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White-crested Turaco Tauraco leucolophus. This beautiful bird favours areas with less forest but rather wet guinea savanna. Therefore it only partly overlaps the distribution of the Guinea Turaco. It frequents gallery forest near streams and can be seen there occasionally together with the Violet Turaco Seen near Ahobee, south of Jato together with the violet Turaco peen near Anobee, south of Javo Akaa, also Harga (23 miles west of Takun), all in Katsina Ala Division. At Takum, where I hear it call each morning and evening in the troop near Bika stream. South of Takum near the villages Lissam, Kpambo, Jenuwa Gida, 5-15 miles from here. Also at Bete, 25 miles s.w. Eastward from Takum along the Yola road to Kumbo, 26 miles oast of Takum, and northward to Kofai, 13 miles on the road to Wukari. There the hills give way to flat land and lower rainfall, so Lidoubt that it is found further north. This bird does not occur in the Balasa hills area. But it is found at Serti, in Sardauna Province, N.E. State, '7'30'N., 11 20'E. Most surprisingly, I heard it in gallery forests at Warwar, on the Mambilla Plateau (elev. 4,500 ft.) on 23rd April 1971. The call is unmistakable and easily distinguished from that of the Guinea Turaco. It begins with a rising shout, hu-uu, followed by kwa-kwa-kwa-, kwa being repeated 6 to 18 times. This kwa is of a higher pitch from that of the Guinea Turaco.

Violet Turaco. <u>Musophaga violacea</u>. Found along streams in gallery forest or thick savanna bush in all parts of the 3 Tiv Divisions (Makurdi, Gboko, Katsina Ala), Wukari Division, Baissa hills and Sorti, in Sardauna Province.

Great Blue Turaco. Corythaeola cristata. I have nover seen this bird. One reliable informant tells me he has seen it near Baissa (Rov. R. Recker). And Mr. Allen Persenaire shot a specimen in 1969 in the gallery forest of the Konshisha River, Makurdi Division, 7 N., 8 30 E. This river flows into the Cross River and is not actually part of the Benue River system.

Grey Plantain Eater. Crinifer piscator. Widely distributed and common in all guinea savanna areas.

H.H. Gray

SOME INTERESTING OBSERVATIONS FROM CHANA

Night Heron Nycticorax nycticorax seen in a swamp close to Accra in March 1971.

West African Reef Heron Egretta grazetta gularis: observed holding out wings and chasing small fish in a lagoon near Temi in March 1971.

White Stork Ciconia ciconia: a bird killed by traffic in the north in January 1970 was found to be bearing a Spanish ring which was returned to the appropriate ministry.

Cassin's Hawk Eagle <u>Hieraaetus africanus</u>: in February 1971 a bird was seen high up in a tree in rather open country between Accra and Kumasi. The all white underparts except for two dark patches on the lower breast were clearly seen and a film was taken of the bird, which has exposed quite well and in my opinion confirms the identification. I would, however, like another opinion and hope to show it to Frank Walsh in the near future.

Swallow-tailed Kite <u>Elanus riocourii</u>: a single bird observed in the north (lat. 10°) in February 1970 was circling.

Osprey <u>Pandion haliaetus</u>: a single bird was seen making one or two false dives over a lagoon near Tema in March 1971.

African Crake <u>Crex egregia</u>: A solitary bird was observed in May 1971, in grassy land near the coast. The red eye very prominent against the grey cheeks.

Black Crake <u>Limnocorax flavirostra</u>: in March 1971 a single bird was seen in a swamp close to Accra.

Purple Gallinule <u>Porphyrio porphyrio</u>: A single bird observed in June 1971 in a swamp near Accra. The most prominent feature was the constant flicking of the tail which exposed the white feathers underneath.

Didric Cuckoo Chrysococcyx caprius: a youngster, identified by the "coral red" bill, was observed being fed by a female Village Weaver Ploceus cucullatus in an Accra garden in April 1971.

Black-throated Coucal <u>Centropus leucogaster</u>: a solitary bird was observed in thick bush within 20 miles of Accra in March 1971.

Black-bellied Coucal Centropus toulou: A single bird was seen on the Accra plains in May 1971.

Buff-headed Wood Hoopoe Phoeniculus bollei: a pair were seen in Ashanti in February 1971. The buff colour appeared to be on the face, forehead and throat only. The feet were reddish. Bannerman (1953, Birds of West and Equatorial Africa) also describes the mape as being buff, but this was not the case with the two birds seen by me. A further three birds were observed in June 1971 at the same location. The buff colour was again restricted as before which agrees with Bannerman's (o cit) description of the race okuensis, he considers however that this race is restricted to the Cameroons. Two of the birds had red bills and one a horn colour which could have been a youngster.

Groy-headed Bush Shrike Malaconotus blanchoti: seen on several occasions in an Accra garden in January 1971.

Shrike Flycatcher Megabyas flammulatus: In June 1971 a pair was seen in a tall tree at Bunso. The male being most prominent with all white underparts and white rump with black wings, tail and head.

Rufous-crowned Eremomela <u>Eremomela badiceps</u>: observed in a tall tree south of Kumasi in February 1971.

Buff-throated Sunbird <u>Nectarinia adelberti</u>: in March 1971 two pairs were seen in Kumasi gardens. The cream coloured throat being clearly defined from the rich brown underparts.

Yellow-mentled Weaver <u>Ploceus tricolor</u>: observed in February 1971 in tall trees in Ashanti.

Red-vented Weaver Malimbus scutatus: Seen completing nests in Royal.
Palms in Ashanti in February 1971.

R.A. Honeywell

EARLY PALAEARCTIC WADERS AT KAINJI AND NEW BUSSA IN 1969

I previously gave records of six Palaearctic Wader species which were seen in the Kainji Dam area in August 1968 (Bull Niger, Orn. Soc. 5 (19): 64-65). A more intensive watch was kept during 1969, counts being carried out throughout the rainy season (summer) at the New Bussa Sewage Lagoons and along a 2 mile stretch of muddy lake shore at Kainji. Table I gives an indication of the wader species seen through the period April to September together with the numbers of counts made in the two habitats.

TABLE 1. Palaearctic Waders present at Kainji/New Bussa in 1969.

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