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**RECORDS OF SOME BIRDS AND MAMMALS
IN THE CENTRAL CHIMANIMANI MOUNTAINS OF
MOÇAMBIQUE AND RHODESIA**

by

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INTRODUCTION

Mr. R. Chenaux-Repond, Dr. F. W. Huchzermeyer, Mr. J. R. Shaw and the author spent the period 23 May to 3 June, 1972, hiking through the central Chimanimani Mountains in Moçambique and Rhodesia. We covered about 100 km, travelling from Dead Cow Camp to Gossamer Falls via the Mountain Hut, Camp Portage, the Mevumosi River and Gossamer Range; then back past the northern end of the Macuire Range, across the Saddle to the Southern Lakes and along the Lower Bundi to Banana Grove and Dead Cow Camp. The route lies within the area covered by Hodgson (1971) in his list of the birds of the Chimanimani Mountains, and it is to his description and map of the area that the reader is referred for details of topography and vegetation and for the positions of the localities mentioned.

Notes were kept of all birds and mammals seen, since the area is virtually uninhabited and seldom visited; no specimens were collected. Hodgson (*op. cit.*) recently collated the known distribution of birds in the area, but I know of no comparable publication dealing with the mammals. Child & Savory (1964) show the distribution of large mammal species in Rhodesia, but as their maps are on a half degree square basis it is difficult to determine the status of species in

the highlands of the eastern border area. Our records may be of interest in that particular attention was paid to altitude and habitat. Two species are recorded in Moçambique for the first time and several are new records for the Chimanimani Mountains. The data are presented in systematic order in the list which follows. Nomenclature and sequence follow Clancey (1965-66, 1969 and 1972) and Smithers (1966). Trinomials are used only where subspecies could be identified in the field.

For plotting purposes it may be assumed that all the records fall within the quarter degree square 1933C3.

SYSTEMATIC LIST BIRDS

Anas sparsa Black Duck
Identified on the Mevumosi River at 1 280 m and 840 m; also on the Bundi River at 1 450 m. Seems to favour the less turbulent stretches of the river, especially where there are quiet pools. On the Mevumosi a three bird flight was noted going downstream in the evening and another (the same?) heading upstream early the next morning.

Elanus caeruleus Blackshouldered Kite
One seen perched on a solitary tree in open grassland at 1 300 m just east of the upper Mevumosi River.

Aquila verreauxii Black Eagle
The birds mentioned by Hodgson (1971) were not seen, although looked for. This is surprising since the species is normally very conspicuous early in the breeding season; it may have deserted the area.

Lophaetus occipitalis Longcrested Eagle
Two observed flying over the Mevumosi River at 840 m.

Spizaetus coronatus Crowned Eagle
Heard calling in display flight over evergreen forest near Gossamer Falls, and seen and heard doing the pendulum display flight at 11:45 h near the Dome north of the Macuire Range (altitude about 1 800 m).

Buteo rufofuscus augur Augur Buzzard
Common along the international border (seen at Dombi and Martin's Falls, along the headwaters of the Muçrera River and over Southern Lakes), but decidedly less common further east; not seen at all along

the Gossamer Range east of the Mevumosi River. Seen stooping (playfully?) at a troop of baboons.

Francolinus shelleyi

Shelley's Francolin

Heard calling in the Bundi Valley at the foot of Binga at 1 700 m.

Vanellus senegallus

Wattled Plover

Decidedly scarce during our trip; heard once in the Bundi Valley below the Hut.

Columba arquatrix

Rameron Pigeon

Four seen over the evergreen forest below Poacher's Cave on the Muçrera River at 1 200 m; there are very few records from the Chimanimanis (Hodgson, 1971).

Aplopelia larvata

Cinnamon Dove

Appears to prefer small patches of montane evergreen forest along ravines to the more extensive forest areas; particularly common in this habitat along the northern foothills of the Binga massif.

Tauraco corythaix livingstonii

Livingstone's Turaco

Noted on the slopes above Dead Cow Camp and in evergreen forest just east of the Mevumosi River.

Bubo capensis

Cape Eagle Owl

Heard at 1 300 m just east of the upper Mevumosi River in a rugged quartzite ridge; it was a bright moonlight night and two of these birds appeared to be calling to each other, one voice being higher pitched than the other; the call was a double-noted 'hoo-oo', the first syllable being very loud and the second subdued; a harsh screech was uttered in flight. Compared to the call of *B. africanus*, with which I am very familiar, the first syllable may be said to be explosive, whereas there is a lazy sighing quality to the call of *africanus*. I have since discussed these calls with Mr. Anthony Walker and have listened to his tape recordings of *capensis*; there is no doubt in my mind that the birds calling in the Chimanimanis were *capensis*.

This species has not been recorded in Moçambique before (Clancey, 1971, who correctly predicts that it must be in the mountainous country along the Rhodesian border). Its presence in Rhodesia has only recently been confirmed by specimens from Inyanga and the Matopos (Benson & Irwin, 1967); a third specimen was killed in a chicken run on Tsetsera Farm, on the Rhodesian border with Moçambique at 19° 23' S., 32° 46' E., and presented to the Umtali Museum by Mr. A. C. Drewe, but later transferred to the National

Museum, Bulawayo. This locality is at 2 000 m on the slopes of Himalaya Mountain and lies between Inyanga and the Chimanimanis, so the species evidently occurs at higher altitudes all along the Rhodesia/Moçambique frontier.

Caprimulgus tristigma

Freckled Nightjar

This is the common nightjar of the Chimanimani Mountains, favouring the rocky ridges and boulder strewn slopes that are such a feature of the area. We heard it calling regularly in the evening and in the early morning, and also during the night when the moon was up; full moon was reached halfway through our stay, on the 28th May. This species is less common to the east than it is along the rugged ranges of the international border; we noted it at altitudes from 1 100 m to 1 700 m. Clancey (1971) does not mention its presence in the Portuguese Chimanimanis.

On two occasions we were able to watch these birds feeding, once in the evening and once in the morning; on both occasions it seemed that a pair was moving about together. None was seen to perch in a tree, although trees were available; perching was usually on the edge of a rocky scarp or on a boulder, and insects were hawked from there by short flights out with glides back to the perch. Particularly good views were obtained of the pair observed in the early morning and it was noted that only one of the two was calling as they moved about; the call was the usual 'hew-cue' repeated frequently, but in this case was given very quietly in the nature of a sub-song.

On one occasion the first note only was repeated rapidly several times in flight and quite often flight 'chucks' were also heard.

Ceryle maxima

Giant Kingfisher

One on the Mevumosi River at 1 275 m, *i.e.*, south-east of Tucker's Falls and Martin's Falls. Neither Hodgson (1971) nor Clancey (1971) record this species from the Chimanimani Mountains.

Alcedo semitorquata

Halfcollared Kingfisher

One observed on the Mevumosi River at 840 m. Not recorded by Hodgson (1971).

Rhinopomastus cyanomelas

Scimitarbill

One seen with a party of *Prionops retzii* in *Brachystegia-Philippia* association at about 1 100 m near Gossamer Falls.

Stactolaema leucotis

White-eared Barbet

Common in evergreen forest along the Mevumosi River at 840 m.

Indicator indicator Greater Honeyguide
A female seen hawking flying termites over a small patch of evergreen forest north of Binga at 1 500 m; also beside the Muçrera River at 1 400 m in an area of scattered quartzite ridges and boulders with trees and shrubs between (St. George's Cave).

Prodotiscus zambesiae Eastern Slenderbilled Honeyguide
At the southern end of Gossamer Range at about 1 100 m, *i.e.*, about 1 km north of the falls, one was seen feeding in a very warbler-like fashion in the canopy of a *Brachystegia* tree; the habitat generally consisted of *Brachystegia* woodland on broken rocky slopes with hardly any ground cover. Hodgson (1971) does not list this species, and it has seldom been recorded in southern Moçambique (Clancey, 1971).

Campethera abingoni Goldentailed Woodpecker
Dendropicus fuscescens Cardinal Woodpecker
Both species heard in *Brachystegia* woodland on Gossamer Range at about 1 000 m; *abingoni* has not been recorded in the area (Hodgson, 1971) and should be looked for.

Hirundo fuligula Rock Martin
Seen only on the Lower Bundi at 1 550 m, at Skeleton Pass below Binga and at Martin's Falls, so it seems to require something more than just 'reasonably large rockfaces' (Hodgson, 1971); my impression is that concentrations occur where there are favourable wind currents, especially updraughts which are of course usually orographic in this type of country.

Psalidoprocne pristopectera percivali East African Black Roughwing
Extremely common in the Portuguese Chimanimanis, but not noted on the Rhodesian side of the border. On the Mevumosi River at 840 m a party of *ca* 50 was observed towards sunset one evening. The birds were bathing in the river by skimming low over the surface and then dropping into the water momentarily; after several passes individuals would retire to a solitary tree on a grassy slope above the river, where they preened and sunbathed in the last rays of sunlight. At times up to half the flock were in this tree, while the others were bathing or soaring and feeding high above the river, so it was assumed that the birds would all roost there; however, as dusk deepened they gradually dispersed, presumably to roost in the dense evergreen forest on the other side of the river.

Many of the birds in this flock appeared to lack the white under

wing-coverts and axillaries; these individuals also appeared plumper than the others and had decidedly shorter outer rectrices. I presume that they were young *P.p.percivali* and not adult *P.p.holomelaena*, since the latter have deeply forked tails.

Coracina caesia Grey Cuckoo-Shrike
Seen twice in the evergreen forest just east of the Mevumosi River at 840 m, in the canopies of trees both at the water's edge and higher up the slope at about 1 100 m. There are very few records from southern Moçambique (Clancey, 1971).

Dicrurus ludwigii Squaretailed Drongo
In evergreen forest along the Mevumosi River from Gossamer Falls almost to Tucker's Falls up to an altitude of 1 250 m; not recorded above 670 m by Hodgson (1971), but Clancey (1971) says 'extending west to the high country along the Rhodesian frontier'.

Oriolus larvatus Blackheaded Oriole
One seen in open country on Gossamer Range at 1 100 m ca 7 km north of the falls (near Elephant Lake); it was moving about in a few isolated trees, only a short flight time from forest lower down the slope. Hodgson (1971) gives no records for the Portuguese Chimanimanis.

Corvus albicollis Cape Raven
Probably the most conspicuous species in the Chimanimanis, occurring at virtually all the localities visited by us and being particularly attracted to regular campsites; visits these as soon as the campers have departed and will even enter rockshelters such as St. George's Cave to forage for scraps. In our experience invariably found in pairs *pace* Hodgson (1971) who records them as occurring in small parties.

Parus griseiventris Smallbilled Grey Tit
A party in *Brachystegia* woodland below the Hut.

Pycnonotus barbatus Blackeyed Bulbul
Although widespread, was not found to be particularly common anywhere.

Phyllastrephus flavostriatus Yellowstreaked Bulbul
Common in the evergreen forest along the Mevumosi River at 840 m; also heard at Poacher's Cave on the Mucrera River at 1 400 m, where *Andropadus milanjensis* was seen in the same forest. In my experience it is unusual to find these two species together.

Andropadus milanjensis Stripedcheeked Bulbul
At the above locality and also just north of Binga at 1 600 m.

Turdus libonyana Kurrichane Thrush
Twice only, in *Uapaca* woodland at 1 550 m just south-east of Banana Grove, and in *Brachystegia* woodland near the Lower Bundi at 1 450 m.

Turdus olivaceus Olive Thrush
Heard in evergreen forest on the Mevumosi River at 1 300 m.

Oenanthe oenanthe Wheatear
The record attributed to me by Hodgson (1971) is not mine; in fact, when we reviewed the status of this species in southern Africa (Borrett & Jackson, 1970) we were not aware of this record; fortunately it does not alter our findings. Hodgson informs me (*in litt.*) that the Chimanimani record was submitted by D. C. H. Plowes.

Cercomela familiaris Familiar Chat
One observed on rocks along the Lower Bundi at 1 550 m.

Thamnolaea cinnamomeiventris Mocking Chat
On a rocky ridge near Martin's Falls at 1 600 m and at 1 400 m on the Mucrera River, where found to be remarkably confiding in the vicinity of the campsite (St. George's Cave).

Saxicola torquata Stonechat
Widespread in small numbers in open grassland areas close to streams.

Cossypha caffra Cape Robin
Extremely common throughout in thickets, but I agree with Hodgson (1971) that it prefers thickets in the vicinity of rocks. One which roosted close to our camp flew readily in moonlight when disturbed by a human moving about no less than 5 m away.

Seicercus ruficapillus Yellowthroated Warbler
In forest canopy above the Mevumosi River at 840 m.

Apalis thoracica Barthroated Apalis
Common in the habitats mentioned by Hodgson (1971) and also in *Uapaca-Philippia* association.

Apalis chirindensis Chirinda Apalis
A pair in evergreen forest along the Mevumosi River at 840 m; in

early morning these birds came down to within 5 m of the ground in the trees and bushes along the river's edge, allowing good views. The bills were wholly black, thus agreeing with the Musapa Mountain deme rather than the Chimanimani deme (see Irwin & Jackson, 1971). This species only occurs sporadically below 1 000 m, being essentially montane in distribution; Hodgson (1971) records the known altitudinal range in the Chimanimanis (under the name *A.melanocephala*) as about 1 370 m to 1 830 m, although Clancey (1971) says 'generally above 900 m'. Detailed records of the distribution of this species in the Chimanimani Mountains, paying particular attention to altitude and bill colour, would be of great value in resolving its true status and the significance of the variation in bill colour.

Cisticola ayresii

Ayres' Cisticola

Common in short grass, especially in the upper Bundi Valley.

Cisticola lais

Wailing Cisticola

The common cisticola of the Chimanimanis, being found wherever we went, except in forest.

Prinia robertsi

Roberts' Prinia

Seen in forest edge thicket near Poacher's Cave on the Muçrera River at 1 200 m, slightly lower than the lower altitudinal limit of 1 375 m given by both Hodgson (1971) and Clancey (1965-66 and 1971).

Muscicapa caerulescens

Ashy Flycatcher

In evergreen forest at Gossamer Falls at about 825 m.

Batis capensis

Cape Batis

North of Binga at 1 600 m; on the Mevumosi River at 1 280 m; on the Muçrera River at 1 400 m; all in small patches of evergreen forest or fairly dense thicket of trees and shrubs.

Batis soror

Moçambique Batis

A pair seen in *Brachystegia* woodland on rocky slopes of Gossamer Range just north of the falls at about 1 130 m. Not recorded by Hodgson (1971) unless he has included it under *B.molitor*, which species was seen by us in the lower Bundi Valley in *Uapaca* woodland at about 1 500 m. These two species could profitably be studied in the Chimanimani Mountains to determine the altitude at which they meet and whether they occur sympatrically in the zone of contact.

Trochocercus albonotatus Whitetailed Crested Flycatcher
In evergreen forest at 1 600 m just north of Binga and at 1 220 m on the Mucrera River.

Motacilla aguimp Pied Wagtail
On the Mevumosi River at 840 m; Hodgson (1971) gives the upper altitudinal limit of its range in the Chimanimanis as 760 m. It is perhaps prudent to add that several extremely good views were obtained of the pair frequenting this stretch of the river and that they were definitely not *M. clara*.

Macronyx croceus Yellowthroated Longclaw
Seen at two points on Gossamer Range, 3 km and 7 km north of the falls, both at 1 100 m and on open fairly dry, grassy slopes. Hodgson (1971) lists this species from the Bundi Valley only, but Clancey (1971) records its presence in the Portuguese Chimanimanis.

Lanius collaris Fiscal
Hodgson (1971) suggests that this species may be on the increase in the higher levels in the Chimanimanis. We recorded it at the foot of Dombi (1 700 m), at Camp Portage (1 700 m), east of the Mevumosi River at 1 300 m and on the Mucrera River at 1 225 m and 1 400 m. The habitat in each case was open country with isolated trees or rocks, the peculiar finger-rocks (monoliths) so characteristic of certain areas being used as hunting perches in lieu of trees; this behaviour may be a recent adaptation accounting in part for the apparent range expansion of this species.

Laniarius ferrugineus Boubou
One pair seen on the Mucrera River at 1 400 m in fairly dense thicket of trees and shrubs among rocky outcrops.

Dryoscopus cubla Puffback
Ubiquitous.

Telophorus zeylonus Bokmakiri
This species is by no means uncommon in the Chimanimanis and it is indeed difficult to understand how it could have been overlooked there for so long. We recorded it at several points in the upper Bundi Valley at about 1 700 m; north of Binga at 1 700 m on the Plateau; north of Martin's Falls at 1 600 m (Kurasika); and on the headwaters of the Mucrera River at 1 225 m (St. George's Cave area) and 1 400 m (towards the Saddle). We did not see or hear it east of 33° 07' E., although we spent nearly five days in the area,

and it would seem to be confined to the rather open ravines in the rugged border country; steep slopes with scattered rocks, small trees and bushes comprise its niche, and this is usually found in the ravines where the rugged quartzite and schist massifs fold; this niche disappears further east.

Pace Irwin (1968), the Chimanimani birds frequently duet and the song is very similar to the South African races; it could certainly not be mistaken for any other species. The birds occur in pairs; we watched one pair at about 09:00 h duetting on a flat rock surface at the foot of Dombi. They remained within a metre or two of each other while preening and sunbathing in a small tree for over half an hour. They were not particularly shy and allowed us to move to a point *ca* 50 m from them without interrupting their preening.

Telophorus quadricolor

Gorgeous Bush Shrike

Heard calling at 1 100 m on the southern end of the Gossamer Range and at 1 200 m just north of the Macuire Range; in each case associated with dense thickets of shrubs and bushes in ravines in rolling grassland, so occupying a very different niche to *T.zeylonus*.

Malaconotus olivaceus

Olive Bush Shrike

Fairly common in small patches of evergreen forest; recorded at 1 600 m just north of Binga and at Camp Portage, at 1 300 m on the Mvumosi River, and at 1 200 m and 1 400 m on the Mucrera River.

Prionops plumata

White Helmet-Shrike

A party of 8 in *Brachystegia* woodland along the Lower Bundi, at about 1 450 m, and another on the ridge overlooking Banana Grove also in *Brachystegia* woodland but at 1 550 m.

Prionops retzii

Redbilled Helmet-Shrike

One party seen at about 1 000 m in *Brachystegia* woodland on the rocky slopes of the southern Gossamer Range leading to the falls; Hodgson (1971) only gives records for the Haroni Valley and the Masapa Gap.

Onychognathus morio

Redwinged Starling

Extremely common along the rugged ranges of the border area but decidedly less common further east as the country softens into rolling grassland; large flocks are often seen flying over at great height, as much as 750 m above ground level.

Promerops gurneyi Gurney's Sugarbird
 Several in a small area of low bushes, shrubs, and flowering proteas on the southern end of Gossamer Range at 1 150 m, and a few at 1 700 m just above the lower Bundi River (foot of Turret Towers). Hodgson (1971) records it above 1 500 m and Clancey (1971) says 'generally not below 1 220 m'.

Nectarinia famosa Malachite Sunbird
 Widespread in small numbers; we recorded it in the upper Bundi Valley at 1 600 m (a ♂ showing extensive moult of the contour plumage); at Camp Portage and Martin's Falls, both at about 1 600 m; on the south end of Gossamer Range at 1 100 m; near the Mucrera River at 1 400 m (St. George's Cave) and in the lower Bundi Valley at 1 700 m. Quite often associated with Strelitzias. According to Clancey (1971) 'not ranging below 1 375 m altitude'.

Nectarinia chalybea Lesser Doublecollared Sunbird
 In *Brachystegia* woodland below the Hut, in a small patch of evergreen forest and in small trees and shrubs north of Binga, on the southern end of Gossamer Range and at the headwaters of the Mucrera River in small trees among the scattered rocks; from 1 100 m to 1 700 m.

Nectarinia venusta Yellowbreasted Sunbird
 Very common, preferring areas of scrub and forest edge; recorded just north of Domboi at 1 650 m, on Gossamer Range at 1 100 m, north of the Macuire Range at 1 300 m, above Southern Lakes at 1 450 m and on the ridge above Dead Cow Camp at 1 300 m.

Nectarinia olivacea Olive Sunbird
 Extremely common in an area of dense *Philippia* with *Brachystegia* on the southern end of Gossamer Range at 1 100 m; we passed through this association several times and it became evident that pairs of this species were occupying definite territories for we flushed them at the same points every time. Skead (1967) gives no data on territory in this sunbird, even during the breeding season, so this is an aspect worthy of further investigation.

Nectarinia amethystina Amethyst Sunbird
 One record only of a solitary bird at 1 050 m on the Mevumosi River (Elephant Lake); this was in fairly open grassland with scattered trees. Hodgson (1971) does not record this species from the Portuguese Chimanimanis.

Zosterops senegalensis Yellow White-eye
 In evergreen forest at 1 600 m just north of Binga and at 1 225 m on the Muçrera River (Poacher's Cave).

Ploceus bicolor Forest Weaver
 Quite common in the extensive evergreen forest on the Mevumosi River at 840 m; Hodgson (1971) gives one record only, a specimen taken at 610 m.

Estrilda astrild Common Waxbill
 Hodgson (1971) gives one record from the Chimanimanis, at 1 600 m, and postulates that it is "probably quite common at lower altitudes in cultivated areas, and in short grassland near scrub". We saw several small flocks of 10 to 15 individuals; on the Mevumosi River at 1 350 m (just above Tucker's Falls), on Gossamer Range at 1 100 m and at Southern Lakes (1 350 m). Habitat varied from open grassland near water to dense shrub and bracken away from it.

Estrilda melanotis Swee Waxbill
 On the slopes above Dead Cow Camp at about 1 400 and at 1 600 m just north of Binga; both in fairly dense growth of shrubs and bracken.

Serinus canicollis Cape Canary
 Flocks over thickets and bracken on the southern end of Gossamer Range at 1 100 m; Hodgson (1971) gives the lower altitudinal limit as 1 375 m. This is the first record of this species for Moçambique (Clancey, 1971), although Clancey (*op. cit.*) correctly assumes that it must occur in the Portuguese Chimanimanis.

Emberiza capensis smithersii Cape Bunting
 Very common in the rugged border ranges but not seen east of about 33° 07' E., this well differentiated subspecies occupies a niche which is elsewhere occupied by *E.tahapisi*, the Cinnamonbreasted Bunting, which species does not appear to occur in the Chimanimanis at all.

MAMMALS

Cercopithecus mitis Blue Monkey
 In evergreen forest just north of Binga at 1 500 m, below Martin's Falls at 1 350 m and along the Gossamer Range at 1 100 m.

Papio ursinus Chacma Baboon
 Extremely common throughout, especially on the broken rocky slopes of the larger hills. Appear to spend the night on rock ledges

high up the slopes, gradually moving down during the morning until they reach more open country and water around noon; seem to spend much time feeding on certain bulbs which are pulled up, the leaves being discarded. Troops counted usually numbered less than 25.

Loxodonta africana

Elephant

Although not seen, there was much evidence of their presence in the Gossamer Range area some months previously, up to about 1 200 m.

Sylvicapra grimmia

Common Duiker

One in a small ravine in grassland in the lower Bundi Valley at 1 400 m, one on the edge of *Brachystegia-Uapaca* woodland at 1 600 m just east of Banana Grove, and one near Dead Cow Camp at 1 250 m.

Oreotragus oreotragus

Klipspringer

On rocky slopes and rock-strewn meadows near the Mucrera River at 1 225 m and 1 450 m and at the foot of Turret Towers at 1 700 m. Smithers (1966) describes the voice as a 'shrill whistle' but the alarm calls coming from the two seen at close quarters below Turret Towers could be described as muted barking or trumpeting, very much like the sound made by some toy trumpets.

Hippotragus niger

Sable

Near the Mevumosi River at about 19° 49' S., 33° 09' E., 1 200 m, we saw a bull with three cows and three calves about halfgrown; nearby, and probably part of the same herd, but too far to determine exact composition, were another 10 to 15 of these antelope. This was on a slope of about 30° in open grassland with woodland and forest nearby.

Tragelaphus scriptus

Bushbuck

One female seen near a small patch of forest just below the waterfall south-east of Banana Grove, at about 1 600 m.

Taurotragus oryx

Eland

Four in a ravine where a tributary joins the lower Bundi River at 1 400 m; these were the only ones seen, but in many areas of grassland at higher levels there were signs of herds lying up, and another party of mountaineers reported a herd of 15 in the vicinity of the Saddle between Southern Lakes and the Mucrera River; this would be at 1 500 m.

Hystrix africae-australis

Porcupine

Two in evergreen forest next to a tributary of the Mevumosi River at 1 150 m. Porcupine quills were found at several of the campsites but these could well have been carried there by campers from other localities in the Chimanimanis, so such records have been ignored.

SUMMARY

This paper lists the 70 bird and 9 mammal species identified during an eleven day walk of about 100 km through the central Chimanimani Mountains in Moçambique and Rhodesia, with particular attention being paid to altitude and habitat.

The Cape Eagle Owl *Bubo capensis* and the Cape Canary *Serinus canicollis* are recorded from Moçambique for the first time. New records for the Chimanimani Mountains are Giant Kingfisher *Ceryle maxima*, Halfcollared Kingfisher *Alcedo semitorquata*, Eastern Slenderbilled Honeyguide *Prodotiscus zambesiae*, Goldentailed Woodpecker *Campethera abingoni* and Moçambique Batis *Batis soror*. Not recorded on the Portuguese side before are Blackheaded Oriole *Oriolus larvatus*, Redbilled Helmet-Shrike *Prionops retzii* and Amethyst Sunbird *Nectarinia amethystina*.

Adjustments to the known altitudinal ranges are given for Square-tailed Drongo *Dicrurus ludwigii*, Chirinda Apalis *Apalis chirindensis*, Roberts' Prinia *Prinia robertsi*, Pied Wagtail *Motacilla aguimp*, Gurney's Sugarbird *Promerops gurneyi*, Malachite Sunbird *Nectarinia famosa*, Common Waxbill *Estrilda astrild* and Cape Canary *Serinus canicollis*.

Behaviour notes are included for about a quarter of the species discussed.

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