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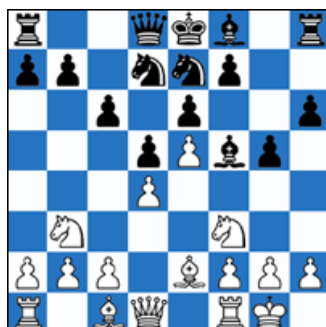
## Caro-Kann B12

Sasa Velickovic

The first monograph published by Chess Informant appeared in 1993 on the Caro-Kann B12. It was written by GM Yasser Seirawan and it coincided with a great expansion of that opening in practice. It was well received at the time and a new edition, written by myself, appeared on CD a few years ago. Since then many leading chess players have contributed to the development of the ideas in this opening. Numerous games and an abundance of material deserve our attention, and, with this in mind, a new edition of the Monograph B12 is forthcoming.

1.e4 c6 2.d4 d5 3.e5 Bf5 4.Nf3 e6 5.Be2 Nd7 6.0-0 h6 7.Nbd2 Ne7 8.Nb3										
	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
1	...	Bd2 <sup>1</sup>	c4 <sup>2</sup>	cd5	ef6	Bc3	Bd3	Bf5	Qe2	White's slightly better
	g5	Bg7	f6 <sup>3</sup>	cd5 <sup>4</sup>	Bf6	0-0	Bg7	Nf5	Re8 <sup>5</sup>	
2	...	Bd2	Rc1 <sup>7</sup>	g4	Nh4	f4	a4	Be3 <sup>10</sup>	Nd2	unclear
	Bh7	Nf5 <sup>6</sup>	Be7	Nh4	Bh4	a5 <sup>8</sup>	Be4 <sup>9</sup>	0-0	Bh7	
3	...	...	c4 <sup>11</sup>	Na5	Nc4	Na5	b4	Bf3	Qb3	equal
	...	Ng6	dc4 <sup>12</sup>	Rb8 <sup>13</sup>	Nb6 <sup>14</sup>	Nh4	Nf3	Nd5	Be7 <sup>15</sup>	
4	...	...	Rc1	c4 <sup>16</sup>	Bc4 <sup>17</sup>	g3 <sup>18</sup>	Re1	Na5	b4	equal
	...	...	Be7	dc4	0-0	Re8 <sup>19</sup>	Bf8	Rb8	Ne7 <sup>20</sup>	
5	...	c3	a4 <sup>22</sup>	a5	Bd2	Nc5	dc5	Nd4	Nf5	White's slightly better
	...	Nf5 <sup>21</sup>	a6	Rc8	c5	Bc5 <sup>23</sup>	Nc5	0-0	Bf5 <sup>24</sup>	
6	...	a4 <sup>25</sup>	a5	c4 <sup>28</sup>	Be3	Nbd2	Nc4	Bd3	Qd3	unclear
	Nc8	Be7 <sup>26</sup>	a6 <sup>27</sup>	Na7	dc4 <sup>29</sup>	0-0	Nb5	Bd3	Qc7 <sup>30</sup>	

1



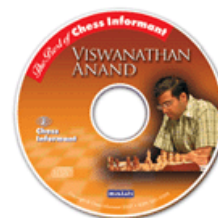
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9.Ne1 c5 10.Nc5 [10.c3 Bg6 11.Nc5 Nc5 12.dc5 Nc6 equal; G.Timoshenko - S.Sulskis, Tallinn 2007 see 101/(73)] Nc5 11.dc5 Nc6 12.Bd3 Be4 13.Qe2 [13.f3 Bc5 14.Kh1 Bf5 15.Bf5 ef5 16.Nd3 Bb6 17.f4 g4 18.Bd2 h5 19.Bb4 h4 20.c3 h3 1/2 : 1/2 Sergey Karjakin - Nisipeanu, Khanty-Mansiysk (m/1) 2007 see 101/73] Bc5 14.Be4 de4 15.Qe4 Qd4 16.Qf3 0-0-0 17.Be3 Ne5 18.Qf6 Qd6 19.Bc5 Qc5 20.Nd3 Nd3 21.cd3 Qf5 22.Rac1 Kb8 23.Qf5 ef5 24.Rfd1 Rd5 25.Kf1 Re8 equal; Vachier-Lagrave - I.Cheparinov, Cap d'Agde (rapid) 2008

2

10.Na5 Rb8 11.c4 b6 [11...Be4!?] 12.Nb3 dc4 [12...0-0 13.Rc1 dc4 14.Rc4 Be4 15.h4 g4 16.Ne1 Bd5 17.Rc3 c5 18.Bg4 cd4 19.Rg3 Ne5 20.Bh3 N7g6 21.h5 f5 22.Nd4 Bc4 23.Nec2 Bf1 24.Kf1 Qh4 25.hg6 Rbd8 26.Bc3 Nc6 27.Rd3 Ne5 28.Rd2 Nc4 29.Re2 e5 30.Qd3 and White is winning; S.Movsesian - S.Grigoriants, Plovdiv 2008] 13.Bc4 Nd5 14.Rc1 and White is slightly better

3

10...Be4!?

4

11...Nd5!?

5

**16...Qf6** 17.Qb5 [17.Rae1 and White is slightly better] g4 [17...Rf7? 18.Qb7 Raf8 19.Qc6 and White is superior; Li Chao - A.Bagheri, Beijing (rapid) 2008] 18.Nfd2 Nb6 19.Rae1 and White is slightly better;

**16...Re8** 17.h3 and White is slightly better

6



**9...Qc7** 10.Rc1 g5 11.h3 Ng6 12.a4 Be7 13.a5 and White is slightly better; Solodovnichenko - Thejkumar, New Delhi 2009;

**9...Nc8** 10.a4 [10.Bd3?! Bd3 11.cd3 a5 12.Qc2 Qc7 13.Rfe1 Be7 14.Rac1 0-0 15.a4 Re8 16.g3 Nb8 17.h4 Bf8 18.h5 Ne7 19.Kg2 b6 20.Bf4 Na6 and Black is slightly better; Debashis - Mahjoob, New Delhi 2008] Be7 [10...Ncb6 11.Bd3 Bd3 12.cd3 Be7 13.Be3 0-0 14.Nfd2 a5 15.f4 Bb4 16.f5 ef5 17.Rf5 Qe7 18.Qg4 Kh7 unclear; N.Kosintseva - Gunina, Russia (ch) 2008] 11.a5 0-0 12.Ne1 c5 13.f4 c4 14.Nc1 Be4 15.g4 f6 16.Bf3 Bf3 17.Nf3 f5 unclear; Hedman - Kolbus, Stockholm 2008/09

7

10.Na5 Qb6 11.Nb3 a5 [11...Qd8 12.Ba5 b6 13.Bd2 Be7 14.c4 0-0 15.cd5 cd5 16.Ba6 and White is slightly better; Vysochin - Charochkina, Zvenigorod 2008] 12.a4 Bb4 13.c3 Be7 14.c4 dc4 15.Bc4 Bb4 16.Bc3 0-0 17.Qd2 Ne7 equal; Kritz - Velicka, Differdange 2008

8

13...Be7 14.f5 and White is slightly better; Wang Hao - Darban,

## 9

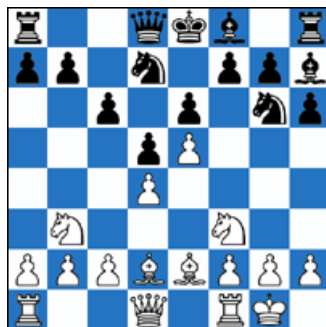
**14...Be7** 15.f5 Bg5 16.fe6 fe6 17.c4 and White is slightly better; Daniil Dubov - Bryakin, Herceg Novi 2008;

**14...0-0** unclear

## 10

15.f5? ef5 16.gf5 Ne5 17.Nc5 Nd7

## 11



**10.Re1** Be7 11.g3 0-0 12.c4 dc4 13.Bc4 Nb6 14.Bf1 Nd5 15.a3 Rb8 16.Rc1 Re8 17.Na5 Nf8 equal; G.Timoshenko - Da.Magalashvili, Kavala 2008;

**10.a4** Be7 11.a5 0-0 12.c4 Nh4 [12...dc4 13.Bc4 Qb8 14.Re1 Rd8 15.Qe2 Kh8 16.Rac1 a6 17.g3 Bf8 18.h4 and White is slightly better; Efimenko - Jorczik, Deutschland 2008] 13.Nh4 Bh4 14.Bb4 Be7 15.Bc3 dc4 16.Bc4 b5 17.ab6 ab6 18.Qf3 Qc7 equal; A.Orsini - Fe.Peralta, Argentina (ch) 2008

## 12

10...Be7 11.cd5 cd5 12.Na5 Rb8 13.Qb3 0-0 14.Rfc1 and White is slightly better; A.Gara - Prohaszka, Magyarorszag 2008

## 13

**11...Qb8** 12.Nc4 Be7 13.h4 Nb6 14.Nb6 ab6 15.h5 Nf8 16.Qb3 Nd7 equal; Vila Gazquez - J.M.Lopez Martinez, Sants 2008;

**11...Qc7** 12.Nc4 Nb6 13.g3 Nc4 14.Bc4 Ne7 15.Re1 Qd7 16.Bb4 Nd5 17.Bf8 Rf8 18.Qd2 0-0-0 19.b4 Bf5 20.Rac1 Kb8 equal; N.Mikkelsen - Danin, Vladimir 2008

## 14

12...Nh4 13.Nh4 Qh4 14.f4 Nb6 15.Nb6 ab6 16.Be3 and White is slightly better; Lastin - J.Timman, Baku 2008

## 15

17.Rac1 0-0 18.a3 Qd7 19.Rfd1 Rfd8 equal; Nidjat Mamedov - Ba.Jobava, Baku 2008

## 16

11.Na5 Rb8 equal; I.Khairullin - Rodshtein, Moscow 2008

## 17

12.Na5 Qb8 [12...Rb8 13.Bc4 Nb6 14.Bd3 Nf8 15.Be2 Nfd7 16.b4 0-0 17.Ne1 Nd5 18.a3 equal; V.Malakhov - Saltaev, Kallithea 2008] 13.Nc4 Nb6 14.Qb3 Nc4 15.Rc4 0-0 16.Bd3 Rd8 17.Be3 Rd7 equal; Herrera Delgado - V.

## 18

13.Qe2 Nb6 14.Bd3 Nd5 15.Rfd1 Kh8 16.g3 a5 equal; M.Antipov - Danin, Zvenigorod 2008

## 19

13...Nb6 14.Bd3 Qd7 15.Re1 Rfd8 16.Ba5 Qe8 17.Bf1 Rd7 18.Qe2 Nd5 19.Red1 Rc8 equal; Oleksienko - Margvelashvili, Kavala 2008

## 20

17.Bf1 Nd5 18.a3 N7b6 equal; V.Malakhov - Ba.Jobava, Kallithea 2008

## 21



**9...Qb6** 10.a4 a5 11.Ne1 Qc7 12.f4 Nc8 13.Be3 Ncb6 14.Nd2 Be7 15.g4 and White is slightly better; Arakhamia-Grant - Kadimova, Kusadasi 2006 see 96/(71);

**9...Ng6** 10.Be3 Be7 11.Ne1 0-0 12.f4 f5 13.c4 Nh8 14.Rc1 and White is slightly better; Vehi Bach - Butuc, La Massana 2008;

**9...a5** 10.a4 Nf5 11.Bd3 Bg6 12.g3!? [12.Bf4 Nh4 13.Ne1 Qb6 14.Bg6 Ng6 15.Be3 c5 16.dc5 Nc5 17.Nc5 Bc5 18.Bc5 Qc5 19.Nd3 Qc4 20.Kh1 0-0 21.f4 Ne7 22.Qf3 Rab8 equal; K.Zhukov - S.Slugin, Saint Petersburg 2008] Be7 13.Ne1 0-0 14.Ng2 c5 15.Bb5 c4 16.Nd2 and White is slightly better;

**9...Qc7** 10.Bd2 g5 11.Ne1 Nf5 12.Rc1 and White is slightly better; Du. Popovic - Mio.Perunovic, Srbija 2008;

**9...Rc8** 10.g3! [10.Bd2 Ng6 11.Be3 Be7 12.Ne1 c5 13.f4 0-0 14.Nf3 c4 15.Nc1 b5 16.Qd2 a5 17.Bd1 f5 18.Ne2 b4 19.h3 Rb8 unclear; G.Kasparov - Vallejo Pons, Linares 2003 see 87/(73)]

a) 10...a6 11.Nc5! Nc5 12.dc5 Qc7 13.b4 Be4 14.Re1 Bh7 15.h4 Ng6 16.Qd4 Be7 17.h5 [17.Qg4?! Bf8 unclear; Polivanov - Zavgorodniy, Kramatorsk 2003 see 88/(64)] Nf8 18.Qg4 and White is superior;

b) 10...Nf5 11.Bd3 Bg6 12.Ne1 Be7 13.Ng2 0-0 [13...c5 14.Nc5 Bc5 15.dc5 Ne5 16.Qa4 with initiative] 14.Nf4 Bh7 15.Qf3! and White is slightly better; A.Polivanov;

c) 10...Qc7 11.h4 a6 12.Nc5! Nc5 13.dc5 Ng6 14.Qd4 Be7 15.h5 Nf8 16.b4 Nd7 17.Bf4 0-0 18.Qe3 Rfe8 19.c4! and White is slightly better; Polivanov - Zdebskaja, Kramatorsk 2003 see 88/64

## 22

10.g4 Ne7 11.Nh4 h5 12.gh5 Nf5 13.Nf5 Bf5 14.Bf4 Qb6 15.Bg4 Bg4 16.Qg4 Qb5 17.Rad1 a5 18.Rd2 0-0-0 with compensation; Ad.Horvath - R.Ruck, Magyarorszag 2006 see 96/(71)

## 23

13...Nc5 14.dc5 Bc5 15.b4 Be7 16.Qa4!? [16.b5 0-0 17.ba6 ba6 18.Ba6 Ra8 19.Qe2 Qc7 20.Nd4 Nd4 21.cd4 Qa7 22.Bd3 Qd4 23.Bh7 Kh7 24.a6 and White is slightly better] Qd7 17.b5! Ra8 18.Rfb1 with initiative; Yevseev

## 24

17.Be3 Qc7 18.f4 Qe7 19.Bd4 Rc7 20.Ra3 Rfc8 21.Qd2 Bh7 22.Qe3 and White is slightly better; P.Smirnov - Yevseev, Moscow 2006 see 96/71

## 25

**9.Bd2** Be7 10.Na5 [10.Rc1 0-0 11.c4 dc4 12.Na5 Rb8 13.Nc4 Ndb6 equal; M. Baba - Loo Pak Kwan, Kuala Lumpur 2008] Rb8 [10...Qc7 11.c4 dc4 12.Nc4 Ndb6 13.Ba5 Qd7 equal] 11.c4 dc4 12.Nc4 0-0 13.Ne3 Bg6 [13...Be4!? Roiz] 14.Bc3 Ncb6 equal; E.Berg - Roiz, Plovdiv 2008 see 102/85;

## 9.Be3!?

a) 9...Be7 10.Nfd2 [10.Ne1 Ncb6 11.Bd3 Bd3 12.Nd3 Qc7 13.Qg4 g6 14.Qe2 Nc4 15.Nd2 Nd2 16.Qd2 c5 17.c3 c4 18.Ne1 Bf8 19.g3 Qc6 20.Ng2 b5 21.h4 0-0-0 22.Bf4 Nb6 unclear; Edouard - Rodshtein, La Massana 2008] 0-0 11.f4 Ncb6 12.a4 a5 13.c3 f6 14.ef6 Nf6 15.Nc5 Bc5 16.dc5 Nbd7 17.b4 Ne4 18. Ne4 Be4 19.Qe1 Qe7 20.Qg3 Bf5 21.Bd4 and White is slightly better; Sergey Karjakin - I.Cheparinov, Sochi 2008;

b) 9...Qc7!? [with the idea c5] 10.Nh4 Bh7 11.f4 Be7 [11...Ne7!? unclear 12. g4 0-0-0] 12.Nf3 a5!? unclear 13.a4 Ncb6

## 26

**9...a5** 10.Bd2 Qb6 11.Ne1 Bb4 12.Bd3 Bd2 13.Qd2 Ne7 equal; Arngrimsson - P.Prohaszka, Budapest 2008;

## 9...Ncb6!? Roiz

## 27

10...0-0 11.Be3 a6 [11...Qc7 12.Nfd2 c5 13.c4 cd4 14.Nd4 dc4 15.Nf5 ef5 16. e6 fe6 17.Bc4 Rf6 18.Rc1 Qa5 19.Ne4 and White is superior; Debashis - M. Sumit, New Delhi 2009] 12.Ne1 f6 13.f4 fe5 14.fe5 Bg5 15.Qd2 Be3 16.Qe3 Ne7 17.Nd3 and White is slightly better; Vallejo Pons - V.Anand, Leon (rapid) 2008

## 28

11.Be3!? Qc7 [11...Na7!? unclear] 12.Nfd2 c5!? [12...Na7 13.f4 0-0 14.c4 Bh7 15.c5 Nb5 16.g4 f6 17.Nf3 fe5 18.fe5 Rf7 19.Bd3 and White is slightly better; Motylev - Rodshtein, Moscow 2008 see 102/(85)] 13.c3 c4 14.Nc1 b6 15.ab6 Ncb6 16.b4 cb3 17.Ncb3 0-0 unclear

## 29

12...0-0 13.Nfd2 dc4 14.Nc4 Be4 [14...Nb5!? with the idea Nc7-d5 unclear] 15.Nc5 Bc5 16.dc5 Bd5 17.Nb6 Ne5 18.Na8 Qa8 19.Bf4 Ng6 20.Bd6 Rd8 21. Bd3 Nc8 22.Bg6 [22.Bc7!?] Nd6 23.cd6 fg6 24.Qg4 Kh7 25.Qg3 Qb8 26.d7 Qg3 27.fg3 Rd7 28.b4 g5 29.Rad1 Rc7 30.Rc1 Rd7 31.Rcd1 Rc7 32.Rc1 1/2 : 1/2 Vachier-Lagrave - Hi.Nakamura, Cap d'Agde (m/2-rapid) 2008

## 30

17.Rfd1 Rad8 18.Rac1 c5 19.Qe4 cd4 20.Nd4 Nd4 21.Bd4 Qb8 22.Be3 Rfe8 23.h4 Nf8 unclear; Vachier-Lagrave - Hi.Nakamura, Cap d'Agde (m/4-rapid) 2008

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