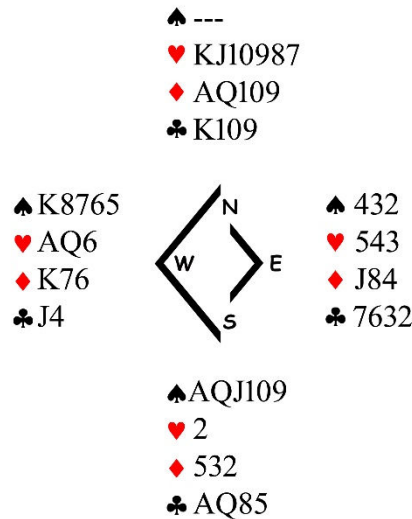


340. Got Their Suit Means No Trump

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W	N	E	S
1 ♠	2 ♥	P	3NT
All Pass			

--North South Vulnerable--

The bidding:

South would love to hear West open One Spade and North double. There is no chance here that South would pick 3NT over One Spade Doubled even at this vulnerability. One Spade is likely down four even without particularly good defense as long as North does not lead Diamonds. 800 is better than 660.

However, North overcalls Two Hearts showing a full opener and a good six-card suit. South jumps to 3NT hoping his partner passes and does not assume he is promising a doubleton Heart. All South needs from Hearts is that North's Hearts stop the opponents from leading them and perhaps lead to a trick or two.

Did South ever entertain the idea of bidding Spades? No of course not. He knows ahead of time, if his partner has Spade support, they are splitting very badly. Except for the King, West has small Spades, but they will still be troublesome in any Spade contract by South.

South knows he has the black suits stopped, and it is not that much of a stretch to count on a partner with an opening hand for the red suits.

Opening Lead: The Spade Six

West would love to guess correctly which of his short suits is the killing lead, but he leads fourth best from his longest and strongest suit, Spades.

The Play:

Declarer wins the Spade Nine and gives up the Spade King. He then goes after Hearts playing West to have the Diamond King, Heart Ace and Heart Jack.

The Result:

When the Club Jack falls, declarer easily has his eleven tricks losing the Heart Ace and Spade King for +660.