

THINKING BRIDGE -- By Eddie Kantar
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Dir: South Vul: Both	NORTH ♠ 6 3 2 ♥ Q 6 ♦ A 9 3 ♣ Q 10 7 4 3		West	North	East	South
			--	--	--	1 Spade
			2 Heart	2 Spade	Pass	4 Spade
			All Pass			
WEST ♠ 7 ♥ A K J 8 7 5 ♦ Q 7 6 2 ♣ K 8		EAST ♠ 8 5 4 ♥ 10 3 ♦ J 10 8 ♣ J 9 6 5 2	Opening Lead = ♥A (ace from A-K at trick one in unsupported suits)			
	SOUTH ♠ A K Q J 10 9 ♥ 9 4 2 ♦ K 5 4 ♣ A					

Bidding commentary: Normal. North does not count 2 high-card points for that ♥Q after West's vulnerable two-level overcall. It's unlikely to be worth the cardboard it's printed on. Stray jacks and queens in suits that have been bid by the opponents are unlikely to be worth much. Count them at your own risk. However, if partner bids notrump after the opponents have bid a suit, jacks and queens in that suit retain their value.

Defensive commentary: East starts a highlow with the ♥10 and West continues with the king and jack.

Play commentary: With a heart overruff looming, South does best to discard a diamond from dummy, a sure loser in any event. The intention is to ruff a third diamond in dummy after drawing two rounds of trumps. It's a primo idea, but...

Defensive commentary: When East sees what South is up to, he can frustrate South by also discarding a diamond at trick three. Now a diamond ruff in dummy will suffer an overruff by East. Down one.

When faced with a certain dummy overruff, consider the possibility of discarding a loser from dummy in a second suit where you also has a loser. The idea is to ruff that loser later. It doesn't work in this case if East is alert, but it's your only chance.