



DAØWCA - 14.01.2017

Castle Wendern WCA DL-05002 COTA BOB-155



The castle Wendern has a history back into the 14th century. Johann Bartels from Wendern became in 1649 the feud of Wendern for his merits in the 30-years war. The owner should have been very rich, so a legend tells that there are on a hidden place 3 bricks out of gold.

Since several generations the whole complex is in private ownership by a local family and used as farm where you can spend also holidays.

There was at the same day also our regular club-meeting this time with the

elections for the new committee. So not so well date but anyway we wanted to try some activity in the happy birthday castle-weekend. Konrad DH6RAE is living close to the small village Wendern with a distance of less than 1km.

However weather was really awful. On the road there were already several car-accidents as the roads were quite slick. When I was arriving at Konrad's QTH found altogether more than 30cm new snow. So he had to prepare the way to the camper in the early morning that we could assemble the station there.

We first started quite quick to setup the mast and the dipole and hurried to come into the warmer working environment.

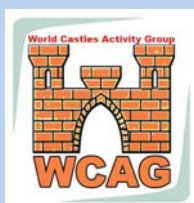
During the past months found no time for any portable-activity but heard that the bands were not too good in the past weeks and that was also the case when we started with this activity from DL-05002.

There were good conditions to Italy and Poland on 40 meters but almost nothing to closer distances. Germany was extremely poor on 40 meters and we quickly changed the bands, however also on the others not too good conditions, especially 20 meters very poor. We tried also without any success 17 and then moved back again to 40 meters.

In the second half of the operation 7Mhz improved a little bit.

The score between CW and SSB was almost the same, so when nothing happened in SSB we tried our luck in CW. At the end of the operation we moved to 30 meters and had there a small final opening also with some DL-stations inside.

Altogether we got 134 contacts in the log in almost two hours of operation with 25 different countries.





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the ancient clockwork from the castle Wendern

Finally in the evening another long ham-radio-day was over at 2300.
Thanks to Konrad DH6RAE for taking part and offer the possibility to give out another WCA-counter.
Thanks of course to all stations which came in and gave us a call, cuagn.

73, 44, 11
Manfred DF6EX

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Top countries were Italy, followed then by Poland, with a bigger distance Germany as 3rd.

After dismantling the station, (used again the FT450 battery-powered) we made us on the short way to the castle. Had the day before a small phonecall with the owner and we were friendly expected to take a photo from a part of the object.

Mrs Flogaus showed us also the original clockwork of the building which was there in earlier centuries. Meanwhile the clock is electrified.

So was quite interesting, in the small village is also a silvermine which can be visited and is currently in use by a bat-colony.

On the small road to Wendern through 30cm high snow we found also a car with 4 ladies stranded, seemed like they put the gas pedal to much but finally we helped them to come back into civilization.

So at the end delivered Konrad to his home and left to prepare for the evening club-meeting.



Konrad DH6RAE, digging out the planned QTH from snow

