

no mention of it in Reynolds' notes. It seems to be a distinct possibility that the birds Reynolds observed were Black-browed Albatrosses but the breeding colony has yet to be discovered.

The point at which the lake is closest to any salt water is at its west end, which is 8 km from the narrow Seno Almirantazgo (Admiralty Sound mentioned by Reynolds) (see Humphrey op. cit. for maps), but the albatrosses were over 100 km from this point at the east end of the lake near Cabacena del Lago. The nearest salt water from this point is the Beagle Channel, approximately 35 km to the south. To reach this the birds must cross a range of mountains with a minimum elevation of about 400 m. The next nearest body of salt water is the Atlantic Ocean that lies about 45 km to the northeast over relatively flat terrain. We saw one of the six birds depart in this direction, and we were able to follow it for several kilometers with binoculars before it disappeared over the forests of southern beech (*Nothofagus* sp.). It appeared as if they may have used this overland route to reach the lake.—EDMUND W. STILES, *Department of Zoology, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey 08903*. Accepted 20 Nov. 73.

Gull-billed Tern in Caribbean South America.—On 24 December 1972 James Munves and I saw a flock of 30 Gull-billed Terns (*Gelochelidon nilotica*) in the Isla de Salamanca (an Inderena reserve) on the Caribbean coast about 20 miles west of Santa Marta, Magdalena, Colombia. The terns, in basic (winter) plumage, were studied with 7 × 35 binoculars and a 20× spotting scope for about 30 min at a range of 75 to 100 yards. During this time they associated with two Least Terns (*Sterna albifrons*) and 10 Sandwich Terns (*Thalasseus sandvicensis*) and were seen both resting on a sandbar and feeding over a pool in the salt marsh. On 26 December 1972 I returned to the same place and was able to approach within 50 yards of 30 sitting Gull-billed Terns. I have had sufficient experience with the species in the United States to be certain of the identification. I showed two Ektachrome slides Munves took of the terns to E. Eisenmann of the American Museum of Natural History, who confirmed the identification.

Although Gull-billed Terns are known to occur along the Caribbean coast in Venezuela and Panama, according to Meyer de Schauensee (1970, A guide to the birds of South America, Wynnewood, Pennsylvania, Livingston Publ. Co.) the species was previously unknown in Colombia. The Venezuela and Panama birds are assumed to be migrants from North America, but the species is reported to breed locally in Pacific Ecuador (Marchant 1958, *Ibis* 100: 371).—PAUL K. DONAHUE, 261 Washington Street, Winchester, Massachusetts 01890. Accepted 15 Nov. 73.

White Hawk preying on the Great Tinamou.—In Tikal, Guatemala, the Great Tinamou (*Tinamus major*) is a fairly common bird, and the White Hawk (*Leucopternus albicollis*) is seen not infrequently. This locality, 190 miles north of Guatemala City, was made into a national park in 1957. Hunting is prohibited, and no dogs are permitted.

In February 1973 I was watching a tinamou, which dived precipitously into cover on hearing the cry of this hawk. A few days later on one of the trails, I came upon a White Hawk crouched over a freshly killed Great Tinamou. The hawk evidently had dug its claws into the tinamou's back and then decapitated it. The

hawk flew into a low tree only a few feet away, waited for me to leave, and then returned to the carcass immediately.

Alexander Wetmore (in litt.) comments that this is the first report of such predation that has come to his attention; in fact he has seldom found one of these tinamous killed by any predator, and then apparently by some mammal. In Wetmore's Panama book (1965, Smithsonian Misc. Coll. 150: 219) he lists the food of this hawk as small mammals, reptiles, frogs and large orthopterans. He says that he has never seen it pay much attention to birds and that small birds do not seem troubled by the hawk's presence. Slud (1964, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 128: 63) regards it as chiefly a snake eater. Brown and Amadon (1968, Eagles, hawks and falcons of the World, vol. 2, London, Country Life Ltd., pp. 553-554) say snakes and lizards are preferred prey, but report a recently fledged toucanet being taken. Since, elsewhere, the tinamou is hunted extensively by man, Wetmore comments, "I wonder whether possibly the regular human intrusions in the area, common to both hawk and tinamou, may have brought some change in wariness in the gamebird."—DONALD W. LAMM, 7622 East Nasumpta Drive, Tucson, Arizona 85715. Accepted 14 Nov. 73.

Seabird mortality in a storm.—From 1967 through 1972 we studied the ecology of Gull Island, Witless Bay, Newfoundland (47° 15' N, 52° 46' W). The number of Herring Gulls (*Larus argentatus*) and Black-legged Kittiwakes (*Rissa tridactyla*) on the island increased markedly during this time, the gulls from 2,033 pairs in 1969 to 2,663 pairs in 1972, the kittiwakes from 6,977 pairs in 1969 (counted in late May/early June, little loss of nests to storms was noted throughout the summer, the cliffs being checked daily between 14 May and 3 August) to 10,140 (\pm 5%) pairs in 1971 (data from Maunder and Threlfall 1972, Auk 89: 789; Haycock 1973, unpublished M.Sc. thesis, St. John's, Newfoundland, Memorial Univ.). While no

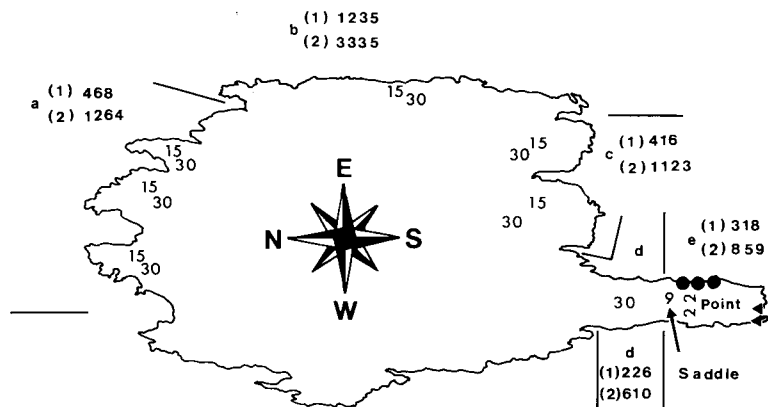


Figure 1. Gull Island, showing regions referred to in text and number of Herring Gull nests (1) and estimated number of eggs (2) in each area in 1972. ●, region where Black-legged Kittiwake nests were washed away. ▲, region where Razor-bills (3 pairs) and Common Murres (4 pairs) lost eggs. Figures on island refer to height (m) above sea level.