 ♖fxd7+ ♖xc4 17 ♖d8+ ♗f7 18 ♗e5+. Polu tries another tack, but cannot defend all the threats.

**12...cxb2+ 13 ♗xb2 ♙e7 14 ♖he1 f6 15
♙b5 ♖b6 16 ♗c1 fxe5 17 ♙xd7+ ♗f8 18
♖xe7 ♗xe7 19 ♖e4+ ♗d8 20 ♙f5+ ♗c7 21
♖e5+ ♗c6 22 ♖d6+ ♗b5 23 ♖b2+ 1-0**

One of the classic games from Soviet Championship history. Imagine, then, the embarrassment the young Boris Gelfand must have felt when he stumbled into the black side of the same line against Garcia Palermo at the Oakham Junior International in 1988! Gelfand chose a different defence at move 12, but to no avail:

**12... ♙e7 13 ♖xc6 bxc6 14 ♙xe7 cxb2+
15 ♗xb2 ♗xe7 16 ♖he1+ ♗d8 17 ♗e5 ♗c7
18 ♗xd7 ♙xd7 19 ♖e7 ♖ad8 20 ♙xf7
♖hf8 21 f3 (74c) 1-0**

Trap 75 – A Trap with Many Faces

This next trap is an excellent example of a theme which crops up in more than one opening. It is probably also the most embarrassing defeat ever suffered by IM and ex-British Champion Paul Littlewood – sorry Paul!

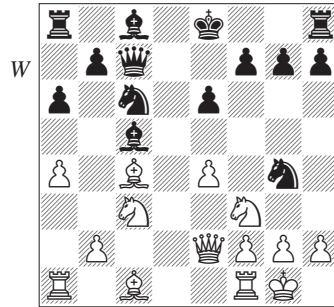
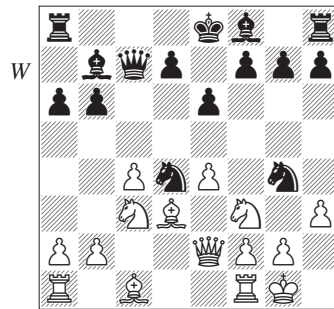
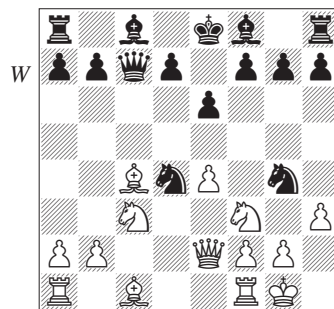
P.Littlewood – Penrose *British Ch (Chester) 1979*

1 d4 d5 2 c4 dxc4 3 Nf3 Nf6 4 e3 e6 5 Bxc4 c5 6 0-0 a6 7 a4 Nc6 8 Wc2 Wc7 9 Nc3 Bd6 10 dxc5 Bxc5 11 e4 Ng4 (75a) 12 h3?? Nd4 0-1

If it is any comfort to Paul (which I doubt!), I found four other examples of White falling for this same tactic in the QGA. Instead of this disaster, White should play 12 g3, when the position is approximately equal after 12...0-0 13 Bf4 e5, etc.

As well as occurring in other lines of the QGA, there are other, completely different settings of this tactic, for example the Sicilian Paulsen: 1 e4 c5 2 Nf3 e6 3 d4 cxd4 4 Nxd4 a6 5 Bd3 Wc7 6 c4 Nf6 7 Nc3 Nc6 8 Nf3 b6 9 Wc2 Bb7 10 0-0 Ng4 11 h3?? Nd4 (75b), etc.

Also an anti-Morra Gambit line which was developed by a number of Siberian players, and has therefore become known as the ‘Siberian Trap’. 1 e4 c5 2 d4 cxd4 3 c3 dxc3 4 Nxc3 Nc6 5 Nf3 e6 6 Bc4 Wc7 7 Wc2 Nf6 8 0-0?! Ng4 ! and now, e.g. 9 h3?? Nd4 (75c), etc.

75a: after 11... Ng4 75b: after 11... Nd4 75c: after 9... Nd4