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Grey-headed Kingfisher Halcyon leucocephala A. Regular May to September.

Senegal Kingfisher Halcyon senegalensis A. Regular May to September.

White-throated Bee-eater *Merops albicollis* A. Regular on passage in May and in October to November. I have seen them entering holes near Nguru.

Grey Hornbill Lophoceros nasutus. I have not recorded the actual dates when I have seen Grey Hornbill "route marches". So far as I can recollect they take place at the end of the dry season and early in the rains. On several occasions I have counted over 50 birds in a party.

Rufous-rumped Bush-Lark Pinarocorys erythropygia. My only Kano record was on 17th April 1956.

Paradise Flycatcher Tchitrea viridis A. A fairly common bird in thickets round Kano in June to August.

Red-breasted Wheatear Oenanthe heuglini A. Regular on passage in May to October.

Snowy-crowned Robin-Chat Cossypha niveicapilla A. Regular in the rains. I ring migrants in a certain patch of bush near Kano every October. Three robin-chats were ringed in 1963 and two of these were recaptured the following year. A young bird ringed in October 1964 suggests that they nest near Kano.

African Golden Oriole Oriolus auratus A. Golden Orioles arrive in Kano at the end of June and are common until December.

Amethyst Starling Cinnycinclus leucogaster. Only seen twice near Kano, in September.

Yellow-bellied Sunbird Cinnnyris venustus A. My only records are in May and June.

Violet-backed Sunbird Anthreptes longuemarei A. Seen once in Kano in May.

Black-faced Dioch Quelea quelea. Small parties of diochs may be seen round Kano in the rains. Several thousand diochs were ringed near Lake Chad in 1959 and 1960 and one of these was recovered later near Fika, 170 miles West of the ringing point.

PRELIMINARY NOTES ON THE BIRDS OF MALAMFATORI ,

LAKE CHAD .

A. J. Hopson

Introduction

Malamfatori lies in the extreme North-East corner of Nigeria, two miles South of the mouth of the River Yobe, on the shores of Lake Chad. It is in the driest part of the country with an annual rainfall of between approximately 6 and 16 inches, chiefly restricted to isolated storms in late July and August. The present observations were made in a roughly triangular area within fifteen miles of Malamfatori, including Abadam and Yo on the River Yobe to the West, and Arege near the lake shore to the South.

The Environment

The area contains a variety of habitats. To the South the land is rolling, with fixed sand-dunes covered with a Sahel vegetation of scattered Acacia raddiana, Leptodenia spartina and Salvadora persica (the Saltbush). Salvadora is particularly common within a mile of the lake where it forms dense thickets up to 15 ft. in height. Inland and to the North the country becomes more open and flatter with bare flats dotted with Balanites aegyptica and on islands of sand stunted Salvadora bushes. Near the river, the vegetation is often dense, with Hyphaene, the Dum Palm, widespread on sandy patches and Acacia nilotica on ground subject to flooding.

An extensive area lying within a radius of 4 miles from the river mouth, and separated from the lake shore by a low ridge of dunes, is inundated each year from November to June by the rising waters of both the river and the lake. This flooded zone is unusually rich in aquatic birds of which over 80 species have been observed. Close to the lake in the flooded zone there is open farmland, cultivated between April and June as the waters recede. Further inland the inundated area is a wilderness of tall grasses (chiefly Echinocloa sp.) and thick groves of partly submerged Acacia nilotica. The trees contain a large mixed colony of cormorants and herons (five of the species apparently breed nowhere else on the West African mainland) and also a very large mixed roost of Quelea quelea the Black-faced Dioch and Auripasser luteus the Golden Sparrow.

Herons, storks, ducks and waders are also abundant during the rainy season on the partially flooded flats between Yo and Abadam and on more than 1,000 acres of rice and wheat which are irrigated each year from September to March near Yo.

The River Yobe spreads out into extensive permanent marshes, interlaced with canals and lagoons, before entering Lake Chad. To the lake-ward edge of the marshes are beds of papyrus and ambach (Herminiera elaphroxylon) a small aquatic tree. South of the river mouth, from Malamfatori to Arege and beyond, the lake shore is open with only a narrow fringing belt of marsh.

Status

The records summarised below are based on a census made each month from August 1962 to December 1964 (with the exception of the five months April to August 1964 when I was on leave). It was rarely possible to visit all the habitats in the course of every month and for this reason little data is available from the marshes at the mouth of the Yobe. So far 264 species of birds have been recorded from the area. Grouped according to status they consist of :-

	No.	%
<u>African species</u>	194	73.3
Resident (individuals present at all times of year)	116	43.8
Wet season only	21	7.9.
Dry season only	12	4.5
Irregular in occurrence	45	17.0
<u>Palaeartic species</u>	70	26.4
Resident (individuals present at all times of year)	9	3.3
Winter visitors	55	20.7
On autumn passage	6	2.2

Sahel Avifauna

Of the 194 African species observed at Malamfatori 139 are terrestrial in habitat. Nearly all of them are widely distributed in the savannah belt of Nigeria and as few as 11 species are restricted to the Sahel Savannah : -

<u>Torgos tracheliotus</u>	Nubian Vulture
<u>Neophron percnopterus</u>	Egyptian Vulture
<u>Lophotis savilei</u>	Savile's Pygmy Bustard
<u>Caprimulgus aegypticus</u>	Egyptian Nightjar
<u>Trachyphonus margaritatus</u>	Yellow-breasted Barbet
<u>Mirafra cantillans</u>	Singing Bush-Lark
<u>Oenanthe leucopyga</u>	White-rumped Wheatear
<u>Spiloptila clamans</u>	Scaly-fronted Warbler
<u>Corvus ruficollis</u>	Brown-necked Raven
<u>Auripasser luteus</u>	Golden Sparrow
<u>Pytilia melba</u>	Melba Finch

Of these, only T. tracheliotus, C. aegypticus, T. margaritatus, M. cantillans and A. luteus occurred regularly in the area.

The most characteristic birds of the Acacia raddiana woodland near Malamfatori, including Sarcophorus tectus (Black-headed Plover), Colinus macrourus (Blue-naped Mousebird), Merops orientalis (Little Green Bee-eater), Cercotrichas podobe (Black Scrub-Robin), Erythropycia galactotes (Rufous Warbler or Scrub-Robin), Lamprocolius chalybaeus (Blue-eared Glossy Starling), Spreo pulcher (Chestnut-bellied Glossy Starling) and Quelea quelea are also common during the dry season near Maiduguri in Sudan Savannah 140 miles to the South. There appears to be no well-marked association of species peculiar to the belt of Sahel Savannah in North-East Bornu.

Seasonal Movements

21 African species occurred as visitors during the rainy season. In the case of Pelecanus spp. and Rynchops flavirostris (African Skimmer) the migration out of Malamfatori area in autumn co-incides with the onset of strong N.E. winds which blow almost daily from November to February. Both genera are adapted for feeding in relatively still water and the movement may have originated as a response to avoid

unfavourable lake conditions.

Three species occurring during the rainy season are each replaced by a closely-related species in October. They are Pterocles quadricinctus (Four-banded Sand-Grouse) replaced by P. exustus (Chestnut-bellied Sand-Grouse); Alrops albicollis (White-throated Bee-eater) replaced by Merops superciliosus (Blue-checked Bee-eater); and Nectarinia pulchella (Beautiful Long-tailed Sunbird) replaced by Hedydipna platura (Pygmy Long-tailed Sunbird). The two bee-eaters occupy apparently identical niches; both hawk for insects in prolonged flight over the dunes. It is interesting to note that within a few days of the first appearance of M. superciliosus in October, A. albicollis has departed :-

M. superciliosus arrival dates 12.x.1963 & 12.x.1964

A. albicollis last seen 14.x.1963 & 16.x.1964

Fry (Bull. N.O.S. 3) notes that at Zaria, the earliest first appearance of Lampromorpha caprius (Didric Cuckoo) was 16th March 1964. It is therefore interesting to record that at Malamfatori (well North of Zaria) the species may occur as early as 13th February (1963).

Large scale movements of Lophoceros nasutus (Grey Hornbill) in a southerly direction were observed in N.E. Bornu during October, 1964, but this species is present in the Malamfatori area throughout the year. Indeed several L. nasutus were seen in arid Leptodenia scrub on the edge of the Desert of Tal, 60 miles North of Malamfatori on 26th December 1964.

Palaeartic Migrants

The country bordering Lake Chad, at least in the region of Malamfatori, is obviously an important wintering ground for Palaeartic migrants which comprise over a quarter of all species noted during the present observations. Most of the Palaeartic species are plentiful throughout the dry season and several, including Philomachus pugnax (Ruff), Motacilla flava (Blue-headed Wagtail), Acrocephalus schoenobaenus (Sedge Warbler), and Riparia riparia (Sand Martin) are among the commonest birds in the area. A. schoenobaenus and R. riparia are rarely recorded elsewhere in West Africa (Bennerman 1954).

It is apparent that the lake shore lies on an important migration route (which has up to the present escaped the attention of ornithologists in Africa). The lake provides a large and easy 'target' for migrants crossing the Sahara to the North. South of the lake the route may well continue along the line of the Cameroon Mountains which run with but little interruption from within 50 miles of Lake Chad to the shores of the Atlantic.

Striking movements of several Palaeartic migrants have passed through Malamfatori. In the autumn separate parties of Micropus apus (European Swift), Coracias garrulus (European Roller) and Oriolus oriolus (European Golden Oriole) were seen moving South on a number of

occasions. During March and April 1963 there was an exceptionally heavy passage of R. riparia Northwards in a narrow band along the margin of the lake, the numbers sometimes reaching a frequency of 10 birds per second.

Check list of the Birds in the Malanfatori Area.

Abbreviations : ab = abundant
 com = common
 fr = frequent
 occ = occasional / (seasons).
 Res = resident (individuals present at all
 WS = visitor during the wet season
 DS = visitor during the dry season
 Pal = Palaearctic migrant
 Afr = African migrant
 br = breeds

STRUTHIONIDAE	Struthio camelus	Ostrich	occ herds of up to 20 South of Arago
PODICIPIDAE	Podiceps ruficollis	Little Grebe	DS Oct-Jun (com Dec-Jun)
PHALACROCORACIDAE	Phalacrocorax lucidus	White-breasted Cormorant	one 17.i.1963; six br Dec 1964
	P. africanus	Long-tailed Shag	Res com Dec-Jun br
	Anhinga rufa	African Darter	Res com Jan-Apr br
PELECANIDAE	Pelecanus onocratalus	Rosy Pelican)	WS Feb-Nov (com Jun-Sept)
	P. rufescens	Grey Pelican)	
ARDEIDAE	Ardea cinerea	Grey Heron	Res com Nov-Jun
	A. melanocephala	Black-headed Heron	Res com DS occ WS
	Pyrhherodia purpurea	Purple Heron	Res com Nov-Jun
	Typhon goliath	Goliath Heron	one 21.i.1963 and 3.iv.1963
	Casmerodius albus	Great White Heron	Res com Nov-Jun br
	Molanophoyx ardesiaca	Black Heron	Res fr Nov-Jun br
	Mesophoyx intermedius	Yellow-billed Egret	DS? fr Nov-Jun br
	Egretta garzetta	Little Egret	Res com br
	Bubulcus ibis	Cattle Egret	Res com DS fr WS
	Ardeola ralloides	Squacco Heron	Res com br
	Butorides striatus	Green-backed Heron	Res occ
	Nycticorax nycticorax	Night Heron	Res com Feb-Jun
	Ixobrychus minutus	Little Bittern	Pal ? occ Dec-Apr
SCOPIDAE	Scopus umbretta	Hammerkop	WS fr Jun-Nov
GICONIDAE	Ciconia ciconia	White Stork	Pal occ Oct & Apr
	Dissoura episcopus	Woolly-necked Stork	three 15.viii.1963
	Sphenorhynchus abdimii	Abdim's Stork	WS Jun-Nov (com Jun-Sept)
	Anastomus lamelligerus	Open-bill	Res occ
	Ephippiorhynchus senegalensis	Jabiru	one Feb to Apr 1963 and three Nov-Dec 1964
	Leptoptilos crumeniferus	Marabou	Res occ but flock of c.100 Nov 1963
	Ibis ibis	Wood Ibis	Res com WS Jun-Sept
PLEGADIDAE	Plegadis falcinellus	Glossy Ibis	Pal all months; fr Feb-Jun
	Threskiornis aethiopicus	Sacred Ibis	Res fr (com Jan-Apr)
	Hadodastria hadodastria	Hadada	Res occ
PLATALEIDAE	Platalea leucorodia	European Spoonbill	Pal one 3.iii.1963
	P. alba	African Spoonbill	Res com Feb-Jun
ANATIDAE	Nyroca fuligula	Tufted Duck	Pal occ Nov-Feb
	Spatula clypeata	Shoveler	Pal occ Feb-Mar
	Anas crocca	Common Teal	Pal occ Nov-Apr
	A. punctata	Hottentot Teal	DS fr Dec-Jun
	A. querquedula	Garganey	Pal Aug-Apr (com Jan-Mar)
	Dafila acuta	Pintail	Pal Oct-Jun (fr Feb-Mar)
	Dendrocygna viduata	Whistling Teal	Res ab Nov-Jun
	D. fulva	Fulvous Duck	Res com Feb-Apr
	Nettion auritus	Pygmy Goose	Res ?; fr Jan-Jun
	Sarcidiformis melanotos	Knob-billed Goose	Res com Mar-Apr
	Atopochen aegypticus	Egyptian Goose	Res com Mar-Jun br
	Plectropterus gambensis	Spur-winged Goose	Res com Mar-Jun

SAGITTARIDAE	Sagittarius serpentarius	Secretary-bird	occ	
AEGYPTIDAE	Gyps rüppellii	Rüppell's Griffon	Res fr	
	Pseudogyps africanus	White-backed Vulture	Res com	
	Torgos tracheliotus	Nubian Vulture	Res fr	
	Trigonoceps occipitalis	White-headed Vulture	Res fr	
	Necrosyrtes monachus	Hooded Vulture	Res com	
	Neophron percnopterus	Egyptian Vulture	(not seen in the survey area but occ DS at Mongon u c. 60 miles South, and one seen Niger Repub. 20 miles North 26.xii.1963.)	
	PANDIONIDAE	Pandion haliaetus	Osprey	Pal ?, fr Oct-Apr
FALCONIDAE	Falco peregrinus	Peregrine	Pal ?, occ Oct-Apr	
	F. biarmicus	Lanner	Res occ	
	F. chiqueca	Red-necked Kestrel	occ	
	F. tinnunculus	Kestrel	Pal fr Oct-Apr, sometimes in flocks up to c.60	
	Milvus migrans	Black Kite	Res com but sometimes ab Oct-Mar when roosts of c.500 observed.	
		Elanus caeruleus	Black-shouldered Kite	occ
		Aquila rapax	Tawny Eagle	Res fr
		Polombus bellicosus	Martial Eagle	occ South of Arege
		Circus gallicus	Short-toed Eagle	Pal fr Oct-Mar
		C. boadouini	Boadouin's Harrier Eagle	occ Oct-Nov
		Butastur rufipennis	Grasshopper Buzzard	one 27.ix.1963
		Terathopus ocaudatus	Batalour	Res occ
		Circus vocifer	River Eagle	Res fr
		Butor auguralis	Red-tailed Buzzard	Res fr
		B. rufinus	Long-tongued Buzzard	Pal two Dec 1964 to Jan 1965...
		Melierax metabates	Chanting Goshawk	Res com
		Micronisus gabar	Gabar Goshawk	Res occ
		Circus macrourus	Pallid Harrier	Pal fr Oct-Apr
		C. pygargus	Montagu's Harrier	Pal occ Oct-Apr
		C. aeruginosus	Marsh Harrier	Pal occ Oct-Apr
	Gymnogonys typicus	West African Harrier-Hawk	Res occ	
PHASIANIDAE	Francoelinus clappertoni	Clapperton's Francolin	Res com	
	Coturnix delegorguei	Harlequin Quail	two 8.vi.1963	
	Numida meleagris	Helmet Guinea-fowl	Res com	
RALLIDAE	Limnocorax flavirostris	Black Crake	Res fr (lake shore)	
	Porphyryla alleni	Allen's Gallinule	observed only by River Yobe during floods (Aug-Dec)	
	Gallinula chloropus	Moorhen	DS Oct-Jun (com Nov-Apr) / when fr.	
	Fulica (atra ?)	Coot	one seen by C.H.Fry 8.i.1963	
		Crowned Crane	Res fr	
BALEARICIDAE	Balearica pavonina	Sudan Bustard	Res fr	
OTIDIDAE	Ardeotis arabs	Denham's Bustard	WS occ	
	Neotis denhami	Senegal Bustard	Res occ	
*	Eupodotis senegalensis	Savile's Pygmy Bustard	two c. 20 miles South of Arege 5.xi.1963	
	Lophotis savilei	Senegal Thick-knee	Res fr (com WS)	
BURHINIDAE	Oedipodites senegalensis	Spotted Thick-knee	Res occ	
	Oe. capensis	Lily-Trotter	Res fr	
JACANIDAE	Actophilornis africanus	Lesser Lily-Trotter	Res occ	
	Microparra capensis	Painted Snipe	seasonal - on shrinking flood-pools Mar-Jul fr	
ROSTRATULIDAE	Rostratula benghalensis	Kentish Plover	Pal occ	
CHARADRIIDAE	Leucophaea alexandrinus	Kittlitz' Sand-Plover	Res fr br	
	L. pectoratus	Grey Plover	Pal; one 7.xi.1963	
	Squatarola squatarola	Ringed Plover	Pal fr Oct-Apr	
	Charadrius hiaticula	Little Ringed Plover	Pal occ Oct-Jun	
	C. dubius	White-faced Lapwing	Res occ	
	Hemiparra crassirostris	Spur-winged Plover	Res com	
	Hoplopterus spinosus	Black-headed Plover	Res com	
	Sarcophorus tectus	Black-winged Stilt	Pal all months com Dec-Apr	
	Himantopus himantopus	Common Snipe	Pal Oct-Jun (com Feb-Apr)	
	SCOLOPACIDAE	Capella gallinago	Great Snipe	Pal one 22.iii.1963
		C. media	Curlew Sandpiper	Pal occ Mar-Apr
		Erolia testacea	Little Stint	Pal com Oct-Apr
		E. minuta	Ruff	Pal all months (ab Sept-Apr)
		Philomachus pugnax	Common Sandpiper	Pal all months (fr Aug-Sept otherwise occ)
		Actitis hypoleucos	Green Sandpiper	Pal occ
	Tringa ochropus	Wood Sandpiper	Pal all months (com Jan-Apr)	
	T. glareola	Redshank	Pal occ Dec-Mar	
	T. totanus	Spotted Redshank	Pal fr Sept-Apr	
	T. erythropus	Greenshank	Pal all months fr	
	Glottis nobularius	Marsh Sandpiper	Pal fr Sept-Apr	
	G. stagnatilis			
* Insert	Lissotis melanogaster	Black-bellied Bustard	One 17.xi.1963	

	<i>Limosa limosa</i>	Black-tailed Godwit	Pal fr Feb-Oct (no records Nov-Jan when present in large flocks up to 500 on inundations to South of Lake.)
	<i>Numerius arquatus</i>	Curtlew	Pal fr Sept-Jun
GLAREOLIDAE	<i>Pluvianus aegyptius</i>	Egyptian Plover	Res occ
	<i>Glareola pratincola</i>	West African Pratincole	Res fr
	<i>Galachrysis nuchalis</i>	Grey Pratincole	WS com Jul-Sept
LARIDAE	<i>Larus fuscus</i>	Lesser Black-backed Gull	Pal all months (fr Oct-Apr)
	<i>L. cirrhocephalus</i>	Grey-headed Gull	Res com
	<i>L. ridibundus</i>	Black-headed Gull	Pal one 22.iii.1963
	<i>Gelochelidon nilotica</i>	Gull-billed Tern	Pal all months (com Jan-Apr)
	<i>Chlidonias leucoptera</i>	White-winged Black Tern	Pal all months (ab Feb-Mar)
	<i>C. leucopareia</i>	Whiskered Tern	Pal six Apr 1963
	<i>Rynchops flavirostris</i>	African Skimmer	WS Apr-Nov (fr Jul-Sept)
PTEROCLIDIDAE	<i>Pterocles exustus</i>	Chestnut-bellied Sand-Grouse	Ds fr Oct-Apr
	<i>P. quadricinctus</i>	Four-banded Sand-Grouse	WS fr Jun-Oct
	<i>Ortyxelos meiffrenii</i>	Quail-Plover	seasonal Jul-Dec (fr Jul-Aug)
COLUMBIDAE	<i>Columba guinea</i>	Speckled Pigeon	Res occ
	<i>Streptopelia decipiens</i>	Niger Mourning Dove	Res com
	<i>S. vinacea</i>	Vinaceous Turtle-Dove	Res occ
	<i>S. roseogrisea</i>	Rosy-grey Dove	DS fr Nov-Apr
	<i>Stigmatopelia senegalensis</i>	Senegal Dove	Res fr
	<i>Oena capensis</i>	Long-tailed Dove	Res com (most numerous Mar-June)
	<i>Turtur abyssinica</i>	Black-billed Wood-dove	Res fr
	<i>Vinago waalia</i>	Yellow-bellied Fruit-Pigeon	Occ
PSITTACIDAE	<i>Psittacula krameri</i>	Long-tailed Parrakeet	Res occ
TYTONIDAE	<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl	occ
STRIGIDAE	<i>Ptilopsis leucotis</i>	White-faced Owl	occ
	<i>Bubo africanus</i>	Spotted Eagle-Owl	occ
MUSOPHAGIDAE	<i>Crinifer piscator</i>	Grey Plantain-eater	occ
CUCULIDAE	<i>Cuculus clamorus</i>	Black Cuckoo	one 18.x.1963
	<i>Clamator glandarius</i>	Great Spotted Cuckoo	one 20.x.1964
	<i>C. jacobinus</i>	Pied Cuckoo	occ
	<i>Lamprolaima caprius</i>	Didric Cuckoo	WS Feb-Oct (fr Apr-Sept)
	<i>Centropus monachus</i>	Blue-headed Coucal	Res fr
	<i>C. senegalensis</i>	Senegal Coucal	Res fr
COLIIDAE	<i>Colius macrourus</i>	Blue-naped Mousebird	Res fr
CAPRIMULGIDAE	<i>Caprimulgus aegyptius</i>	Egyptian Nightjar	WS fr Aug-Oct
	<i>Scotornis climacurus</i>	Long-tailed Nightjar	Res fr
MICROPIDAE	<i>Micropus apus</i>	European Swift	Pal com Aug only
	<i>Colletoptera affinis</i>	Little African Swift	Res fr
	<i>Cypsiurus parvus</i>	Palm Swift	Res fr
CORACIIDAE	<i>Coracias garrulus</i>	European Roller	Pal fr Sept-Oct 1964
	<i>C. abyssinica</i>	Abyssinian Roller	Res fr DS occ WS
UPUPIIDAE	<i>Upupa epops</i>	European Hoopoe) fr all months
	<i>U. senegalensis</i>	Senegal Hoopoe	
PHENICULIDAE	<i>Phoeniculus erythrorhynchus</i>	Guinea Wood-Hoopoe	Res fr
	<i>Scoptelus aterrimus</i>	Lesser Wood-Hoopoe	Res occ
ALCEDINIDAE	<i>Ceryle rudis</i>	Pied Kingfisher	Res com Mar-Oct; fr Nov-Feb
	<i>Corythornis cristata</i>	Malachite Kingfisher	Res fr
	<i>Ispidina picta</i>	Pygmy Kingfisher	occ
	<i>Halcyon leucocephala</i>	Grey-headed Kingfisher	WS fr Jun-Oct
	<i>H. chalcidii</i>	Striped Kingfisher	Res occ
MEROPIIDAE	<i>Merops superciliosus</i>	Blue-cheeked Bee-eater	DS com Oct-Apr
	<i>M. orientalis</i>	Little Green Bee-eater	Res com
	<i>M. nubicus</i>	Carmine Bee-eater	Res com Jul-Oct; occ Nov-Jun
	<i>Abrops albicollis</i>	White-throated Bee-eater	WS com Apr-Oct
	<i>Melittophagus pusillus</i>	Least Bee-eater	Res com
BUCEROTIDAE	<i>Lophoceros nasutus</i>	Grey Hornbill	Res occ
	<i>L. erythrorhynchus</i>	Red-beaked Hornbill	Res fr
CAPITONIDAE	<i>Lybius vieilloti</i>	West African Barbet	Res fr
	<i>Pogonotulus chrysoconus</i>	Yellow-fronted Tinker-bird	Res fr
	<i>Trachyphonus margaritatus</i>	Yellow-breasted Barbet	Res occ
PICIDAE	<i>Campethera punctuligera</i>	Fine-spotted Woodpecker	occ
	<i>Mesopicos goertae</i>	Grey Woodpecker	occ
	<i>Jynx torquilla</i>	Wryneck	Pal occ Aug-Jan

ALAUDIDAE	Mirafra cantillans	Singing Bush-Lark	DS fr Sept-Apr
	Galerida cristata	Crested Lark	Res com
	Heliocorys modesta	Nigerian Sun-Lark	WS com Jun-Sept
	Eremopteryx leucotis	Chestnut-backed Finch-Lark	Res com
MOTACILLIDAE	Motacilla alba	White Wagtail	Pal occ Nov-Feb
	M. flava flava	Blue-headed Wagtail	Pal ab Sept-Apr
	M. f. cinerocapilla	Ashy-headed Wagtail	Pal occ Jan-Mar
	M. f. thunbergi	Grey-headed Wagtail	Pal occ Mar-Apr
	M. f. foldegy	Black-headed Wagtail	Pal fr Oct-Apr
	Anthus leucophrys	Plain-backed Pipit	WS occ Jun-Aug
	A. novaeseelandiae	Richard's Pipit	Afr?; occ DS Oct-Apr
	A. cervinus	Red-throated Pipit	Pal com Oct-Apr
TIMALIIDAE	Turdoides plebeja	Sudan Brown Babbler	DS occ Oct-Apr
PYCNOCOTIDAE	Pycnonotus barbatus	Common Bulbul	Res fr
MUSCICAPIDAE	Muscicapa striata	Spotted Flycatcher	Pal occ Oct
	Ficedula hypoleuca / albicollis	Pied/Collared Flycatcher	Pal occ Sept-Oct
	Batis senegalensis	Senegal Puffback Flycatcher	occ
TURDIDAE	Oenanthe oenanthe	Wheatear	Pal fr Sept-Apr
	O. hispanica hispanica	Spanish Wheatear	Pal one 20.ix.1963
	O. leucopygia	White-rumped Wheatear	One 30.viii.1963
	O. houglini	Red-breasted Chat	WS ?; fr June
	Myrmecocichla aethiops	Ant-Chat	Res fr
	Saxicola rubetra	Whinchat	Pal occ Sept and Apr
	Cercotrichas podobe	Black Scrub-Robin	Res com
	Erythropgyia galactotos	Rufous Warbler	Res fr
	Phoenicurus phoenicurus	Redstart	Pal occ Oct
	Luscinia megarhynchos	Nightingale	Pal fr Oct
SYLVIDAE	Sylvia communis	Whitethroat	Pal fr Sept-Feb; com Mar-Apr
	S. curruca	Lesser Whitethroat	Pal fr Oct-Mar
	S. borin	Garden Warbler	Pal occ Oct
	S. cantillans	Subalpine Warbler	Pal occ Oct-Mar
	Hippolais icterina / polyglotta	Icterine/Melodious Warbler	Pal occ Sept-Oct
	H. pallida	Olivaceous Warbler	Res fr
	Acrocephalus arundinaceus	Great Reed Warbler	Pal fr Mar-Apr
	A. scirpaceus	European Reed Warbler	Pal occ Oct-Mar
	A. schoenobaenus	Sedge Warbler	Pal com Sept-Jan; ab Mar-Apr
	Phylloscopus trochilus / collybita	Willow Warbler / Chiffchaff	Pal occ Oct-Feb
	P. bonelli	Bonelli's Warbler	Pal occ Oct-Mar
	Calamocotor leptorhyncha	Lesser Cane Warbler	Res ?; noted only Mar-Apr when singing fr
	Sylvietta brachyura	Nuthatch Warbler	Res occ
	Eremomola griseoflava	Grey-backed Eremomola	Res fr
	Cameroptera brevicaudata	Grey-backed Cameroptera	Res com
	Cisticola juncidis	Gold Coast Fantail Warbler	Res fr
	C. aridula	Desert Fantail Warbler	Res com
	C. galactotos	Winding Cisticola	Res com
	Spiloptila clamans	Scaly-fronted Warbler	-? Jul-Oct (occ) only in survey area but noted Dec in Sahel near Kukawa
	Prinia subflava	West African Prinia	Res fr
HIRUNDINIDAE	Hirundo rustica	European Swallow	Pal occ Sept-Oct and Mar
	H. aethiops	Ethiopian Swallow	Res com WS; occ DS
	Riparia riparia	European Sand-Martin	Pal com Sept-Dec; ab Jan-Apr
	R. cineta	Banded Martin	occ June 1963
LANIIDAE	Lanius excubitor	White-rumped Grey Shrike	occ
	L. isabellinus	Isabelline Shrike	Pal fr Nov-Apr
	L. senator	Woodchat	Pal fr Sept-Apr
	Laniarius barbarus	Barbary Shrike	Res fr near River
	Nilaus afer	Brubru Shrike	occ Jun-Aug and Jan
	Tchagra senegala	Black-crowned Tchagra	Res fr
ORIOLOIDAE	Oriolus oriolus	European Oriole	Pal com Sept-Oct
CORVIDAE	Corvus ruficollis	Brown-necked Raven	one 1.i.1963
	C. albus	Pied Crow	occ Dec-Aug (noted in flocks over 100 strong on groundnut fields 70 miles West during Sept-Oct)
STURNIDAE	Lamprocolius chalybaeus	Blue-eared Glossy Starling	Res com
	Lamprotornis caudatus	Long-tailed Glossy Starling	Res occ
	Sporco pulcher	Chestnut-bellied Starling	Res fr
	Buphagus africanus	Yellow-billed Oxpecker	Res fr

NECTARINIIDAE	<i>Nectarinia pulchella</i>	Beautiful Long-tailed Sunbird	WS fr Mar-Oct
	<i>Hedydipna platura</i>	Pygmy Long-tailed Sunbird	DS fr Oct-Apr
	<i>Cinnyris venustus</i>	Yellow-bellied Sunbird	occ
FRINGILLIDAE	<i>Poliospiza leucopygia</i>	Grey Canary	Res fr
	<i>Emberiza flaviventris</i>	Yellow-bellied Bunting	WS occ Jul-Aug
	<i>Fringillaria takapisi</i>	Rock Bunting	WS fr Jun-Oct
	<i>Passer griseus</i>	Grey-headed Sparrow	Res fr
	<i>Auripasser luteus</i>	Golden Sparrow	DS Oct-Apr (ab Dec-Apr); roosts with <i>Q. quolea</i>
	FLOCEIDAE	<i>Gymnoris dentata</i>	Dush Sparrow
<i>Dubalornis albirostris</i>		Buffalo Weaver	Res com WS ; occ DS
<i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>		Scaly-fronted Weaver	WS occ
<i>Sitagra tuteola</i>		Slender-billed Weaver	Res fr
<i>S. capittalis</i>		Niger Black-headed Weaver	Res ?; com WS
<i>S. vitellinus</i>		Vittelline Masked Weaver	Res com
<i>Plesiositagra cucullatus</i>		Village Weaver	Res com
<i>Quolea quolea</i>		Black-faced Diocb	Res very abundant, esp. Jan-Apr
<i>Euplectes orix</i>		Orange Bishop	Res fr
<i>E. afra</i>		Napoleon Bishop	Res fr
<i>Coliuspasser axillaris</i>		Fan-tailed Whydah	WS occ marshes
<i>Euodico cantans</i>		Warbling Silverbill	DS Sept-Apr; com Oct-Dec; otherwise occ
<i>Amadina fasciata</i>		Cut-throat Weaver	occ
<i>Pytilia melba</i>		Melba-finch	occ
<i>Lagonosticta senogala</i>		Senegal Fire-finch	Res fr
<i>Estrilda melpoda</i>		Orange-checked Waxbill	WS fr Apr-Nov lake shore
<i>Uraeginthus bengalus</i>		Red-checked Cordon-bleu	Res fr
<i>Hypochoera</i> spp.		Combassous	Res fr Aug-Oct, otherwise occ
<i>Vidua macroura</i>		Pin-tailed Whydah	WS occ Jul-Sept
<i>Steganura orientalis</i>		Paradise Whydah	DS occ Sept-Apr

(Note : ref. list of Sahel Savannah species on p.9, Pytilia melba is, in my experience, fairly widely distributed through Sudan Savannah as well. With apologies to the author. -Ed.)

Addendum (-Ed.)

Dr Hopson has sent me passing references to birds recently seen by him on the edge of the Desert of Tal, 60 miles North of Malamfatori, and 10 miles from Tal on the Lake shore at N'gingai; these observations are so interesting that I thought they ought to be added here; I hope I am not stealing Dr Hopson's thunder.

At the Desert of Tal 19 bird species were recorded including Corvus ruficollis and Spiloptila clamans. On the Lake 5 Coot, definitely Fulica atra and not F. cristata (See Fry, Bull. N.O.S. 2 : 13) were seen, and amongst a flock of about 400 Polliocephalus ruficollis were 10 Podiceps caspicus. Further, there was a flock of c. 80 Anas capensis (Cape Wigeon). The date was 26th December, 1964.

BUTEO RUFINUS (LONG)LEGGED BUZZARD); A SPECIES NEW TO NIGERIA

A.J. Hopson

On 12th December 1964 an unusual bird of prey was seen flying low over the dunes at Malamfatori (on the shore of Lake Chad near