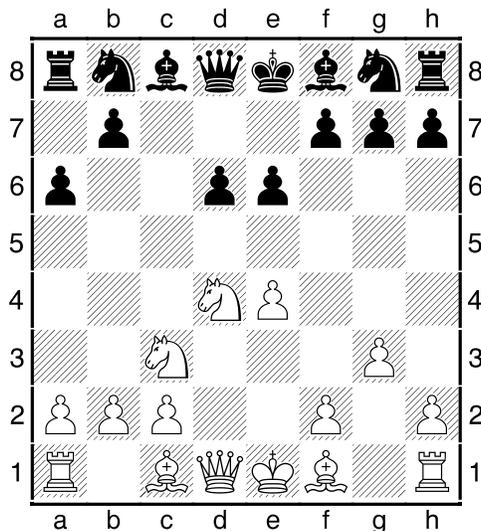


The second game by Rapport to be annotated during this event. Again he showed great aggressive positional play with Black and won a good game.

 **Lubbe (2410)**
 **Rapport (2577)**

40th Greek Team Championship 2012 Porto Rio Hotel (6.6), 04.07.2012
[Annotations by GM Aagaard]

1.e4 c5 2.♘f3 e6 3.d4 cxd4 4.♗xd4 d6 5.♗c3 a6 6.g3

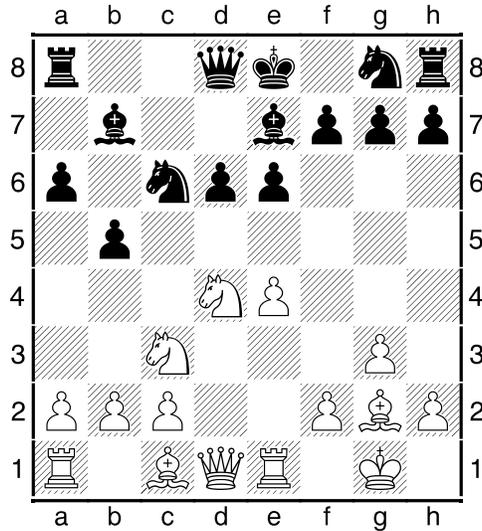


Not a very aggressive variation as the best of times.

6...b5 7.♗g2 ♗b7 8.0-0 ♗e7 9.♞e1

9.♞g4 is the type of move I would naturally gravitate towards here. But Black has a reasonable resource in 9...h5! 10.♞e2 Barczay – Mueller, Balatonbereny 1995. And now 10...h4!?N with good counterplay.

9...♗c6



10. ♖xc6

10.a4 seems the most normal reaction. 10...b4 11. ♖a2 a5 12. ♖xc6 ♕xc6 13.c3 bxc3 14. ♖xc3 ♜d7 was played in Rublevsky – Dominguez Perez, Poikovsky 2005. Interesting is now 15. ♖b5!?N ,with the idea 15...♕xb5 16.axb5 ♜xb5 17. ♕f1! ♜d7 18. ♜b3

10... ♕xc6 11. ♜d4

I am not sure what the queen is supposed to achieve here?

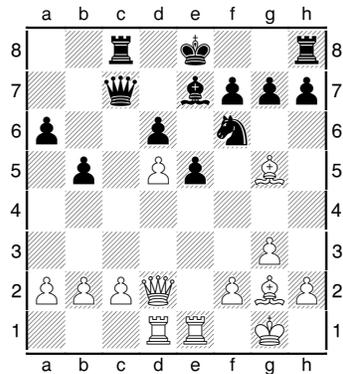
11... ♖f6 12. ♕g5 ♜c7 13. ♝ad1 ♞c8

A very slight inaccuracy. 13...0-0 was the right move. Black has no problems.

14. ♞e3?

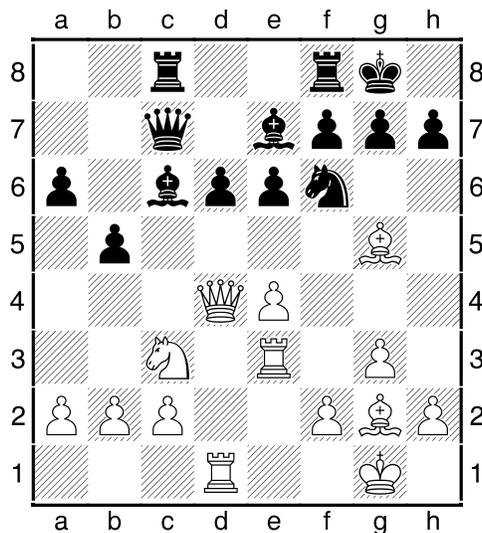
An odd move. This usually makes sense when the rook can go to g3 or h3 only.

White had a chance to improve his only misplaced piece with 14. ♖d5! , forcing Black to play 14...♕xd5 (14...exd5? 15.exd5 ♕a8 16. ♕xf6 gxf6 17. ♜xf6 ♞f8 18. ♕h3 ♖d8 19. ♜f5+- gives White a devastating attack.) 15.exd5 e5 16. ♜d2 (Analysis Diagram)



when I would rather have the two bishops. The tactical point is that 16...♙xc2 17.♖c1 ♗f5 gives White 18.♖xc8+ ♗xc8 19.♖c1± and Rc6 with pressure.

14...0-0



White is slightly oddly placed and has probably already missed the chance to be equal. If I saw this position for the first time, I would consider Ree1...

15.♗xf6

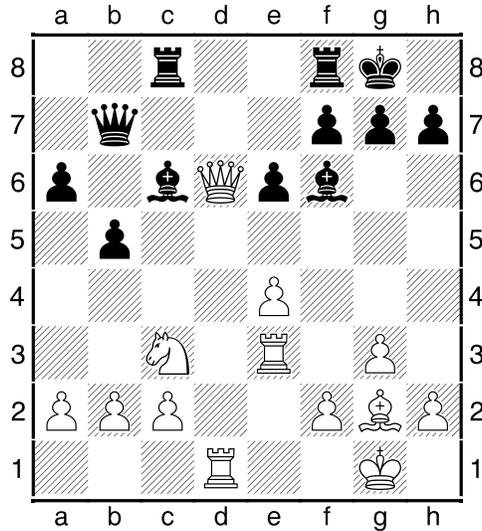
The question is if this makes things better or worse?

15...♗xf6!

Obviously; Black is happy to give up his only weakness for black squared control.

16.♗xd6 ♗b7

No endgame at this point.



17. ♖f4

17.a3 is maybe better, not to have a weak a-pawn later on. 17...a5 18.♖ed3 with the idea 18...b4 19.axb4 axb4 20.♗a2 ♕xe4 21.♕xe4 ♖xe4 22.♗xb4 ♖xb4 23.♗xb4 ♕xb2 and White has reasonable drawing chances here.

17...b4 18.e5

18.♗e2 ♖e7 also points to the e3-rook being badly placed.

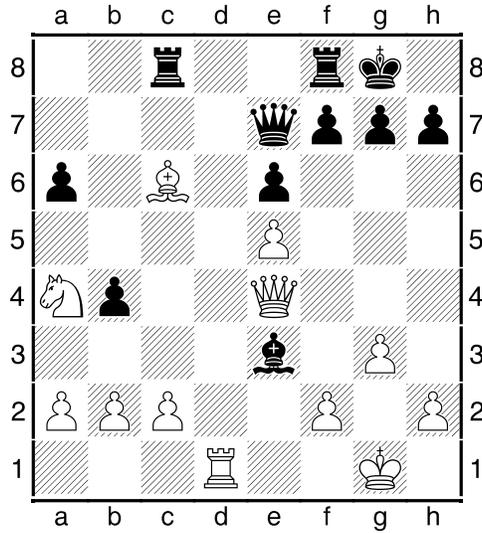
18...♕g5! 19.♕xc6

19.♗xg5 ♕xg2 20.♗e2 ♖xc2 and White's position is falling apart faster than the austerity economies.

19...♖e7!

Black picks up a fully earned material advantage.

20. ♖e4 ♕xe3 21. ♗a4



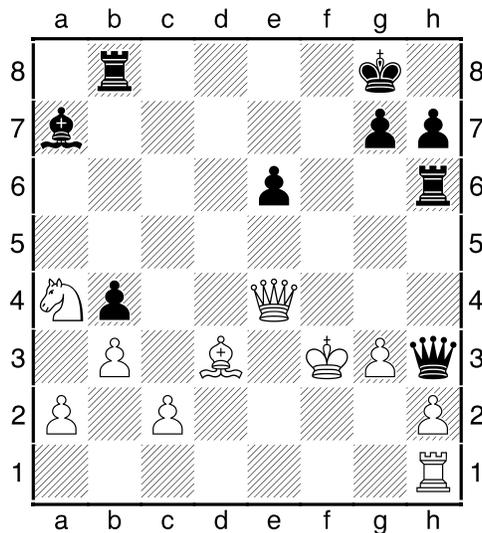
21...♔c7

21...♖fd8! was slightly more accurate: 22.♗xd8+ ♕xd8 based on 23.fxe3? ♕d1+ 24.♔g2 ♖d8!-+

22.♗b7 ♖b8 23.♗xa6?

The final mistake. White is also worse after 23.♗c6 ♗b6 24.♖d7 ♕c8, but a bit of hope exists.

23...♗xf2+! 24.♔g2 ♗a7 25.♔h3 f5 26.exf6 ♖xf6 27.♗d3 ♖h6+ 28.♔g2 ♕a5 29.b3 ♕h5 30.♖h1 ♕h3+ 31.♔f3



31...♖h4! A nice but unnecessary trick shot, leading to mate in 13!

32.♕xh4 ♖f8+ 33.♕f4 ♕h5+ 0-1