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Société d'Ornithologie de l'Ouest
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NEW RECORDS FOR NIGERIA - White-breasted Tit Parus albiventris One bird seen on 16 April 1977 in the foothills of the Obudu Plateau in Cross River State. Head, chest and mantle black; belly, undertail coverts and stripe along wing white. With a small mixed bird party in open woods. The eye was black. The Black Tit Parus leucomelas has also been seen in this area; it is all black below, and the local race has a conspicuous yellow eye. I am familiar with P. albiventris from previous observations in Tanzania.

Banded Prinia Prinia bardii Two birds were seen on 17 April 1977 in a mountain forest ravine on the Obudu Plateau. They were well seen feeding and calling in thick foliage in a creek bed. General colour above grey brown, with white spots on wing coverts and along the long graduated tail. Below chest and flanks strongly barred brown. Bill dark, eye red. Throat grey, belly white. The call a rather shrill note repeated rapidly about eight times. This species is known to the observer from Mount Cameroon, and this is believed to be the first sighting in Nigeria.

Luhder's Bush Shrike Laniarius luhderi This quite unmistakable shrike has been seen on several occasions near the airport at Calabar, Cross River State. One was seen on 14 November 1976, two adults on 9 January 1977, and one adult and an immature on 1 April 1977. The birds skulk in deep shrubbery, and are rather quiet. The adult is black above, excepting the cap, which is bright buffy orange, and a white shoulder stripe. Below the throat and chest are orange, the undertail coverts white. The immature is olive brown above, with a wide yellowish shoulder streak, and a dull rufous tail. Throat and chest are yellowish. These field notes match the description in Praed & Grant (1973), and the identification is clear. Two other shrikes inhabit the same shrubbery, Tchagra senegalensis and Lanius collaris, but neither resemble the present species. It is of interest that the White-chinned Prinia Prinia leucopogon inhabits the same area, the range also restricted in Nigeria to the south east corner.

Paul Mackenzie

LESSER GOLDEN PLOVER IN GHANA - On 4 October 1977 at Nakwa Lagoon, Ghana (05°13'N, 00°56'W) I flushed from the water's edge two Ringed Plovers Charadrius hiaticula and a distinctly larger unfamiliar plover. The latter looked very similar to but 'wrong' for a Golden Plover Pluvialis apricaria. After trying unsuccessfully to locate the bird where it landed, I was returning when it flew from the original pool with a small sandpiper Tringa sp. and a Kittlitz's Sand Plover C. pecuarius. As on the first occasion it towered to some 40-50 m a few hundred metres from the pool, before gliding down to land close to me. I watched it on the ground and in two brief flights at about 20 m with a pair of Greenshank T. nebularia for several minutes before all three birds took off. The plover was not seen again.

On the ground the bird looked like a slender greyish Golden Plover with noticeably longer dark legs, a longer neck and a long tapering silhouette produced by the extension of the wings beyond the tail. The bill was black and the head appeared light because of the ill-defined pale area over the eye, on the forehead and on the lores. The upperparts were dark with