



**West African Ornithological Society**  
**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest**  
**Africain**



**Join the WAOS and support  
the future availability of free  
pdfs on this website.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/member.htm>

If this link does not work, please copy it to your browser and try again.  
If you want to print this pdf, we suggest you begin on the next page (2) to conserve paper.

**Devenez membre de la  
SOOA et soutenez la  
disponibilité future des pdfs  
gratuits sur ce site.**

<http://malimbus.free.fr/adhesion.htm>

Si ce lien ne fonctionne pas, veuillez le copier pour votre navigateur et réessayer.  
Si vous souhaitez imprimer ce pdf, nous vous suggérons de commencer par la page suivante  
(2) pour économiser du papier.

may well be of interest\*. In the late afternoon of 1st May 1964 we were on a stretch of the Kaduna 30 to 40 ft. wide, with steep 10 ft. high banks, The water was deep and swift-flowing, interrupted by not more than a few rocks. The banks were almost completely covered by a thorny scrub growth ( a favourite roost of finches, weavers etc.) which overhangs the water by several feet, so as to make the actual shore invisible. Our attention was drawn by a big flopping splash as something took cover on the other side of the channel. After a few minutes a Senegal Finfoot quietly emerged from cover and began to move freely and slowly down the bank, exploring every nook and cranny and occasionally apparently taking food off the trailing weeds. We followed it down the river for some way, in full view, and it took no further notice of us. On this showing it could hardly be called a very shy bird.

The orange-red bill with brown culmen, and big white spots on the back and sides make it a very handsome bird. It swam with the tail spread wide and lying flat on the surface of the water, and this seemed to erase any trace of the bird's passage. Certainly it was remarkable for the fact that there was no sign of a ripple or wake to betray its presence, and if one had not had one's attention drawn in the first place the bird could very easily have been overlooked, even when it was in full view in comparatively open water.

D.E. Macgregor

Mottled Swifts on the Jos Plateau. This note is to record the only addition I can make to the Plateau Check-list (Ebbutt et al., p. 9 this issue). On 12th May 1961, about 1600 hrs., a violent storm was brewing up some 10 miles South of Jos. There were high winds and a black sky, and a remarkable movements of swifts, hirundines and Abdim's Storks. Sphenorhynchus abdimii flew into wind. The swallows were mainly H. aethiopica but included about 20 Banded Martins Riparia cincta, and the swifts were mainly A. affinis, with some A. caffer and Cypsiurus and about 5 huge dark fork-tailed swifts with irregular dark transverse markings on a slightly paler belly. I have seen Apus aquatorialis, the Mottled Swift at Bamenda and have subsequently seen it at Zaria; there is no reason to believe that the Jos birds were not this species, caught up (from where?) with a mass movement of other swifts and swallows.

C.H. Fry

#### C O R R I G E N D U M

Topo Island Avifauna, N.O.S. Bulletin No 2 page 6 : For "Tchagra australis Brown-crowned Tchagra" read "Tchagra senegalensis Black-crowned Tchagra".

#### R E Q U E S T S F O R I N F O R M A T I O N

- European Swift J.A. Button would be pleased for any observations on mass movements of this species in Nigeria.
- Ibadan Malimbe See J.H. Elgood's request, p. 9 of this issue.
- White-throated Bee-eater See C.H. Fry's request on preceding page.

\*This is also the first record of the species in Nigerian Northern Guinea Savannah that has come to my notice. It occurs on the Plateau. -Ed.