

Chess

Settling their differences

"POLITICAL LEADERS, in the world where blood flows when a pawn is taken, could learn a lesson" was how *The Times* of London summarised the negotiations between Fide (World Chess Federation) President Florencio Campomanes and Soviet officials. According to *The Times*, friendly talks were responsible for patching up the bitter row between these two parties over Candidates match venues — a row that at one point led to the default of the two Soviet participants Garri Kasparov and Vassily Smyslov. *The Times* evidently knew nothing, at this stage, of rumours that the Soviets had ultimately been forced to make massive under-the-chess-table payments of Western currency to get their men back in the world championship cycle. Informed sources put the figure at around \$180,000 — paid to Fide, the former match organisers in America, and, of all people, Soviet defector Viktor Korchnoi.

This estimated amount is confirmed, and even broken down, in a book published two days after the Kasparov-Korchnoi match had ended in its new venue, London. *Kasparov-Korchnoi: The London Contest* is written by English Grandmaster Ray Keene and *Financial Times* journalist Dominic Lawson. As well as giving each of the match games, with notes, the book contains a lengthy and fascinating introduction. It details the background events that led up to the "wins", by forfeit, of Korchnoi and Hungarian Zoltan Ribli after the Soviets refused to let Kasparov play in Pasadena, California. It also reveals Ray Keene's secretive visit to Moscow, paid for by the Soviet Chess Federation. There Keene advised Deputy Sports Minister Ivanin they would lose if it came to a vote at the forthcoming Fide congress in Manila, Campomanes's home city. Desperate to keep their 20-year-old star Kasparov in the world championship Candidates series, the Soviets searched for another solution.

They found that solution in American dollars, possibly transferred to Fide at the Manila Congress during October. In the K-K book, Lawson earmarks \$100,000 of this for Fide, to cover "organisational losses" incurred in its four-month battle with the Soviet Federation. About \$50,000 would go in compensation to the Pasadena organisers who had the match wrenched from them and given to London. The remaining \$30,000 would go to the outspoken exile Viktor Korchnoi, who had magnanimously agreed not to insist on his win by default. As Lawson points out, the irony of the USSR paying a large sum of money to a man they had effectively barred from big-money tournaments for seven years is obvious but nonetheless delicious.

Airmail copies of *Kasparov-Korchnoi: The London Contest* can be obtained from New Zealand Chess Supplies, PO Box 42-090, Homedale, Wainuiomata at \$13.95. One regret-

table omission from the book is that, due to speedy production, it does not contain any games from the Smyslov-Ribli clash, also staged in London. As can be seen from this fifth match game, 62-year-old former world champion Smyslov won in brilliant style. Now he and Kasparov meet in the Candidates final while Korchnoi and Ribli (the two original winners by default) are knocked out to the sidelines.

V. SMYSLOV	Z. RIBLI
1. d4	Nf6
2. Nf3	e6
3. c4	d5
4. Nc3	c5
5. cxd5	Nxd5
6. e3	Nc6
7. Bd3	Be7
8. 0-0	0-0
9. a3	cxd4
10. exd4	Bf6
11. Qc2	h6?

Safest is 11...g6.

12. Rd1	Qb6
13. Bc4	Rd8
14. Ne2	Bd7
15. Qe4	Nce7
16. Bd3	Ba4?

16...Ng6 is far less risky, preventing the white queen penetrating to h7.

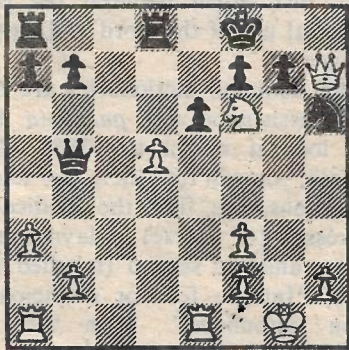
17. Qh7 ch	Kf8
18. Re1	Bb5
19. Bxb5	Qxb5
20. Ng3	Ng6
21. Ne5!	Nde7
22. Bxh6	

Inaugurating a tremendous attack, but 22.Nh5! looks simpler.

22. ...	Nxe5
23. Nh5!	Nf3 ch
24. gxf3	Nf5

If 24...Qxh5 the 25.Bxg7 ch wins the queen, while 24...gxf3 25.Qxh6 ch is decisive.

25. Nxf6	Nxh6
26. d5!	



Superbly imaginative. If 26...exd5 27.Qh8 forces mate, or 26...Ke7 27.Qxg7 Rg8 28.Rxe6 ch!

26. ...	Qxb2
27. Qh8 ch	Ke7
28. Rxe6 ch!	

Forcing the win of Black's queen through discovered check.

28. ...	fxe6
29. Qxg7 ch	Nf7
30. d6 ch	Rxd6
31. Nd5 ch	Rxd5
32. Qxb2	b6
33. Qb4 ch	Kf6
34. Re1	Rh8
35. h4	Rhd8
36. Re4	Nd6
37. Qc3 ch	e5
38. Rxe5!	Rxe5
39. f4	Nf7
40. fxg5 ch	Ke6
41. Qc4 ch	Resigns

MURRAY CHANDLER