

DL3IAS/p
JN49DJ

**10 GHz
Rainscatter
Activity
24-Jul-2021**



As some of you have already noticed, my take-off from my home QTH in JN49EJ60 is anything but good to the southern direction because of a big forest.

Therefore, I'm trying something new this rainscatter season: 10 GHz portable operation! For rainscatter, the height above ground is not crucial, but a clear view to the horizon.

So this Saturday late afternoon / evening I was QRV from JN49DJ "on a field" between Schifferstadt and Dannstadt-Schauernheim.

The QTH was surrounded by vegetable patches, and near two very large wind turbines with total height of 185m! This is often a good indicator that there are only little or no obstructions around.

However, the journey to the QTH by car was a very "dusty" matter.

The equipment:

- DB6NT 10 GHz Transverter MK2 with 2m IF
- 106,5 MHz PLL XO by DB6NT
- OCXO for 10 MHz from KVG
- 10 watt power amplifier by DL2AM
- 35cm Offset dish
- YAESU FT817 with original hand microphone and internal battery pack
- 18 Ah lead acid battery
- Palm Pico CW paddle
- Smartphone for mobile internet (ON4KST Chat, DX Cluster, Radar Maps, and Lighting Maps)

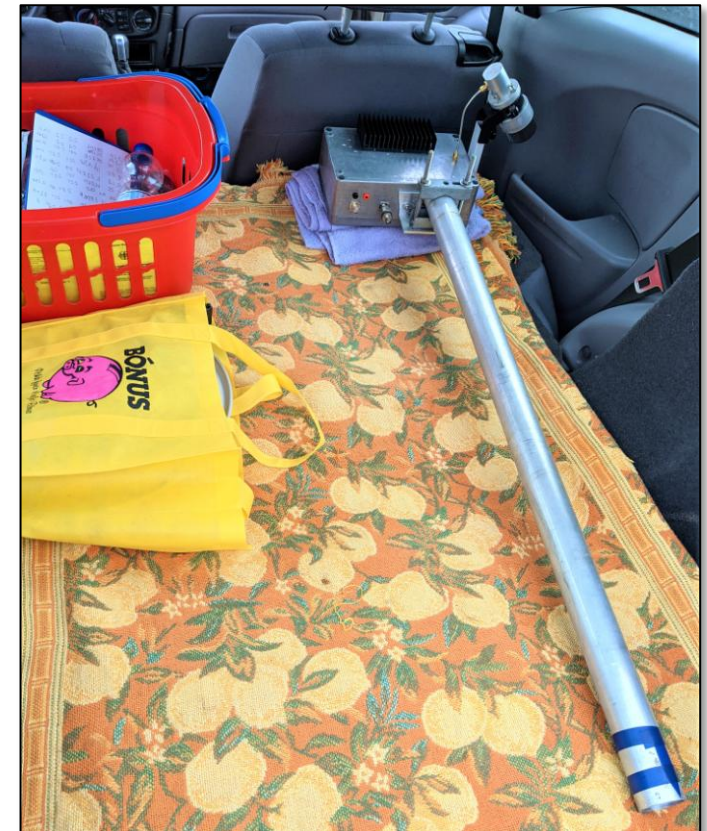


360 degree camera video

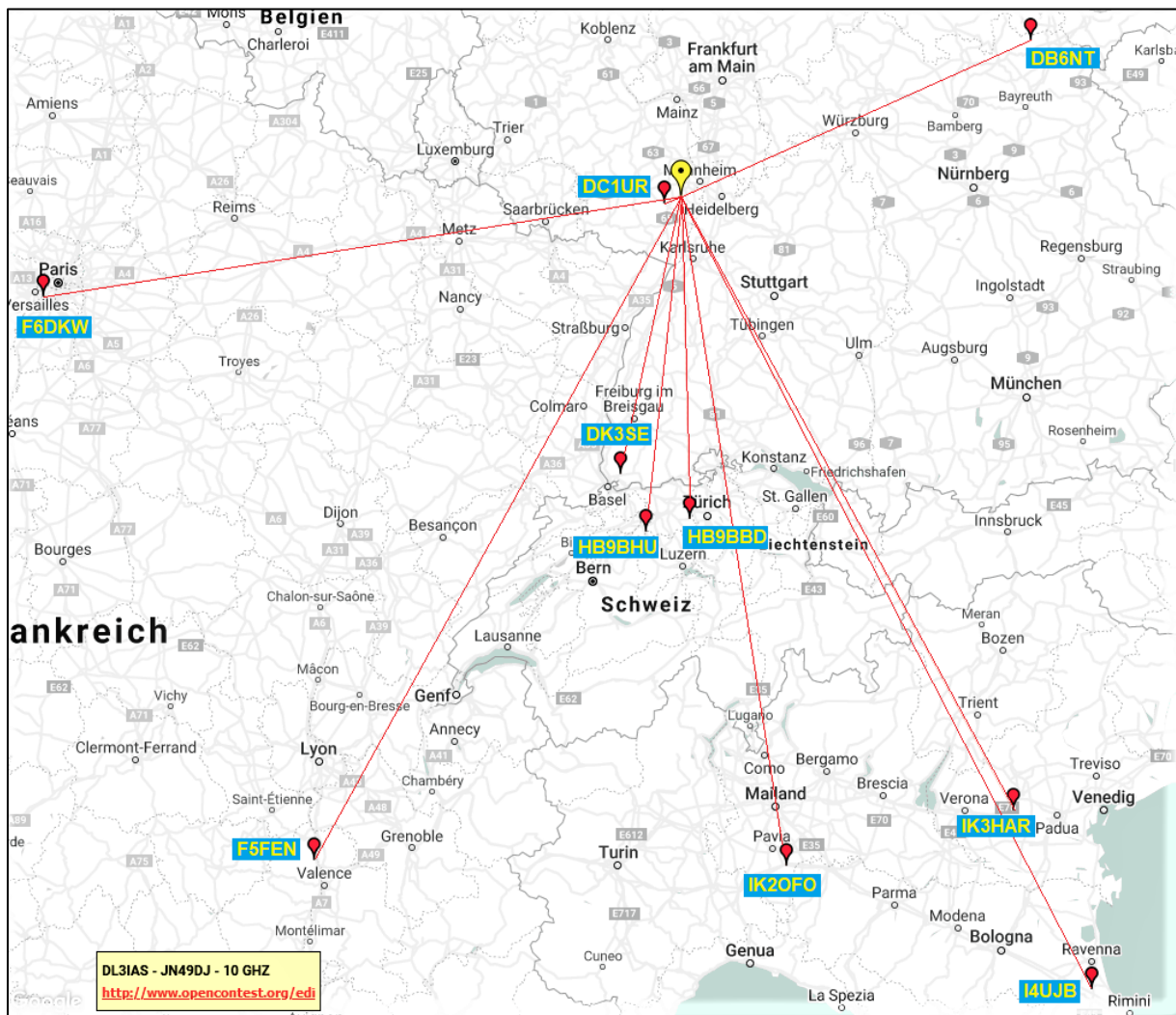
<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/1Efr4RZST1aFKWUEirFfUA>

Panorama picture with higher resolution:

https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/KfvGjJnQrmbz10NBD8_NA



With 10 QSOs at the end and some real DX this little excursion was very successful!



Here are a few comments about the QSOs made, as well as a few videos of how the rainscatter signals sounded.

HB9BBD (JN47EI, 227 km)

Right after I switched on the station I could hear Dominique with a very loud backscatter signal. A loud signal was absolutely necessary. In contrast to his 180 watts, I have only a 10 watt "QRP PA" relatively seen. The QSO to JN47 could be made without any problem in CW.

HB9BHU (JN37XG, 238 km)

I was very pleased to work Fredi again after a long time. He is located behind the Jura Mountains in Zofingen. Again this QSO was made in CW. I hope that the Surplus Party in Zofingen will take place again this year, so that I can meet him there.

IK3HAR (JN55RK, 497 km)

Claudio called CQ in CW, but answered in SSB. In the first attempt his signal was too weak for SSB. But as time passing by, his signal getting louder. So at the end the QSO could be completed, though very difficult. CW is still the king!

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/rpol-GK8RSalleuE4MxUSQ>

IK2OFO (JN45PB, 487 km)

Very good copy of Roberto in CW. There was a residual carrier on his signal, but it did not affect the completion of the QSO.

F6DKW (JN18CS, 448 km)

Although my portable QTH was not far away to the mountains in the west, I was able to make a nice forward scatter QSO with Maurice in Paris. There were some bigger scatterpoints in JN39 not far away. A little elevation helped to get a better signal.

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/5mcfH5veTk-by7uzABv3ew>

F5FEN (JN25JC, 545 km)

First I thought Pascal from Nancy was calling, but it was not F5LEN. Confusion like the usual DL3IAE/DL3IAS mix-up? Gilles from the Department Drome / Region Auvergne-Rhône-Alpes produced a very clear SSB signal via forward scatter.

I4UJB (JN64CE, 647 km)

Today's QSO ODX, but not the receiving ODX (see below). Again a clear forward scatter signal in SSB. Giancarlo is located in Cesena just before Rimini. You don't hear many station from the JN64 square on air.

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/L9-DYhIrQbKOGrlfpn7szw>

DK3SE (JN37UP, 199 km)

This was my fourth "Italian" station. Although, Salvatore has been living in Germany for a very long time. Like Dominique, it has to be backscatter to work Salvatore, as he is blocked in direction north by the Black Forrest. In CW it was no problem at all.

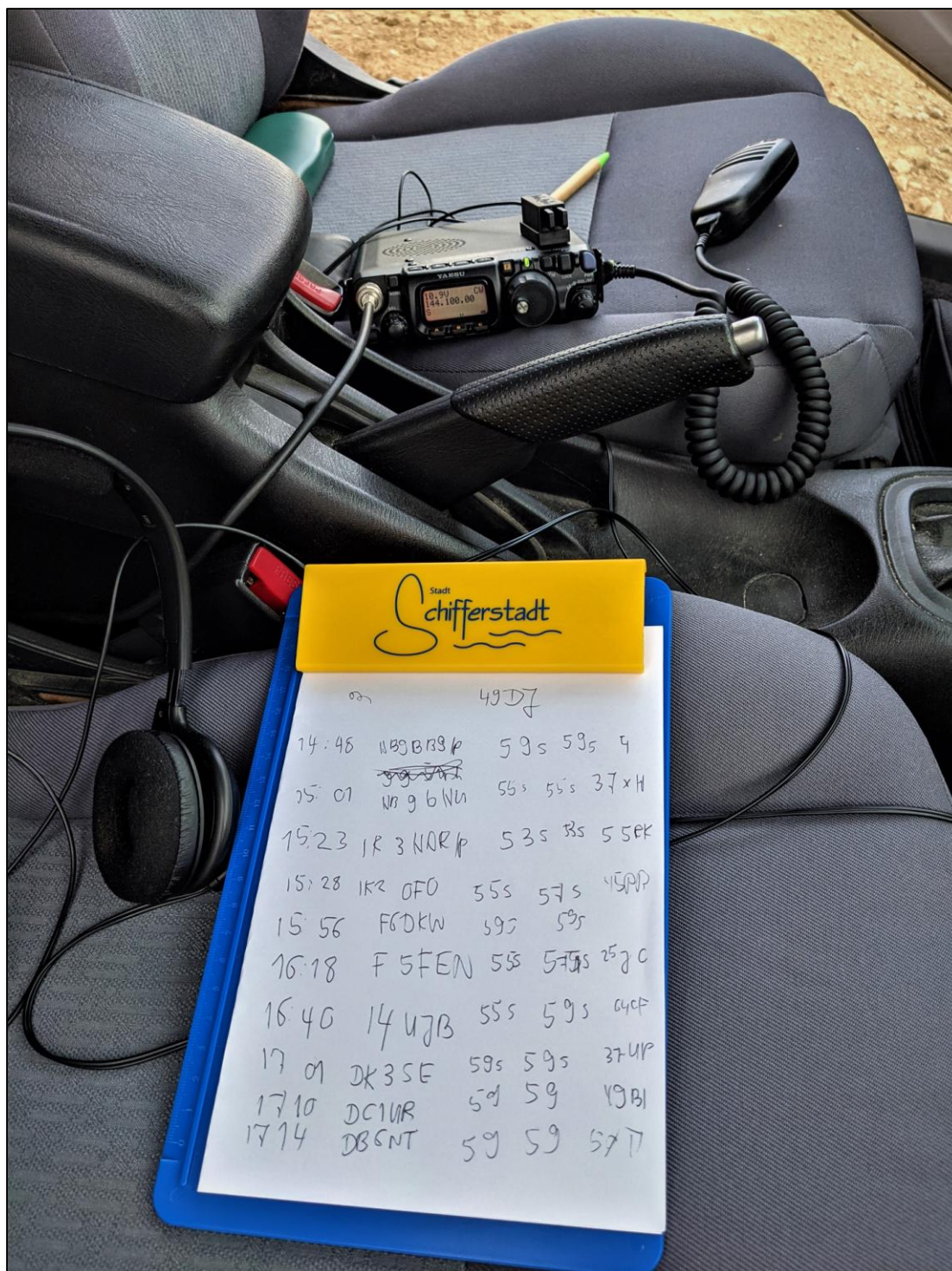
DC1UR (JN49BI, 13 km)

A local QSO to Helmut not far away located in Neustadt an der Weinstraße. Of course in SSB without any scatter sound.

DB6NT (JO50TI, 262 km)

At the end of my QSO with Helmut a "QRZ?" from Michael via backsatter. After I had turned the antenna in direction Franconia, a big signal as usual. Earlier the evening I copied Michael during a QSO with HB9BBD flawlessly in frequency modulation (FM)!

<https://c.web.de/@337150638448182491/1GPQelyTQHGF6Dprmt098A>



Am I in the log? Check it out!

Of course Daniel DL3IAE was also hunting scatterpoints. No QSO required, as we know that it is always possible between us h.i.

And now the highlight of the day:

I heard Daniel making a CW QSO with an Italian station on 100. After I turned the antenna to about 180 degree I could copy a weak, but clearly readable signal. At first I thought that the station was from the area of Milano. But after checking the station listing on ON4KST I realized it was Sergio IK2MMB, who was on holiday from the island of Elba (IA5) in JN52CT (745 km)!

Unfortunately, Sergio was after the QSO with Daniel away for a sked with Salvatore DK3SE. When we tried again later, it was still possible for DL3IAE (20 watts and 65 cm mirror) with a very weak signals.

But for me with the smaller 35 cm dish (5 db less to Daniels 65 cm dish) not enough. The scatter point was too small in the meantime. A real pity!

Daniel had told me before on phone what some Sergio will be QRV from Elba. But I thought he meant the I1KFH Sergio. Maurice F6DKW was able to work JN52 later (907 km). Congratulations!

Unfortunately Giorgio IK3GHY, and also Carlo I4MES were not QRV that evening. Cesare I6XCK in Ancona was QRV, but the scatter points were unfortunately not suitable for him this time.



Molte grazie per i bei collegamenti radio su 10 GHz per l'Italia



Mais aussi à la France



Und natürlich auch nach Deutschland und die Schweiz



Conclusion:

The QTH change has really brought me some new DX opportunities in direction Italy!

Best 73 and stay healthy

Nino DL3IAS