



DAØWCA - 08.04.2016

WCA DL-04900 (BOB-135) - WWFF DLFF-0093

Neues Schloss Plößberg



*Plößberg was in the middle the former so-called Goldenen Strasse (golden road) between Prag and Nürnberg. The village is located near Tirschenreuth. The first castle was built here in 1052. Together with Schönkirch and Wildenau it was one out of three bohemian fief in northern bavaria. In the time around 1428 also in this village the hussite penetrated and burned down the whole village. Around 1600 the dreaded robber-knights Prenger resided there. The current new castle in the same road was last time rebuild in 1751 after a heavy fire in 1614.*



Neues Schloss Plößberg

Three days after the latest portable-activity totally outside by foot, this time I preferred to be QRV again from the car. Temperature was cooler with a maximum of 12 degrees so shack should be a bit more comfortable.

I tried to come out a bit earlier from work and started the trip to Plößberg. Was checking there a week before for a location and a place on the outer edge of the village.

Setup was done quickly in the cool environment but the first test of the station failed. So transceiver made not more than 5 watts output. When searching the cable-connections on the first view found no problem.

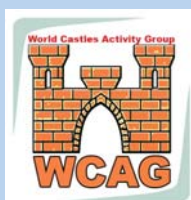
So finally changed the battery to eliminate the possibility that power brakes down. Unfortunately had no measure-

ment-equipment with me. Also changed antenna-cable after running down and back up the antenna and tried again with same result.

So nearly reached point to pull down everything, when I saw that in CW the power came out. So a bit strange but I checked more carefully the adapter of the microphone line and found that there apparently was an interruption (not full) in the headset updater connecting the Heil-headset to the transceiver.

After finding the right box found the replacement adapter and the operation could continue. Finally at 1419 UTC could do the first contact with G4PVM on 40 meters. Here I had a web-connection however it was anyway starting slow and apparently not too productive. Conditions on 40 were extreme bad. Nearly no closer stations and also the usually very loud italian and polish stations didn't come through.

So first tried my luck on 20 meters SSB, only a few contacts however also japanes stations which was surprising. But then I tried again 20 CW also with low success and finally moved back to 40. Here starting at first in CW but after a few minutes a station strickly asserted the frequency belongs to him. Finally he disturbed so much that I decided to make a last attempt in SSB before leaving.





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location at the edge of the village

It was now 1503 UTC and original planning was till about 1530 as I finally had also to drive home. Score till now was just 46 contacts. When changing to SSB found the band much more populated and the usual area between 7.120 and 7.150 was totally full. So moved up until 7.177 and found there an almost silent frequency.

After the first spot appeared, now a lot of the well-known WWFF and WCA-collectors were calling in with loud signals.

Also german stations came more and more through. So the pile-up was not too heavy

but very constant and so finally could work in the next 50 minutes 155 stations. At 1557 finally I switched down the station as the area was getting darker and I wanted to find all equipment in the wooden area. So in total 201 contacts with 26 countries were done, 29% with Germany, 16% Italy, 14% Poland.

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After a difficult start finally a good end of the operation and ready to go home and prepare for the next day follow up trip from the next castle.

All activities at:

<http://blog.winqsl.com>

Please don't forget about the QSL-policy.

Please don't send a QSL-card, we are confirming every contact 100% at first in the electronic WWFF and WCA and COTA-database and later we send out a photo-QSL for several activities together but we don't collect our own, please send also no card for the operator.

73, 44, 11 cu from the next one,

Manfred DF6EX

