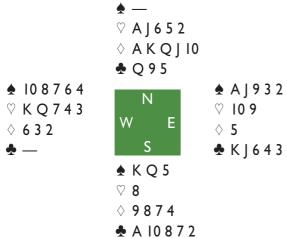
Bien fait, Bessis

By Jan van Cleeff

Poland v. France, Bermuda Bowl, Round 7

Board I. Dealer North. None Vul.



Open Room

| West | North | East | South |
|------------|------------|---------|--------------|
| Combescure | Jassem | Rombaut | Mazurkiewicz |
| | \bigcirc | 2♡* | Pass |
| 4 ♠ | 5 ◇ | Pass | Pass |
| Dble | All Pass | | |
| | | | |

27 spades and a minor

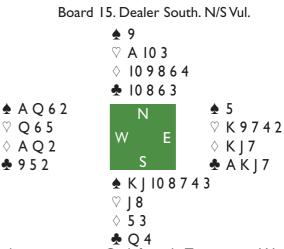
With his double, West clearly put his hopes on a club lead. East, however, kicked off with the A. Declarer ruffed, played the $\heartsuit A$, heart ruff and pitched two clubs on the top spades. Then Jassem tried $\clubsuit A$, but when West ruffed and returned a trump the defense had a heart trick coming.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

Closed Room

| We | st North | East | South |
|-----------|---------------------------|------------|---------|
| Kalit | a Bessis | Nowosadzki | Volcker |
| | ${\bf \nabla}$ | 2♡* | Dbl* |
| 4♠ | 60 | All Pass | |
| 2♡ Dbl | spades and a minor 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 $\clubsuit Q$, hoping to find 🔄 bare in West. Not this time, but Bessis still had +920 and 9 IMPs to France. That was nice, but it got even better:

Japan v. France, Bermuda Bowl, Round 3



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

| West | North | East | South |
|-----------------|----------|--------|---------|
| Chen | Bessis | Furuta | Volcker |
| | | | 2♠* |
| Pass | Pass | Dble | Pass |
| 3NT | All Pass | | |
| 2 ♠ weak | | | |

North duly led his partner's suit to the ten and low. Next, West won the **A** with his queen, crossed to dummy with \Diamond] 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 $\heartsuit A$ as an entry for his spades, fell back to Plan B and finessed !: 3NT two down. Bessis's brilliant manoeuvre was good for 11 IMPs for France. Bien fait.



Thomas Bessis, France