

Chess

War games from Asia

THROUGHOUT the second Philips Asian Teams Championships in Auckland the games were notable for their many distinctly Asian characteristics. For a start 75 per cent of them opened 1.e4, a far cry from Europe where the count is more 50/50. Then the style. In Europe the emphasis is generally on sound, fairly unambitious positional games, but not so in Auckland. Each game was a miniature war with its losses and gains, shocks, surprises and heartbreaks. Playing over the moves afterwards one finds that each game is a story in itself, and the following clash between the top boards of Singapore and China is a typical case history. Lim for Singapore calmly manoeuvres to a positional advantage only to be foiled again and again by Chi's tactical trickery. Eventually they called it quits.

Auckland 77

BENONI DEFENCE

Lim Seng Hoo	Chi Ching-hsuan
1. d4	c5
2. d5	e5
3. c4	d6
4. Nc3	Be7
5. g3	

After 5.e4 Black can trade black-squared bishops with 5...Bg5 (see Kouatly-Jusapov in my November 12 column).

5. ...	Nf6
6. e4	0-0
7. Bg2	Nbd7
8. Nge2	Ne8
9. 0-0	g6
10. Bh6	Ng7
11. f4	a6
12. Qd2	f5

Both players analysed 12...Rb8 13.a4 Qa5 14.f5 f6 15.g4 Qb4 but rejected it for different reasons. Lim considered only 16.Qd3, eg 16...Nb6 17.b3 but typically Chi delved into the complications with 16.Ra1 Qxc4 17.Nb5 Qxa4 18.Nc7 c4 (18...Nb6! Lim) 19.Ne6 Nxe6 20.fxe6 Nc5 21.Bxf8 Kxf8 22.g5 and wins. Chi is now gradually squeezed but the Chinese tenacity is evident.

13. a4	b6
14. Rae1	Ra7
15. exf5	gxf5
16. b3	Rf6
17. fxe5	Nxe5
18. Bxg7	Kxg7
19. Nf4	Qe8
20. Nd1	Rh6
21. Ne3	Kh8
22. Qc2	Bg5
23. Nxf5	Bxf4
24. gxf4	Nf3 ch
25. Bxf3	Qg6 ch
26. Kh1	Bxf5
27. Qb2 ch!	

The right square to check from. 27.Qc3 ch allows 27...Rg7 28.Rg1? Rxf2 ch!

and mates. Now despite black's strikingly original method of losing a pawn Chi is quite lost.

27. ... Qf6

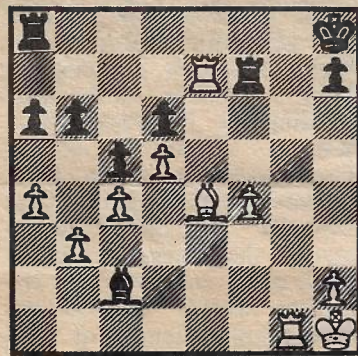


28. Rg1?

Missing a forced but beautiful win with checks by 28.Re8 ch Kg7 29.Rg1 ch Kf7 30.Bh5 ch!! Rxf5 31.Rf8 ch! and wins the queen, as Ortvn Sarapu pointed out at adjournment. Lim explained afterwards he was terrified of the white h1-a8 diagonal and was thinking only of the end game.

28. ...	Ra8
29. Qxf6 ch	Rxf6
30. Re7	Bc2
31. Be4	Rf7!

CHI CHING-HSUAN



LIM SENG HOO

Chi conjures up a brilliant saving resource and demonstrates an intricate drawing manoeuvre to Lim, who confessed to having completely overlooked Chi's last move.

32. Re6	Bxb3
33. f5	Rd8
34. Rb1	Bxc4
35. Rxb6	Rg7
36. f6	

Sidestepping the trap 36.Rbxd6 Rdg8 37.h3 Rg3 38.Kh2 Bf1 and Black mates.

36. ...	Rg4!
37. f7	Rf8

In turn Chi avoids 37...Rxe4 38.Rbxd6! Now White's winning chances evaporate.

38. Re8	Kg7
39. Rbb8	Rxe4
40. Rxf8	Bxd5
41. Kg1	Bxf7
42. Rfd8	d5
43. Rb7	Rxa4
44. Rxd5	Rf4
45. Rxc5	Rf6
46. Rbc7	h6
47. R5c6	Rxc6

An amusing touch of class by the astute Chinese — despite material inequality White cannot win the resulting ending.

48. Rxc6	Bg6
49. Rxa6	Kh7
50. Ra7 ch	Kg8

51. Kf2	Kh8
52. Ke3	Kg8
53. Kf4	Kh8
54. Ke5	Kg8
55. Kf6	Bc2
56. Rg7 ch	Kh8
57. Rc7	Bb1
58. Ke5	Kg8
59. Kf4	Bg6
60. Kg4	Kh8
61. h3	Kg8
62. Kf4	Kh8

Draw agreed

Perhaps chess really is "life played small".

A couple of the more

curious incidents during the second Philips Asian Teams occurred in rounds 2 & 7. In round 2, on the Indian board, Ghalib gained a winning position against Hsu of China. After over 100 moves the position came down to rook and bishop v rook — a technically drawn end game that is so difficult to draw that the Swedish GM Andersson has recently won it twice against other GMs. However, Ghalib found something new — he lost on time. Walking around waiting

for the sixth adjournment Ghalib had failed to realise he had made a mistake in his scoresheet and was one move short of the required number. His flag fell, Hsu Hung-Hsun naturally claimed a win by time forfeit and after 13 hours of playing Ghalib got nothing.

In round 7 there was an amusing twist of fortunes when Ghalib received a half point gift in the match India-Indonesia. His game with Bing Sarjono was adjourned and as the day following was

a rest day Sarjono assumed the adjournments would be played the day after that. So, off for a night on the town! Next morning when play was due to start, no Sarjono. He wasn't in his room, his captain couldn't find him and he was losing on time in a won position... in a generous gesture the Indians offered a compromise of a draw to the Indonesian captain.

MURRAY CHANDLER