

Brilliant and forceful

THE THIRD leg of the 1st Asian Grandmasters' Circuit in Indonesia took place at the Kartika Chandra, one of Jakarta's leading hotels.

The tournament was hard fought, but again the two dashing Grandmasters, Torre and Quinteros, proved more than a match for the top IMs and untitled players of Asia. At the start Miguel Quinteros took off — not only in terms of points, but literally! Tournament commitments in Argentina forced his return

home several days early so he played his final game some rounds before the finish, leaving Torre with a massive 10½/13 to chase. Torre sat down, gritted his teeth and chase he did, scoring 6½/7 in the final rounds to draw level with Quinteros.

Of the other players only Mascarinas looked a likely challenger, but towards the end he began playing safe in order to secure a much deserved second international master title norm. Grand-

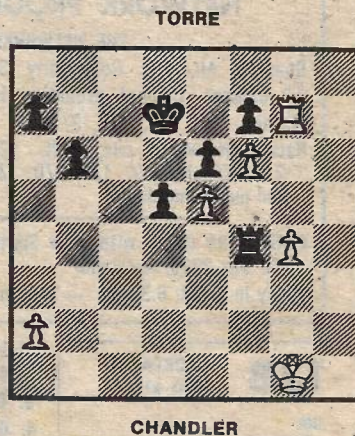
master and Count Alberic O'Kelly de Galway from Belgium was solid but obviously lacked the alertness of past years. Sharif was impressive, losing no games, but otherwise no one else really stood out.

Ardiansyah's poor showing could be partly blamed on the fact that his bank could not give him any more leave and he had to work mornings on some days during the tournament.

Quinteros was lucky —

that's what everybody was saying at the start. But the Argentinian moved quickly, confidently and did no more than he had to to win. Torre on the other hand was more plodding, no doubt having trouble because his openings and style of play are now so well known in Asia.

He did play some nice games though, and he considered a beautiful win he extracted from our game to be one of his finest efforts.



I had been overpressing in search of a win, and now the position looks drawn. Torre, however, was determined to get the full point he needed to share first place with Quinteros. After thinking for nearly an hour he produced the first move of a forced, brilliant, winning combination.

1. ... Kc6!!
2. Rxf7 d4!
White had a dangerous threat in 3.Rf8, followed by f7, rook checks and f8=Q so the black king scrambled to shelter.

3. Rf8 Kd5
4. g5 (sealed move)

As is customary with adjourned games here, we both rushed off to our hotel rooms to analyse. I thought for half-an-hour and, convinced the position was drawn, set off for the restaurant. But alas! Part way down I thought of the beautiful rook sacrifice so it was back to work, with no dinner.

4. ... Kxe5
5. f7 d3
6. g6

White's passed pawns look very strong and I thought Torre might take the draw with 6. ... d2 7.Rd8 Rd4 8.Rxd4 Kxd4 9.f8=Q d1=Q ch 10.Qf1 Qg4 ch 11.Qg2 Qd1 ch etc. Black has also a dangerous transposition of moves with 6. ... Rd4! instead, but in my analysis I found White draws by the skin of its teeth with 7.Rh8! d2 8.Rh5 ch! Ke4 (forced!) 9.Rh4 ch Kd5 10.Rxd4 and draws as in the line above.

But instead Torre played the beautiful continuation I had dreaded.

6. ... Rg4 ch
7. Kh2

Or 7.Kf2 Rxf6 8.Rd8 Rf6 ch

7. ... Rxf6
8. Rd8 Rf6
9. f8=Q Rxf8
10. Rxf8 Ke4!
11. Rd8 e5!

And again and again the Filipino finds the only move. 11.Ke3 would be a mistake on account of 12.Re8! d2 13.Rxe6 ch Kd3 14.Rd6 ch Kc2 15.Rc6 ch etc.

13. ... d2! Take a look at the position. White's king is unable to move. His rook — sorry my rook — is tied to the d-file to prevent the d-pawn from promoting. Black's winning strategy is simple, he plays as in a pawn ending and advances his queenside pawns to create a winning passer!

12. ... Ke3
13. Kg4 d2
14. Kf5 Ke2
15. Kxe5 d1=Q
16. Rxd1 Kxd1
17. Kd5 Kc2
18. Kc6

With White's king so close to the queenside pawns a draw looks possible, but everything has been precisely calculated.

18. ... Kb2
19. a4 Ka3
20. Kb5 a5!
21. Resigns

After the game Eugenio suggested another possible try for White in 12.Rd7! Ke3 13.Rxa7 d2 14.Rd7 Ke2 15.Kg3 d1=Q 16.Rxd1 Kxd1 17.Kf3 and draws.

If Black instead tries 12.a5 White can enter 13.Kg2 Ke3 14.Kf1 d2 15.a4! locking the

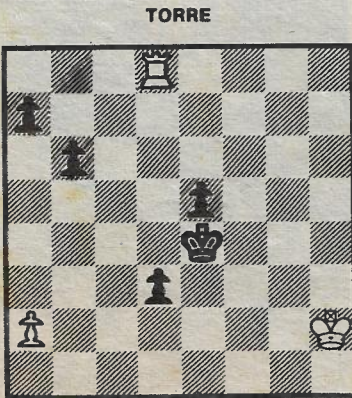
pawns with a probable draw; e.g. 15. ... b5 16.axb5 a4 17.b6 a3 18.Rxd2! etc.

But as I said to Torre after the game, "God is on your side — you must have a move". And indeed he has 12. ... a6! 13.Kg3 Ke3 14.Kg4 d2 15.Kf5 Ke2 16.Kxe5 b5! a vital tempo gain, winning. Please though, feel free to experiment with 17.Ke4 d1=Q 18.Rxd1 Kxd1, but remember who you're up against.

MURRAY CHANDLER

ALGEBRAIC NOTATION

The algebraic notation in this chess column is that used almost exclusively in Europe and in many other countries elsewhere. Each square has one designation only. The vertical files are labelled a to h from White's left. In horizontal rank the squares are labelled 1 to 8 from White's end. Normal symbols are used, except that pawns as such are not mentioned; just the arrival square is given for a non-capturing pawn move.



12. Kg3
On 12.Kg2 Ke3 13.Kf1 Black has an incredible win in