

# The Federal Border Guard and Police Tear Down the “Free Republic of Wendland” (June 4, 1980)

## Abstract

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On May 3, 1980, anti-nuclear activists occupied site 1004 (located in the vicinity of Gorleben in Lower Saxony) to stop the federal government from running drilling trials for a nuclear waste facility. A village of wooden huts was erected and the “Free Republic of Wendland” was proclaimed. It had its own flag and issued passports; approximately 300 people lived there for a time. Several thousand sympathizers also passed through the village; most were residents of the region. On June 4, 1980, the police and the Federal Border Guard finally cleared site 1004, ending the short existence of the “republic.”

## Source

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Source: On June 4, 1980, the Federal Border Guard and police clear the “Republic of Free Wendland,” an area near Gorleben occupied by opponents of nuclear power. Image 4 of 6. Photo: Günter Zint. bpk-Bildagentur, image number 30027708. For rights inquiries, please contact Art Resource at [requests@artres.com](mailto:requests@artres.com) (North America) or bpk-Bildagentur at [kontakt@bpk-bildagentur.de](mailto:kontakt@bpk-bildagentur.de) (for all other countries).

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Recommended Citation: The Federal Border Guard and Police Tear Down the “Free Republic of Wendland” (June 4, 1980), published in: German History in Documents and Images,

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