

## The Chess Endgame Studies of Richard Réti : Updates and post-publication notes

John Beasley, 14 January 2012, latest revision 12 November

### 2012

- 14 January Initial posting on web site <[www.jsbeasley.co.uk](http://www.jsbeasley.co.uk)>.
- 17 January **3.7** (corrected version replacing **C.3**) and **6.8** (corrected version replacing **C.9**) added, and new versions of Introduction, **4.2** (note regarding Chéron setting), **4.7** (note in last sentence), **6.3** (new correction), and **C.4** (additional note). My thanks to Jaroslav Polášek for alerting me to the flaw in Chéron's attempted correction of **4.2**, and to Timothy Whitworth for reminding me of Benko's corrections now embodied in **3.7**, **3.8** (see 20 January below), **6.3**, and **6.8**.
- 20 January **3.8** added (corrected version replacing **C.4**), and typos corrected in **4.2** and **6.2**.
- 20 January According to C. N. 7468 in Edward Winter's Chess Notes ([www.chesshistory.com/winter](http://www.chesshistory.com/winter)), posted on 17 January, study **4.3** appeared on the front cover of the December 1924 issue of *Bulletin de la Fédération Belge des Echecs* with the White rook on e1, and no appearance of this study in *Tijdschrift v. d. NSB* can be traced. My conjecture is that the version with the rook on f2 first appeared in Mandler's 1931 book, and that Réti misremembered where the original had appeared (which may sound implausible, but I have certainly misremembered where my own compositions first appeared, and so I am not unwilling to conjecture that other composers may have done the same).
- 1 March Timothy Whitworth sends me some extracts from *Shakhmatny Listok* 1929 which relate to **6.2**. Réti's original study was reprinted there on 10 April as from "*Kölnische Volkszeitung* 1929" ("*Kölnischer*" was my typo, now corrected), with solution on 10 June giving 2 Bd3 only. On 10 July appeared an original study by F. J. Prokop, White Kh7, Re6, Ba3, Pd6/d2 (5), Black Kc6, Be8, Ne4, Pc3/d3 (5), win, with solution (10 October) 1 d7+ Kxd7 2 Rxe4 Bg6+ 3 Kxg6 cxd2 4 Rd4+ Ke8 5 Be7 (5 Rxd3 d1Q 6 Rxd1 stalemate) d1Q 6 Bg5 and mate on d8. In the meantime (10 September), there was a note by Mattison that 2 Bd7 dualized the Réti, and that though the study could easily be corrected by adding a White pawn on d3 this rather spoilt the position. Mandler explicitly states that Réti was aware of the dual *before* the study's publication (Kalendovský's translation, subsequently confirmed by Thomas Brand), but it would appear not to have been mentioned when the solution appeared in *Kölnische Volkszeitung*, and if only what was published at the time is taken into account the credit for the splendid move Bd7 would seem really to belong to Prokop though Rinck found the elegant way of forcing it without adding extra material.
- 2 March Timothy Whitworth draws my attention to a very attractive version of **6.7** which appeared in a tribute article in the July 1929 issue of *Československý šach* and which I have inserted in place of the Chéron version originally used, and to the original setting of **C.7**. He also draws my attention, on the evidence of photocopies of the original issues, to some tourney honours which I had omitted and to the correct date of **5.11**, and reminds me that "*Tijdschrift v. d. KNSB*" was "*Tijdschrift v. d. NSB*" at the relevant period and that "*Shakhmatny Listok*" always presented itself with a capital L. I have adjusted accordingly. There are also some minor typos which won't have led anyone astray but which I have taken the opportunity of correcting.
- 5 August Presentation of **4.7** improved.
- 15 September Introduction updated (final paragraph added) and caption of **4.6b** corrected, and copies run off for the major international chess collections and the British Library.
- 12 November In the Introduction, the meaning of "Unzeitgemäßes" clarified, and other improvements made, following a communication from Thomas Brand, who sends translations of various passages in Mandler's 1931 book. He remarks that this can be downloaded from Václav Kotěšovec's site ([http://problem64.beda.cz/silo/mandler\\_samtliche\\_studien\\_von\\_reti\\_1931.pdf](http://problem64.beda.cz/silo/mandler_samtliche_studien_von_reti_1931.pdf)).