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Specimens in the Zoology Museum, Univ. Ibadan, from Gambari Forest Reserve, Western Nigeria, are typical nominate race P.b. bollei. It should also be remembered that okuensis has no buff colouration on the sides of the face. Ed.

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LONG-LEGGED BUZZARDS. Buteo rufinus

NEAR KANO

by R.E. Sharland.

There have been several records of Long-legged Buzzards Buteo rufinus in Nigeria in recent years (BNOS 1 (4): 15; 5:45 & 53). In February 1968, R.J. Dowsett and I found one in an area of waste land upon which are a large number of wireless masts. This bird stayed until the end of March. In each subsequent year I have observed a Long-legged Buzzard in this area and this winter (1971/72) there have been two birds.

In January 1970 I discovered another Long-legged Buzzard in an area of scrub, seventeen miles ENE of Kano, at Gesawa (12° 8' N., 8° 45' E), and here too buzzards have been observed in every subsequent winter.

All the specimens observed to date have been pale phased birds, with pale heads and very pale, unbarred, tails. The underwing pattern is striking with whitish flight feathers which are dark tipped and a darkish patch at the carpal joint.

When disturbed the birds usually fly slowly from one Baobab tree to another, although once (at Gesawa) I did observe a buzzard soaring.

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