



**Activation Castle of Reichenstein DL-02342 BOB-008 in DLFF-098 august,06 2011**



The remaining tower from Reichenstein

As a final operation before the QRL-start on monday, I had to do some antenna-tests. Finally we decided to combine the testing of the equipment with our 7th castle-activation this year. We chose the area of nature-park „Oberpfälzer Wald“ DLFF-098 or called upper palatinate which is the area in germany with the highest number of different castles inside. Finally the castle of Reichenstein near the town of Stadlern was our plan. It was originally built in the 12th or 13th century and is located on top of the hill Reichenstein 874meters asl

but there is only one more complete tower remaining from the ruin. From previous operations I wanted to

be more independant from trees at the destination location. So I've tried in the past week to improve my portable-equipment specially with a mounting-post for a new portable-mast. The forger in my home-town made me a new base-plate which should be used as destination for the portable-mast where you drive with the car on it. On top of this a special tube was prepared with a special tape which is normally used on a bike-handle-bar. This is to protect the inner side from the fiberglass-mast when it ever should run down unexpected. Finally on this construction the new heavy-



First base plate



with protected tube on it



and finally with mast on top

duty fiberglass mast from [www.dx-wire.de](http://www.dx-wire.de) was pulled over. The mast has a total length of ten meters and on the top end a diameter of nearly 20mm on the bottom nearly 60mm with a total weight of 3,5 kg. With my previous mast I always had the problem that it simply could cover only absolutely light-weight antennas but this new one allows also to carry antennas with a higher weight also on top of it.

However we arrived later than expected in the area and after the second selected destination we finally could start with the arrangement and were active at 0921 UTC with the first contact with MOXOC on 20 meters. The location in Stadlern was exactly behind a hill which for sure cutted the conditions to some areas extremely, however we were not able to bring the castle



DF6EX in operation as DA0CW/p

to a better place, hi. So 20 meters was extremely bad this day. So we moved to 40 meters where we had a good but not too big run with a lot of I and DL-stations. I also made several tests on 17 meters which worked good with the outbacker-mobile-antenna from other locations but not

from this one and also poor propagations. Finally the most-effective band was 40 meters today with a total of 90 contacts. Equipment was a YAESU FT450 powered by a second car battery. Finally we closed the operation after a bit more of two hours operating time at 1143 UTC with the last contact with G3UD. The antenna-construction worked very well and possibly it will be used to bring another new one in your logs in the near future. The total of contacts altogether were 180 with three dupes in it. Special-QSL-card will come automatically from our QSL-manager DL7RAG (you don't need to send your card). Also the upload for the WCA-database and Igor's WFF-database will follow today.



Bringing down everything and ready for go home.



My xyl Christa, who accompanied me in most of the castle-operations this year reading books while I was endless calling.

For the WFF-hunters, there are plenty other castles and fortresses in that area and for sure will return, maybe also next time with a longer activation.

Thanks for the QSOs and possibly SWL-reports.

73, 44, 11

Hope to meet you from another one.



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BOB-008

DL-02342