

holes in the cliffs of a ravine in Guatemala (*vide* Griscom, Bull. Amer. Mus. Nat. Hist. 64:174, 410, 1932). Boucard's account, supposedly based on personal observations, was summarily dismissed by Griscom as being false (*loc. cit.*). The Chiapas specimens of the Military Macaw suggest, however, that Griscom may have been wrong in his assessment of Boucard's Guatemalan record and that small isolated populations may exist in remote areas in northern Central America. Finca Patichuiz is about 40 km from the México-Guatemala border. Whether or not *A. militaris* now occurs in Guatemala is unknown. Clearly, if reports are reliable, the population in the

vicinity of Finca Patichuiz in Chiapas is on the verge of extinction.

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INTERSPECIFIC AGGRESSION OF ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHERS ON CASSIN'S SPARROWS

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During the course of field studies in 1970 on the Santa Rita Experimental Range, Pima County, Arizona, we observed eight instances of interspecific aggression by Ash-throated Flycatchers (*Myiarchus cinerascens*) on Cassin's Sparrows (*Aimophila cassinii*). The former is a medium-sized tyrannid which nests in abandoned woodpecker holes in much of the southwestern United States and into México. It forages mainly by hawking for insects from the upper limbs of trees. The sparrow is a ground-foraging species, feeding on seeds in winter and ground-inhabiting insects during the summer. Nests are placed near the ground in low vegetation. Its song is delivered in an upward arching flight from upper limbs

of trees. The pattern of singing flights closely resembles the hawking maneuvers of the flycatcher. It was during the flight song that the sparrows were attacked by the flycatcher. The latter flew straight at the sparrow and usually knocked it to the ground.

Apparently, the flycatcher was responding to a behavioral image which approximates its own foraging maneuvers. Selection against such behavior is probably weak since Cassin's Sparrow is rather restricted in its distribution and then only occurs in grasslands. On the other hand, strong selection pressures may operate to maintain this type of behavior in the flycatcher since it overlaps several potential competitors (*Myiarchus* spp., *Tyrannus* spp.).

One other observation adds strength to the above suggestion. A Cactus Wren (*Campylorhynchus brunneicapillus*), flying about 3 m above the ground, suddenly made an upward jog in its straight line flight. This deviation was similar in form to a flycatcher foraging maneuver. Immediately, an Ash-throated Flycatcher, which was perched about 4 m away, flew at the wren and knocked it to the ground.

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KING RAIL AND FLAMMULATED OWL AT EL PASO, TEXAS

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In 1933, single specimens of King Rail (*Rallus elegans*) and Flammulated Owl (*Otus flammeolus*) were taken at El Paso, Texas, these being subsequently obtained by the late Harold H. Bailey and more recently by the Delaware Museum of Natural History (DMNH). The collector is not listed on the original labels, but on supplemental tags this information is given by Bailey as Anton McLellan or McClellan. The rail (DMNH 6906), a juvenile male approximately half-grown, was taken on 5 May 1933.

Judging from its stage of development, it was hatched locally, and as such it appears to represent the westernmost breeding record for the species. In Texas, this rail is largely confined to the eastern half of the state (Wolfe, Check-list of the birds of Texas. Intelligencer Press, Lancaster. 1956), although occurring as a rare migrant in the Panhandle (Peterson, The birds of Texas. Riverside Press, Cambridge. 1960). The owl is a male (DMNH 6917) and was taken on 14 October 1933. It undoubtedly represents a migrant in the area and appears to be the first specimen from El Paso. Peterson (*op. cit.*) records the bird as a rare summer resident of the mountains of western Texas, limited to forests above 6000 ft, and neither he nor Wolfe (*op. cit.*) list any lowland records for the state.

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