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**Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest**  
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|                                 |                              |                               |   |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| 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>Bubalornis albirostris</i>   |                              | Buffalo Weaver                | Res com WS; occ DS                                    |
| <i>Sporopipes frontalis</i>     |                              | Scaly-fronted Weaver          | WS occ  |
| <i>Sitagra lutoola</i>          |                              | Slender-billed Weaver         | Res fr  |
| <i>S. capittalis</i>            |                              | Niger Black-headed Weaver     | Res ?; com WS   |
| <i>S. vitellinus</i>            |                              | Vittellino 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

the River Yobe outfall). The most conspicuous feature was the bold black and white pattern on the under-surface of the wing, quite unlike that of any other raptors in the area. The bird which has been seen on at least ten subsequent occasions (up to 6th January 1965), frequently at close quarters and twice in the company of a similar bird of the same species, has been identified by me as a juvenile Buteo rufinus, the Long-legged Buzzard.

Details are as follows : Brownish (cf. Milvus migrans the Black Kite) above with dark streaks. Head - crown cinnamon with dark streaks, cheeks uniform cinnamon, chin dull brown. Nape marked with two round white median patches. Wing - brownish above, darker on the flight feathers but with a paler patch on the carpals noticeable in flight. Pattern of underside of wing striking - primaries tipped with black, carpal patches black, remainder of primaries white. The secondaries are whitish with two or three inconspicuous stripes parallel to the trailing edge; the coverts are fawn. Tail noticeably longer than in B. auguralis (Red-tailed Buzzard), brownish with more than six dark narrow transverse bars (cf. B. buteo the Buzzard) and narrowly and inconspicuously tipped with pale fawn. When closed in flight the tail appears to be marked with a pale longitudinal stripe down its centre. Legs bare, yellowish. Bill relatively small, bill and cere yellowish. Size : noticeably larger than M. migrans, wings relatively broader, but similar to that species in stance. Flight slow and ponderous nearly always close to the ground. Occasionally glides with wings in a shallow V but never seen to soar like other buzzards. The bird was observed hovering once. It perches habitually in the tops of low trees or bushes from 10 to 20 feet high in open country, and when disturbed it flies immediately to another tree.

Buteo rufinus is a winter visitor from Eastern Europe and Asia Minor occurring regularly in the Sudan and Abyssinia. Bannerman (1954) has only two records from West Africa, one from Zinder and the other (which he considers open to doubt) from Dakar.