

# Kotronias on the King's Indian – Sämisch & The Rest

## Chapter 1 – 3.f3, variation B1 on page 21

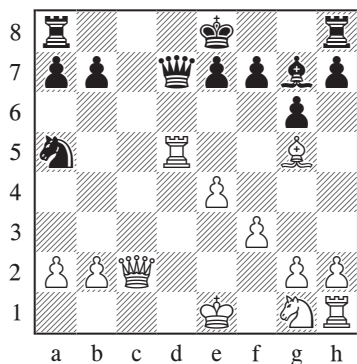
1.d4 ♖f6 2.c4 g6 3.f3 ♜c6!? 4.♜c3 d5!

B1) 5.♙g5

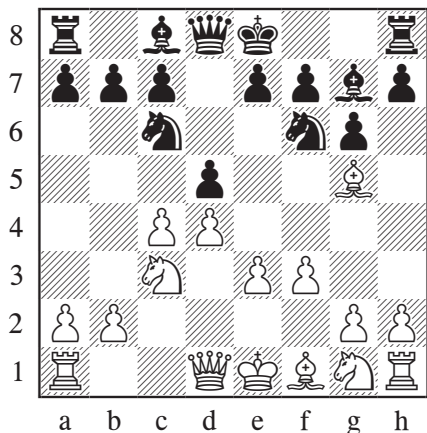
Kramnik once played this and it surely merits attention, as it keeps the pressure on.

5...♙g7 6.e3

6.cxd5N ♜xd5 7.e4 should be met by 7...♜b6!. This might seem contrary to the earlier comment about simplifying when we have less space, but here it makes sense as the pressure on the d4-pawn forces White to advance. 8.d5 ♜a5 Black should be fine, as the white centre is soon to be undermined by ...c7-c6. For example: 9.♙c2 c6 10.♞d1 cxd5 11.♙b5† ♙d7 12.♜xd5 ♜xd5 13.♙xd7† ♙xd7 14.♞xd5



14...♙c6! 15.♞c5 ♙b6 16.♞c8† ♞xc8 17.♙xc8† ♙d8 18.♙xd8† ♜xd8=



6...0-0!

I like this bold option, sacrificing a pawn for dynamic compensation.

I am not such a fan of 6...e6?! 7.cxd5 exd5, as in Kramnik – Dominguez, Nice (blindfold) 2010, when 8.♙d3N 0-0 9.♜ge2 looks slightly advantageous for White.

7.♙d2N

This looks like the common sense reply. Instead:

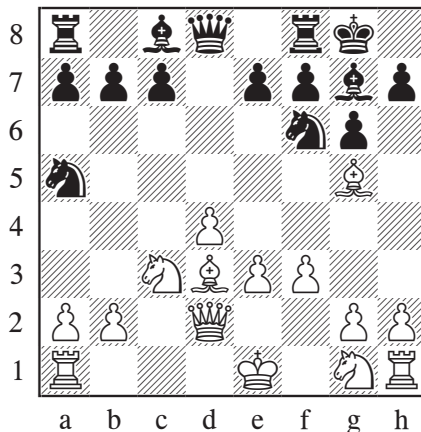
The outrageous 7.g4?, as played in Almirante Olay – Fontangordo Rodriguez, Spain 1996, is strongly answered by either 7...♜a5!N↑ or 7...dxc4N 8.♙xc4 h6 9.♙h4 ♜a5 10.♙e2 c5 11.d5 e6†.

7.♙xf6?! is also dangerous for White after 7...exf6!, for example: 8.cxd5 ♜e7 9.♙c4 ♜f5 10.e4 ♜e3 11.♙e2 ♙h6 12.♜d1 ♜xc4 13.♙xc4 c6 14.dxc6 bxc6 15.♜e2 ♙b6† Black gets fine play as ...f6-f5 is coming.

7...dxc4

Other moves are possible but the text seems simplest.

8.♙xc4 ♜a5 9.♙d3



9...c5! 10.dxc5 ♙e6! =

Black should be able to recover his pawn with a good game.