

the attack but the shark bit him severely, first on the right forearm with the removal of a good deal of flesh, the bone being scraped by the shark's teeth, then less severely on the left forearm and rib cage. The shark was about three feet long.

I questioned Samsel closely about the identity of the shark, using sketches and considering the species *Carcharinus albimarginatus* (Rüppell), *C. longimanus* (Poey), *C. melanopterus* (Quoy and Gaimard), *C. menisorrhah* (Valenciennes), and *Triacodon obesus* (Rüppell). I gained the impression that the species involved was *Carcharinus albimarginatus*.

Three months later I again questioned Samsel about the attack in connection with a report to the U.S. Navy. At this time he gave me more information but his story differed in a few details from that previously given.

During the second interview Samsel stated that the attack took place outside the barrier reef about one mile southwest of West Passage on the west side of Babelthuap. The spearing party was about one hundred feet from the reef and the shark bit Samsel as he was returning to the surface after pursuing a fish on the reef below. The sea was rough and the water murky. The day was sunny and there were no unusual noises except for the swimming of the spearing party. At the time of the attack there were no floating objects in the water nearby except for the group's boat. Samsel was wearing long brown trousers and a wrist watch. During this interview Samsel did not seem as certain about the white markings on the shark.

Besides Samsel the spearing party included Steve Ugetararo of Koror, Principal of the Munes Elementary School; Paul Simang, Ngiramked and Teltull Ngiramutuker, all fishermen from the village of Aimeliik.

Later I interviewed Umetaro who corroborated most of Samsel's account. He stated that the waves were about 4-5 feet high and the water murky. Ngiramked speared the shark and played it throughout the attack. Samsel dived in the vicinity of the shark in pursuit of a fish on the reef below. As Samsel surfaced the shark went for him but he was able to avoid it. However, when the shark pressed its attack the second time it was successful.

Umetaro stated that the shark was 4-5 feet long and devoid of white markings. From Umetaro I gained the firm impression that the shark was *Carcharinus menisorrhah*. Umetaro said that there was a floating log in the attack area and that the shark appeared to be associated with it.

After the attack Samsel was treated by Dr. Donald Sprafke of the U.S. Navy and was later removed to Guam Naval Hospital for plastic surgery.

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I thank Aisamerael Samsel for his kindness in supplying what must have been difficult details to report. I also thank Steve Umetaro for his account of the attack, and Dr. Donald Sprafke, U. S. Navy, for bringing the attack to my attention.

KENNETH R. H. READ, *Department of Biology, Boston University, Boston, Mass. 02215, and Entomology Laboratory, Koror, Palau 96940.*

NOTES ON BIRDS FROM NAMOLUK ATOLL.¹

Namoluk is a small, triangular-shaped atoll located in Truk District, Eastern Caroline Islands, at 5° 55' N., 153° 08' E., approximately 130 miles southeast of Moen Island, the district center. Namoluk's nearest island neighbor is Etal, some 35 miles farther south. Namoluk consists of five low coral islets with a combined land area of 0.322 square miles and it has a completely enclosed lagoon covering 2.972 square miles. The total resident population of the atoll numbered 272 in June, 1970, and the entire population is located on one islet, also called Namoluk. The author spent fifteen months on the atoll (from 1969-1971) during which time he was conducting field research in cultural anthropology and made the following ornithological observations.

The number of bird species found on Namoluk is not large. Sixteen species regularly inhabit the atoll for part or all of the year and six others are sighted occasionally. Of the regular inhabitants, four are land birds (including the

¹ Work reported here was completed while conducting anthropological field research on Namoluk during 1969-1971 supported by the National Institutes of Health, Research Grant MH-11871-01 and related fellowship MH42666-01.

domestic fowl), five are shore birds, and seven are sea birds. Occasional visitors include two land birds, three sea birds, and one shore bird.

An early source for Namoluk (Girschner, 1912-1913) provides a list of birds known on the atoll around 1910. Those species still found on Namoluk have been marked by a 'G' following the Latin name where positive identification can be made. A comparison of Girschner's list with my own reveals the species composition of Namoluk's bird population to have remained quite stable during the past sixty years. Seventeen of the twenty species I recorded were definitely present when Girschner visited the atoll, and it seems likely that differences in transcription may account for the other three. Three other species mentioned by Girschner do not occur on Namoluk

today. One of these, the Micronesian Pigeon, *Ducula oceanica teraokai* (Momiya), was already extinct on Namoluk by 1910, and the other two apparently died out sometime later. These were the Ponape Lory, *Trichoglossus ribiginosus* (Bonaparte) which Girschner claims was blown to Namoluk from Ponape in the 1905 typhoon, and a bird which Girschner identifies as 'a small heron' (possibly a bittern?) whose Namoluk name he recorded as *eren-chuunenwo*.

The following is a complete list of the birds of Namoluk. Where the name of a bird on Namoluk differs from that given by Goo and Banner (1963) for Truk, the name they recorded has been added in parentheses following the Namoluk name. For purposes of comparison with their list, Elbert's (1947) orthography has

<u>Land Birds</u>	<u>Common Name</u>	<u>Namoluk Name</u>
<i>Aplonis opacus angus</i> Momiya G	Micronesian Starling	mwi
<i>Acrocephalus lusciniæ syrinx</i> (Kittlitz) G	Nightingale Reed Warbler	lishok (nichok)
<i>Myzomela cardinalis major</i> Bonaparte G	Cardinal Honeyeater	liteikepar (niteikepar)
<i>Eudynamis taitensis</i> (Sparrman)* +	Long-Tailed New Zealand Cuckoo	likapilei (nikāp)
<i>Anas poecilorhyncha pelewensis</i> Hartlaub and Finsch* + G	Australian Grey Duck	rang (niaüpenik)
_____ G	Domestic Fowl	malok (chüko)
	Rooster	malokemwän
	Hen	lisinger
	Chick	lisiup (nisiup)
<u>Shore Birds</u>		
<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i> (Gmelin) G	American Wandering Tattler	ilil (inin)
<i>Numenius phaeopus variegatus</i> (Scopoli) G	Whimbrel	liakak (niakak)
<i>Arenaria interpres interpres</i> (Linnaeus) G	Ruddy Turnstone	urupap
<i>Pluvialis dominica fulva</i> (Gmelin) G	Pacific Golden Plover	kiling (kining)
<i>Egretta sacra sacra</i> (Gmelin) G	Reef Heron	örö
<i>Actitis hypoleucos</i> Linnaeus +	Common Sandpiper	maninkapuchupuch
<u>Sea Birds</u>		
<i>Fregata minor minor</i> (Gmelin) G	Greater Frigate Bird	asaf
<i>Phaethon lepturus dorotheae</i> Mathews G	White-Tailed Tropic Bird	uuk
<i>Gygis alba pacifica</i> (Lesson) G	White or Fairy Tern	ekiek
<i>Anous stolidus pileatus</i> (Scopoli)	Brown or Common Noddy	kokok (ponik)
<i>Anous tenuirostris marcus</i> (Bryan) G	Black, White-Capped, Hawaiian or Lesser Noddy	resh (ponik)
<i>Sterna sumatrana sumatrana</i> Raffles G	Black-Naped Tern	arar
<i>Thalasseus bergii pelecyanoides</i> (King) G	Crested Tern	arafao
<i>Sula leucogaster plotus</i> (Forster) + G	Brown Booby	apwang
<i>Puffinus pacificus chlororhynchus</i> Lesson +	Wedge-tailed Shearwater	machukou (mechúkou)
_____ * +	_____	sapal

been adhered to in spelling local names. Those species marked with an asterisk (*) were not seen by the author and were identified on the basis of detailed descriptions from informants who have seen them on Namoluk. Those birds marked with a plus (+) are only infrequent visitors to the atoll. On the basis of my informants' descriptions, I am unable to identify the *sapal*. It is described as a dark-colored, blunt-winged, gliding seabird approximately the size of *Anous tenuirostris marcus*. Informants stressed to me that the *sapal* is always seen at sea and never comes to shore.

Etymologically, two of the native bird names are descriptive of the bird's most prominent characteristic: *uuk*, the name for the tropic bird, literally means, "tail;" *liteikepar* seems to be a composite name referring to the cardinal honeyeater's striking red plumage. *Teik* is the name for the red tumeric powder used as a cosmetic paint in the Carolines and *par* means, "red." The names for *mwi*, *liakak*, *urupap*, *kiling*, *örö*, *kokok*, *resh*, *arafao*, *arar*, and *ilil* appear to be onomatopoeic in origin (Cf. Diamond, 1966: 1103).

In addition to domestic fowl, both kinds of noddies are eaten quite regularly by people on Namoluk. Tropic birds are consumed whenever they can be caught. Several other species of birds are eaten irregularly, largely because of difficulty of capture or their lack of meat. Namoluk informants unanimously agree that no one will eat nightingale reed warbler, reef heron, or wandering tattler. Wild bird eggs are not eaten and chicken eggs are rarely used in cooking.

On the basis of thorough observation of the avifauna of Namoluk, coupled with an exhaustive interrogation of informants regarding birds they have seen on the island, the above check list is put forward as a complete record of Namoluk birds.

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- MAC MARSHALL,** *Department of Anthropology, University of Washington, Seattle.*
- RING NECK PLOVER ON GUAM.** While observing a flock of wandering tattlers (*Heteroscelus icanus* Gmelin) at Tamuning Bay on 22 March, 1967, I observed what appeared to be a ring neck plover (*Charadrius dubius* Gmelin) feeding alone, but apparently following the flock of tattlers. Under ideal light conditions, and with the aid of field glasses (7×35 power), I observed this bird at a distance of 80-100 feet.
- The following field characters were obvious: Apparently smaller than the Mongolian dotterel (*Charadrius mongolus stegmanni* Stresemann), the plover observed had a well defined black throat collar, as compared to the summer rufous collar or gray winter ring across the dotterel's throat. Its legs were pale brown, forehead and underparts white, and the rest of its back dark brownish gray. In addition to the black and white pattern on the hind neck, a wide, well defined black band was obvious from eye to eye.
- Because the area was rather populated, and because a well travelled highway was nearby, it was not feasible to shoot the bird for positive identification. Using a telephoto lens, several attempts were made to photograph this exceedingly wary bird. However, each time the bird flew away, and on the second approach, it departed and never returned.
- Assuming correct identification, this ring neck plover was probably of the Eurasian race (*curonicus* Gmelin) and not of the race (*papuanus* Mayr) residing in the New Guinea and New