

Bien fait, Bessis

By Jan van Cleeff

Poland v. France, Bermuda Bowl, Round 7

Japan v. France, Bermuda Bowl, Round 3

Board 1. Dealer North. None Vul.

Board 15. Dealer South. N/S Vul.

<p>♠ 10 8 7 6 4 ♥ K Q 7 4 3 ♦ 6 3 2 ♣ —</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ A J 9 3 2 ♥ 10 9 ♦ 5 ♣ K J 6 4 3</p>	<p>♠ — ♥ A J 6 5 2 ♦ A K Q J 10 ♣ Q 9 5</p>
			<p>♠ K Q 5 ♥ 8 ♦ 9 8 7 4 ♣ A 10 8 7 2</p>

<p>♠ A Q 6 2 ♥ Q 6 5 ♦ A Q 2 ♣ 9 5 2</p>	<div style="background-color: #008000; color: white; padding: 5px; width: 60px; margin: 0 auto;"> N W E S </div>	<p>♠ 5 ♥ K 9 7 4 2 ♦ K J 7 ♣ A K J 7</p>	<p>♠ 9 ♥ A 10 3 ♦ 10 9 8 6 4 ♣ 10 8 6 3</p>
			<p>♠ K J 10 8 7 4 3 ♥ J 8 ♦ 5 3 ♣ Q 4</p>

Open Room

In the open room, Godefroy de Tessieres as West made 11 tricks in 3NT on the lead of ♦10. The spicy stuff came from the closed room:

West	North	East	South
<i>Combescur</i>	<i>Jassem</i>	<i>Rombaut</i>	<i>Mazurkiewicz</i>
	1♥	2♥*	Pass
4♠	5♦	Pass	Pass
Dble	All Pass		
2♥ spades and a minor			

West	North	East	South
<i>Chen</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Furuta</i>	<i>Volcker</i>
			2♠*
Pass	Pass	Dble	Pass
3NT	All Pass		
2♠ weak			

With his double, West clearly put his hopes on a club lead. East, however, kicked off with the ♠A. Declarer ruffed, played the ♥A, heart ruff and pitched two clubs on the top spades. Then Jassem tried ♣A, but when West ruffed and returned a trump the defense had a heart trick coming. Still, declarer had 11 tricks for plus 550.

North duly led his partner's suit to the ten and low. Next, West won the ♠J with his queen, crossed to dummy with ♦J and played a low heart to his queen. When Bessis followed low, declarer ducked a heart to South, who cleared the spades. Declarer, who was convinced that South still had the ♥A as an entry for his spades, fell back to Plan B and finessed ♣J: 3NT two down. Bessis's brilliant manoeuvre was good for 11 IMPs for France. Bien fait.

Closed Room

West	North	East	South
<i>Kalita</i>	<i>Bessis</i>	<i>Nowosadzki</i>	<i>Volcker</i>
	1♥	2♥*	Dbl*
4♠	6♦	All Pass	
2♥ spades and a minor			
Dbl points			

Knowing that his partner had some values Thomas Bessis immediately jumped to slam. A double by West lets the defense prevail if East finds the club lead. East, however, opted for the ♠A as in the open room. This gave Thomas Bessis the chance to make 12 tricks and he grabbed it. He ruffed the lead, draw the trumps and advanced the ♣Q, hoping to find ♣J bare in West. Not this time, but Bessis still had +920 and 9 IMPs to France. That was nice, but it got even better:



Thomas Bessis, France