

collected near the minefields behind West Yang-Do village where they probably were nesting.

*Larivora sibilans* Swinhoe. Swinhoe's Red-tailed Robin. A pair was collected on May 17 and 18. The male was in breeding condition.

*Larivora cyane* (Pallas). Siberian Bluechat. One female collected on West Yang-Do on May 20 was not in breeding condition at the time.

*Urosphena squameiceps ussuriensis* (Seeböhm). Short-tailed Bush-Warbler. Two specimens were collected by Korean children on West Yang-Do on April 27. The sex was not determined with certainty, but probably both are males.

*Regulus regulus japonensis* Blakiston. Golden-crowned Kinglet. One specimen was collected by a Korean boy on West Yang-Do on May 7.

*Siphia mugimaki* (Temminck). Japanese Robin Flycatcher. Two specimens were collected on May 12 and 13 by Koreans. One was a male in breeding condition, but sex of the other was not determined.

*Muscicapula narcissina* Temminck. Narcissus Flycatcher. Two specimens were collected on May 17 and 18 near West Yang-Do village, both males in breeding condition.

*Muscicapula cyanomelana cyanomelana* (Temminck). Japanese Blue Flycatcher. Two males in breeding condition were collected by a Korean boy on West Yang-Do on May 13 and 14.

*Motacilla alba lugens* Linné. Pied Wagtail. A common summer resident, this species was first observed on March 27 shortly after my arrival at Yang-Do and was seen singly or in pairs almost every day until the evacuation. They were apparently nesting on the island although no nests were seen. Several birds were seen carrying insects in mid-June, apparently to nestlings. Four specimens were obtained.

*Passer montanus dybowskii* Domaniewski. Ussurian Tree Sparrow. Three specimens were collected by Koreans, one female on May 10 and two juvenile males on June 6. The species was common around the village on West Yang-Do.

*Fringilla montifringilla* Linné. Brambling. One specimen was collected on April 11 by a Korean boy on West Yang-Do. The bird was very fat and apparently in breeding condition.

I wish to express my appreciation to all who helped in the preparation of this paper: The Korean fishermen who brought me sea-bird specimens; a small boy, "Ky-iti," whose sling-shot was responsible for most of my small songbird skins; Dr. A. M. Bailey, Director of the Denver Museum of Natural History, Dr. O. L. Austin, Jr., and James C. Greenway, Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology, all of whom gave great assistance in the identification of specimens and observations; Jack Putnam, taxidermist of the Denver Museum, who laboriously salvaged all possible value from my bedraggled specimens; and above all to my father, Johnson A. Neff, ornithologist of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, who first pointed out the opportunity for significant bird study on Yang-Do and without whose constant encouragement and help the study could never have been accomplished.—DON J. NEFF, 3965 So. Bannock St., Englewood, Colorado.

**On *Cuculus canoroides* S. Müller.**—*Cuculus canoroides* was described by Salomon Müller in a footnote on page 235 of his "Bijdragen tot de kennis van Timor en eenige andere naburige eilanden" in "Verhandelingen over de Natuurlijke Geschiedenis der Nederlandsche overzeesche bezittingen," edited by Temminck. This description, which appeared in 1845 (for the dates of publication of the different parts of the above mentioned work cf. Austral Avian Record, 1: 24, 1912) states

only that the species is in size, strongness of bill and feet, color and pattern quite as *Cuculus canorus*. The wing length is given as varying between 190 and 214 mm. The species was said to inhabit Java, Sumatra, Borneo, Timor and probably most of the islands between, and Malacca and Cochinchina.

Schlegel in his Catalogue (Muséum d'Histoire Naturelle des Pays-Bas, Monographie 25: Cuculi, pp. 7-11) enumerated 5 type specimens of *canoroïdes* sub nomine *Cuculus striatus*. Afterwards Finsch (Notes from the Leyden Museum, 23: 101, 1901) stated that the type specimens of *canoroïdes* are undoubtedly specimens of *Cuculus canorus*. Consequently Hartert (Vögel palaärkt. Fauna, Bd. 2, 1912, p. 948) placed the name in the synonymy of *Cuculus canorus telephonus* with the remark that it had to be considered a nomen nudum because the description gave no characters to differentiate it from *canorus*. Müller's notes, bad as they are, certainly qualify as a description, and with the type specimens at hand it is not possible to consider Müller's name a nomen nudum.

A reëxamination of the material shows that Finsch's statement is wrong, and that all the type specimens of *canoroïdes* are representatives of *Cuculus saturatus*. The latter name is older having been first published in 1843. The specimens have the white (carpal) wing edge unbarred. There are fewer, broader, and more sharply defined bars on the underparts than normally found in skins of *Cuculus canorus* from East Asia. The specimens of *canoroïdes* which have a uniform blue upperside are slightly darker than specimens of *canorus*.

In the collections of the Leiden Museum there are no specimens of *Cuculus canorus* from the Indo-Australian Archipelago, nor are there any in the extensive Bartels Collection from Java. *Canorus* must be a very rare migrant in this region.

The name *Cuculus canoroïdes* is older than *Cuculus horsfieldi*, which now is the name of the large northern race of *Cuculus saturatus*, and therefore threatens the stability of the nomenclature of these cuckoos. The range of variation in the wing measurements of the type specimens of *Cuculus canoroïdes*, remeasured by me, is 185 to 215 mm.

As lectotype of *Cuculus canoroïdes*, I select an immature bird in the red phase, with a wing measurement of 187 mm., collected by Müller during August, 1836, on G. Doesoen, Poeloe Maja, off the west coast of Borneo (Schlegel catalogue s.n. *Cuculus striatus* no. 34). By this action the name *canoroïdes* sinks into the synonymy of *Cuculus saturatus saturatus*, which has a maximum wing measurement of about 194 mm. (cf. Junge, Temminckia 2: 199-200, 1937), the smallest specimens of *horsfieldi* measuring 192 mm.

For the loan of East Asian skins of *Cuculus canorus*, I am indebted to the authorities of the Museum of Comparative Zoology, Cambridge, U. S. A.—G. C. A. JUNGE, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden, Netherlands.

**Height of a Flock of Migrating Ducks.**—On October 15, 1952, at 4:00 P.M., while flying over Garvin County, Oklahoma, at an altitude of 5,700 feet, the pilot called my attention to a flock of about 30 ducks approaching the airplane in a line almost parallel with and approximately 100 feet lower than our line of flight, and less than 60 yards to our left. Although we were flying north at about 150 miles per hour and the ducks were flying south, we could see them clearly and identify them as one of the scaups, *Aythya*. The land elevation at this point is approximately 950 feet; the ducks were flying about 4,750 feet above the ground. A very light south wind was blowing.—CARL D. RIGGS, University of Oklahoma, Norman, Oklahoma.