

Report of the birdwatching trip in the Philippines in March 2001

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18 birding days between 3.3. and 20.3.2001 in Luzon, Bohol, Cebu and Mindanao

Introduction

The Philippine archipelago consists of some 7100 islands. Between these islands bird-fauna differs a lot. Some 572 species are known to occur in the Philippines. Of these ~172 are endemic. These endemic species are scattered here and there and many have very limited range. For a visiting birdwatcher that is quite a challenge. How to manage to visit different islands and different types of habitats? How to manage to see as many endemics as possible?

We were quite spontaneous when deciding where to go and what to do as we soon noticed that 18 days is really not enough for the Philippines. We found out that we should come back later on and then pay a visit for example to Northern Luzon and Palawan and Cebu once more. So we changed our plans and tried to use maximum time in the field and not between different sites. That meant less sites and more time and species in visited sites.

Visited islands were Luzon, Bohol, Cebu and Mindanao.

A visitor will soon after arrival understand why the number of Threatened and Near-threatened species is so high (~120). Deforestation has reached awful dimensions. Outside the national parks we observed only tiny patches of primary forest left in places where it is probably impossible to do chopping (around high cliffs etc). Otherwise the landscape was under the cultivation. Even the national parks are not safe: in many occasions we met hunters and heard chainsaws or noticed logged trees or new clearings. It is said that the Philippines has one of the most threatened and endangered avifauna in the whole world.

All that left us helpless and anger rose. We didn't know what else to do than inform all people we met why we were there, and how wonderful birds there were in surrounding forests.

We didn't hire a car as we were happy enough with high density of taxis, buses and motorcycle-rickshaws. In many sites a hired car would have stayed useless for days as the sites were often national parks and reserves where it is impossible to drive. The accommodation was also often nearby the site. Prices of the taxis and buses were cheap (details in itinerary further).

Currency used in the Philippines is peso. During our visit 1 US\$ was equal to 48 pesos. Other currencies than US dollars are useless. Travel cheques in US dollars are accepted but cash is much more convenient. Even the official moneychangers in the airport can cheat, so it is better to be aware.

We often used very basic accommodation and that was adequate enough (details in itinerary).

Internet-cafes were seen in Cebu City and in Tagbilaran, Bohol. Those might be useful if in need to contact Felizardo Goring in PICOP.

With health we didn't have any particular problems. No stomach-upsets or anything like that. We ate lots of fresh fruits and had meals often in low-budget street restaurants. Food was clean enough, but sometimes we left something suspicious in the side of the plate. Mostly we used bottled water but In the Mt. Kitanglad we drank water which was carried from the stream. It was clean-looking and taste was good. We got no side-effects. Other possibility there would have been to carry enough bottled water for five days for two persons or boil the streamwater as there are basic cooking facilities. Against malaria we took Lariam-pills. Not many mosquitos was seen. Also we had an usual set of vaccination.

We were well informed of unsafe areas in different parts of the country. Those areas were not visited. In visited areas we didn't face any kind of threat or even impolite people. Something was stolen, anyway, so it is wise to look after your valuables (details in itinerary).

Original plan of ours was to visit PICOP-concession area in Mindanao also. We wrote a letter to Felizardo Goring and informed him we are coming. Our mistake was we couldn't make such a schedule which could have really worked. So we had to skip PICOP which we had left a last site to visit. (When writing this I received an e-mail from Felizardo Goring, now he is able to confirm birdingdays in PICOP through e-mail). Also we arrived three days late to Mt. Kitanglad. Fortunately this didn't cause any problems. We got a lesson: when in need of outside help or assistance it is wise to plan timetable so it will really work.

Some essential equipment used: as the weather was often rainy a pair of waterproof gore-tex hiking boots were essential. An umbrella. Torches with spare batteries. A sleeping bag in the mountain-site. A scope. A mini-disc-player and a microphone (used mostly to confirm identification, not for taping birds in). Sunscreen-lotion. A tin-opener. A pair of modern fast-dry trousers would have been a good thing to have.

A total cost of the trip, including books and vaccination, flights with Lufthansa from Helsinki to Manila and back, souvenirs, 2 domestic flights, 3 boat-trips, accommodation and numerous taxis, was about 1250 US\$ = 8500 FIM.

Thanks are due to Jan van der Laan who helped us a lot when we were preparing to go!

References used:

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- Fairbank, R.: Trip Report: Philippines, March 30 – April 14, 1996. Not useful but nice to have. Available from: <http://www.crosswinds.net/~birdtrips/Philippines96.html>
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- Lonely Planet: The Philippines. 2000. Very useful. Available in bookshops.
- Robson, C.: A Field Guide to the Birds of South-East Asia. Copyright 2000 New Holland Publishers (UK) Ltd. Useful.

Various sound recordings compiled from private recordings, from the net and from the cd-roms:

- Scharringa, J.: Birds of Tropical Asia, Sounds and Sights
- CD-ROM for Windows. Copyright: Bird Songs International BV 1996, 1999. Available from Books for Birders. E-mail: sales@birdingworld.co.uk. Useful.

Addresses for bird sound websites:

- www.wildsounds.co.uk/
- www.members.tripod.com/Thryomanes/AnimalSounds.html

Useful addresses:

- When heading to Mt. Kitanglad it is essential to write to Carlito in advance.
Carlito Gayramara
Dalwangan, Malaybalay
Bukidnon province, Mindanao 8700
- For PICOP a letter, and/or an e-mail to Felizardo has to be written.
Felizardo Goring
Camp Security Opns.
PICOP Resources Inc.
Tabon, Bislig
8311 Surigao Del Sur, Mindanao email: zardo_goring@yahoo.com
- For accommodation in Mt. Makiling:
Maria Annie Cereno, Administrative Officer
TREES (Tropical Resources and Education for Ecosystems Sustainability), Los Baños
Tel. 64-49-5362268 and 5362736, e-mail: cereno@laguna.net

A brief summary of our travel-dates and the visited sites:

- 2.3. Manila - Los Baños, Mt. Makiling, Luzon
- 3.3. Los Baños, Mt. Makiling, Luzon
- 4.3. Los Baños, Mt. Makiling, Luzon

- 5.3. Los Baños, Mt. Makiling - Malicboy, Quezon National Park, Luzon
- 6.3. Malicboy, Quezon National Park, Luzon
- 7.3. Malicboy, Quezon National Park - Manila, Luzon
- 8.3. Manila, Luzon - Cebu City, Cebu - Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol
- 9.3. Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol
- 10.3. Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol
- 11.3. Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol
- 12.3. Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol - Cebu City, Cebu
- 13.3. Olango Island, Cebu - Cagayan de Oro, Mindanao
- 14.3. Cagayan de Oro - Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao
- 15.3. Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao
- 16.3. Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao
- 17.3. Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao
- 18.3. Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao
- 19.3. Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao - Manila, Luzon
- 20.3. American Cemetery - Philipinian Cemetery, Manila, Luzon

Short description of the visited sites:

Mt. Makiling and surroundings, Luzon. Mt. Makiling is situated in middle elevation, about 1000 - 1500 m. The walking trail leads to the summit, on the way there is good primary forest left. The trail starts from an obvious point behind the campus. Area is popular with students who make daytrips there. In schooldays it is possible to count hundreds of them! Surprisingly they doesn't disturb birding too much. There are small foodstalls on the main trail where coke and water and cookies can be bought. Small entrance fee has to be paid on way up or down. Accommodation either in the guest houses near the entrance or in Los Baños 5-6 km away. Campus-area itself and especially the Botanical Garden might also be productive birding area. Botanical Garden is open from 8.00 to 16.30. We didn't notice any restaurant in the campus, but there should be one somewhere. Jeepneys come and go throughout the day so it is very easy and quick to visit Los Baños in the heat of midafternoon and get some supplies.

How to find there? Los Baños is a smalltown but still widespread. In the heart of the city, in the big crossroads with trafficlighs, there is a Seven-Eleven supermarket on the right hand side, when coming from Manila-direction. Jump off there and do your shopping. Jeepneys to Forestry (=campus), some 5-6 km uphill, start from the 1st sideroad behind the block. Ask people around, everybody knows Forestry.

Quezon National Park, Luzon. Habitat in Quezon NP is quite similar than in previous site, but some species are easier to see here. Both sites requires lots of walking. Birding in Quezon NP has to be done from the road which goes through the park. Traffic is annoying but not continuous. Birding from the road is very productive. Well beyond the brow of the hill the summit trail starts. It is well signposted and visible. The trail goes for couple of kilometers to the summit. First km of the trail seemed to have most of the wanted species. Entrance fee (48 pesos) has to paid in Headquarters which is situated in the limits of Malicboy on the way to park itself. HQ opens at 8 am. It is possible to pay for several days in a time. Our permits were checked when we were birding in the roadside. Staff in HQ was very friendly and helpful.

When visiting Quezon NP some birders stay in Lucena, which is some 30 km away. We decided to try a local alternative which was very convenient being only some 800 m away from HQ and 3,5 - 4 km from the start of summit trail. When coming from Lucena to the town/village of Malicboy there is a junction to the right. In junction there is a bakeryshop. "Hotel" is the next house just behind the bakery The small guest house is also known as Golden Showers Hotel, though we didn't see any sign around. It looked very much an ordinary house and also it looked there hasn't been guests lately. Well, the room was cleaned for us, washingwater was carried and we got clean bedclothes. Young lady was very friendly and charged us quite steep 500 pesos/night for double. In the door we used own padlock. The main road goes just behind the hotel. In the nighttime loud traffic was noticed by one of us. In Malicboy there are lots of shops to do shopping. The bakery was excellent.

Rajah Sikatuna National Park, Bohol. The park lies in the heart of Bohol, some 40 km NE of Tagbilaran, being a lowland-site. The road from Tagbilaran to Carmen goes through Bilar, which is the nearest town to the park. From Bilar it is only 2,5 km to the park HQ (shortcut) or by road it is about 3,5 km. There is basic accommodation at HQ (50 pesos only/night). The caretaker, John, will cook food from items brought. Some birders stay in Chocolate Hills making day-trips to the park. In Bilar there is market, shops and bakery. It is wise to buy water in 5 liter gallons from the shops, though there was a possibility to boil drinking water with John's water-heater. During weekend many locals arrived to the park, they were both cliff-climbers and ordinary pic-nickers, not pure naturalists, except the group from the university of Cebu. Also many locals were attracted by swimmingpool. Pool is nearby HQ and is very popular spot. The trail network in the park is wellmarked. Birding can be very slowly at times and birds were wary. We saw hunters on two occasions during our 4 days stay. The park staff should be informed if hunters are seen. Our thought was that Mindanao Bleeding-hearts are probably eaten already...

From Bilar to park HQ, known also as Logarita, a shortcut-trail: opposite the big church in middle of Bilar starts a small road to the right (when coming from Tagbilaran). Walk this road for some 300-400 m and over the bridge. 40 m after the bridge a very obvious foodpath goes to the right and follows the river. Walk this footpath in the edge of plantations for some 2 km straight to the HQ.

A drivable road to HQ continues straight after the bridge and after a while comes to the entrance gate.

There are lots of buses from Tagbilaran main bus-station to Bilar throughout the day.

Even though it was quite rainy, we didn't notice it would have made Pittas sing (as it is sometimes mentioned). We heard only one Steere's Pitta and saw couple of Red-bellied Pittas, but they were totally silent.

Olango Island, Cebu. Olango Island lies some 20 km east of Cebu City. It is easily reached from Mactan Island (the same island where the airport is). No more than a half day is needed for whole trip. In Cebu City we just told the taxidriver we would liked to go to Olango Island – he drove us straight to the boat jetty, cost was 200 pesos. In Olango Island a tricycle-ride to sanctuary, 6km away, cost 50 pesos. It could be wise to ask a driver come back pick you up later, as there is not mut traffic from the sanctuary. In southern tip of Olango spreads wildlife sanctuary with mudflats, mangroves and shallow tidal shore. There is an information center where small entrance fee has to be paid. Young guy working there was very helpful and

seemed to know birds of the area. Two long wooden platforms runs over the sandflats. They are ideally situated, but partly in bad shape, thanks to typhoon in past. The best time to visit is before high tide as birds will concentrate quite near the platforms for a quite short period before flying off somewhere. Couple of restaurants and shops are near boat jetty, but in sanctuary there are no refreshments available.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. National park spreads around Mt.Kitanglad (or Katanglad as it is also called) in northern Mindanao. The park is easily reached from the main road in Delwangan, ~8 km north of Malaybalay. The road goes from Cagayan de Oro to General Santos. Before entering the park some things must be done:

1. Write a letter to Carlito and inform him you are coming, as he is the person who organizes accommadation and the transport to the mountain.
2. Get the permit to the park from the DENR-office in Malaybalay, we paid 525 pesos/person (takes less then 30 min.)
3. With the permits and bags full of food one has to go to Delwangan and meet Carlito. He lives behind the elementary school, 100 m east from the main road.

Del Monte Lodge in the mountain is very basic. Sleeping bag is recommended. There is drinking water and plain rice was served in the evenings. Birding area consists of mixture of agricultural clearings and primary forests. There is an extensive trail-network in the area. During our visit Philippine Eagle had a nest just below of Higher Eagle Viewpoint, some 4 km from the lodge. We stayed five nights, Carlito charged us 3000 pesos, including transport and plain rice.

American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. The cemetery opens 6.30 am. Situated on McKinley Road. The place is also called Fort Bonifacio. There is guard at the gate and one has to obtain certain rules which are probably told when entering. I guess wearing beach outfit one doesn't enter the cemetery... The place is like a huge park with some specialities: Chestnut-cheeked Starling, Lowland White-Eye etc.

Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. The route to the Philippine Cemetery from the American Cemetery is simple: keep going on McKinley Road for a km or so, turn left at the gym (well visible) and go straight for one more km, the PC's gate looks like a huge monument. Entering the PC wasn't as problematic as to the previous site. The best area was the grassland on the right hand side.

Itinerary

2.3.

We arrived to Manila international airport at 17.45. We wanted to get to first birding-site in the same evening. Our choice was Mt. Makiling near the town of Los Baños which is situated some 60 km SE from Manila. From the airport we took a taxi to BLTB-bus station. A bustrip through the Manila suburbs was time consuming (heavy traffic) and it took 2 hours to reach Los Baños. Bus ticket costed 51,50 pesos. Buses to Lucena stop at Los Baños. We jumped off in the junction where the Seven-Eleven supermarket is on the right. Thanks for the passengers in the bus, they helped us. We did some shopping there (breakfast-items, water,

beer etc). Then we hired a jeepney (100 P) to bring us up some 5-6 km to university-campus area. The area is called Forestry. There are at least two guesthouses. Forestry Alumni-guesthouse and TREES are both well-situated nearby the entrance-gate of nature reserve and jeepney-terminus. We took a room from Alumni-guesthouse, 300 P for double. Not a single bird was seen or heard. Weather was rainy.

We can't recommend Alumni-guesthouse as we noticed later that some money was stolen. Seppo lost 500 Finnish marks and Juha 100 US dollars. Of course we carried most of the money with us and we didn't check our sparemoney every evening. We heard also that facilities in TREES (Tropical Resources and Education for Ecosystem Sustainability) would have been better.

3.3.

Mt. Makiling 5.30 - 14.00 and 16.00 - 18.00, mostly cloudy, max. temp. + 25°C.

It was raining through the night till 10 am. We walked slowly in the rain to the direction of Mt. Makiling's summit. We didn't go further than to just beyond sharp hairpin-bend, about 1 km from the entrance-gate. During first hour we didn't see a single bird! Sounds were heard, though. Umbrellas were very useful. Also we noticed that Sony minidisc-player wasn't waterproof. It went totally crazy and so did we, as we didn't understand if it was the rain or the accident when it hit the ground... In the afternoon we felt great relief when it suddenly started to co-operate again! Beyond the hairpin-bend Red-bellied Pitta was calling. Stripe-headed Rhabdornis was numerous. 11.00 - 14.00 we were in Botanical Garden but didn't see much there. That is a site for Indigo-banded Kingfisher. In campus-area we did see our only Purple Needletails. Late afternoon, 16.00 - 18.00, we went back to main trail which leads to summit.

Best birds: Black-chinned Fruit Dove 1, Guaiabero 1, Drongo Cuckoo 1, Red-crested Malkoha 2, Purple Needletail 5, Red-bellied Pitta 1, Stripe-headed Rhabdornis 30, Coleto 1.

Total 25 species.

4.3.

Mt. Makiling 3.30 - 15.00 and 16.30 - 18.30, mostly cloudy, one heavy shower 11.00 - 11.15, max. temp +25°C, wind ESE 6-7 m/s.

In the night we listened Philippine Night Owl calling just behind the guesthouse. We started early and walked slowly uphill listening. Spotted Wood-Kingfishers started to call well before dawn. In dawn we were in a clearing middle between the summit and Forestry. There, in the edge of clearing, an Ashy Thrush was seen briefly. Then we continued towards the summit but turned back about 1 km before. In the afternoon we tried to go to Botanical Gardens but it was already closed. We didn't give up, as we wanted to try to see an Indigo-banded Kingfisher. As we had noted before the small stream went through the Botanical Garden we decided to descend to stream-valley outside the Botanical Garden and little way

upstreams... We found small and very steep footpath descending to the stream. We went down and very soon we saw a wanted kingfisher sitting on the rocks. Very nice, indeed!

Best birds: Yellow-breasted Fruit-Dove 3, Colasisi 1, Hodgson's Hawk-Cuckoo 2, Philippine Coucal 1, Philippine Hawk-Owl 4 heard, Philippine Eagle-Owl 1 heard, Philippine Frogmouth 2 heard, Indigo-banded Kingfisher 1 male, Spotted Wood-Kingfisher 7 heard, Red-bellied Pitta 2 heard, Black-crowned Babbler 1, Chestnut-faced Babbler 1, White-browed Shama 6 heard, Ashy Thrush 1.

32 species, total 43 species.

5.3.

Mt. Makiling 4.50 - 9.45, halfcloudy, +21 - +25°C, E 7-8 m/s, in Malicboy rainshowers after 16.00.

In the morning hours we walked about 2, 5 km upwards from the entrance and then back. Checked out from Forestry Alumni guesthouse at noon. Then by jeepney to Los Baños, 4 pesos, then by jeepney to San Pablo, 12 pesos, then by air-conditioned bus to Lucena bus-station (55 pesos) and continuing immediately by local bus to Malicboy (15 pesos). The trip took 4 hours, total cost was indeed less than 2 US dollars! In Malicboy we settled down to an almost invisible Golden Showers guesthouse.

Best birds, Mt Makiling only: Oriental Hobby 1, Philippine Hawk-Owl 4 heard, Pygmy Swiftlet 2, Spotted Wood-Kingfisher 5 heard, Red-bellied Pitta 1 heard, Yellow-bellied Whistler 2.

31 species, total 52 species.

6.3.

Quezon NP 5.50 - 17.15, cloudy, +21 - +25°C, ESE 7-8 m/s, rain through the night till 10 am and again 15.30 - 17.15.

We started late, 5.50 am, because the rain. Walked uphill past the HQ under the huge Quezon NP sign. Then returned to HQ and paid the fee for two days. Then walked again uphill. Birding was good in spite of rain. We had forgotten the map at the hotel, so couldn't find Summit trail (we didn't walk far enough). Inspected two short sidetrails instead. Birding with the scope from the road was very good. Birds were not so wary than in Mt. Makiling. In the afternoon we visited ricefields 1 km from Malicboy to Lucena-direction.

Best birds: Crested Serpent Eagle (=Philippine Serpent Eagle) 2, Barred Rail 2, White-eared Brown-Dove 7, Scale-feathered Malkoha 2, Red-crested Malkoha 6, Philippine Coucal 2, Rufous Coucal 2, Tarctic Hornbill 25, Rufous Hornbill 2, Sooty Woodpecker 1 male, Red-bellied Pitta 1 heard, Bar-bellied Cuckoo-Shrike 15, Blackish Cuckoo-Shrike 15, Black-and-

white Triller 10, Stripe-headed Rhabdornis 15, White-browed Shama 2, Blue Rock-Thrush 1, Grey-backed Tailorbird 4, Coletto 25, Naked-faced Spiderhunter 2.

45 species, total 73 species.

7.3.

Quezon NP 4.25 - 13.45, almost cloudless, +22 - +28°C, N 7-8 m/s, no rain.

We walked in starlit night to the startpoint of summit trail. Only a few stops were made. The walk took 1 h 10 min. We waited until 6.00 before going to Summit trail. The best birds, Luzon Bleeding-hearts and Rabors Wren-Babblers were on the first kilometer. We walked near the summit and then the first km back and forth for couple of times. Then we returned to Malicboy, checked out 14.30 and then took a jeepney to Lucena for 12 pesos. Continued to Manila in a very cold air-con bus, 145 pesos. Bus arrived to Cubao-terminus, from there by taxi to Maleta and Pension Circle. Doubleroom for 700 pesos.

Best birds: Crested Serpent Eagle 2, Luzon Bleeding-heart 2, Philippine Hawk-Owl 2 heard, Philippine Trogon 1, Spotted Wood-Kingfisher 1, Red-bellied Pitta 1, Rabors Wren-Babbler 2 heard, Lemon-throated Leaf-Warbler, flock of 7.

30 species, total 79 species.

8.3.

We had thought to go to Mount Polis in northern Luzon but suddenly it seemed too time consuming choice, as the bus trip takes some 9 hours. But we didn't know where to go next... We slept to 7 o'clock and decided to go to domestic airport to ask about flights to Bohol. 8 am we took a taxi, arrived airport 8.40. There wasn't any flights to Bohol but next plane to Cebu was about to go. We bought tickets and at 9 am the plane left. Landed Cebu 10.10. Changed some money at the airport with very bad rate and no receipt... the clerk had cheated... that was clear. It is better not to hurry when changing money.

There is DENR office at the airports 2nd floor, from where it is possible to get information how to get to Tabunan where Cebu Flowerpecker exists. The office was open, but no-one was in, we waited for 15 min in vain and then walked out and took a taxi to the Superferry-dock. A fast ferry (340 pesos) to Tagbilaran, Bohol left at noon. In Tagbilaran-harbour a nice taxidriver approached us. We made a deal: for 800 pesos he was ready to drive us to the HQ of Rajah Sikatuna National Park. On the way we stopped 3 times to buy foodstuff and once we stopped at the riverside-restaurant where they had few Tarsiers in the cage. Those strange primates hopped around us and left us wordless - we didn't come to know if they were only to attract tourists or did the people in the place have some higher goal.

We arrived R.S HQ at 16.00 by taxi. John the caretaker gave us two rooms but was worried because we hadn't made a reservation and a big group of students was to come next day. He let us know that usually it is very silent in Rajah Sikatuna, and we were very unlucky (next

day he called his boss and managed to place us in one room, so we didn't have to leave the park as it first seemed). In dusk we made a short stroll around the HQ. Nightbirds were heard just around the HQ.

Best birds: Philippine Scops-Owl 1 heard, Philippine Hawk-Owl 2 heard, Philippine Frogmouth 1 heard, Philippine Nightjar 1 heard.

14 species, total 83 species.

9.3.

Rajah Sikatuna NP. 7.00 - 12.30, 13.50 -16.00, 16.45 - 18.30. +23 - +30°C, halfcloudy/cloudy, N 4-7 m/s, rain 04 - 6.45

After heavy rain had stopped we went to Brahminy Trail (=Valley Trail), continued to Tarictic Trail (=Swimmingpool Trail) and then returned to HQ on Main Trail. On early afternoon we walked to Bilar to do shopping. Late afternoon was spent in the beginning of Tarictic-trail, around the HQ and in the edge of cultivation.

Best birds: Black-faced Coucal 1 + 2 heard, Philippine Hawk-Owl 1 heard, Philippine Frogmouth 1 heard, Great Eared Nightjar 3 heard, Philippine Nightjar 1 heard, Philippine Trogon 2, Rufous-lored Kingfisher 1 heard (early morning behind the HQ), Tarictic Hornbill 5, Steere's Pitta 1 heard (Brahminy Trail). We played minidisc to the bird: he responded immediately by flying behind the hill, calling then couple of times and then being silent. Pied Triller, a flock of 55 birds was seen going to overnight roost in the edge of cultivation, Yellow-wattled Bulbul 1 heard (Tarictic trail) With this species we had difficulties in identification by sound alone, even though we had good quality recordings. Philippine Tailorbird (*frontalis*) 6, Yellow-breasted Tailorbird 1, Blue Fantail 10.

36 species, total 92 species.

10.3.

Rajah Sikatuna NP. 5.00 - 14.00, 16.15 - 18.30. +20 - +28°C, half-cloudy, N 6-7 m/s, in the morning 10 min. rainshower.

5.00 - 6.00 we walked from HQ to Magsasay-clearing, staying there until 8.30. Then we went to Steere's Pitta-trail, continued to Brahminy-trail and returned to HQ.

14.00 - 16.15 food and rest.

16.15 - 18.30 we went some 1 - 1,5 km up to Brahminy-trail and returned to HQ where we stood in the edge of cultivation until dark.

Best birds: Pompadour Green Pigeon 2, Yellow-breasted Fruit-dove 5 heard, Pink-bellied Imperial Pigeon 1 (Magsasay), Reddish Cuckoo-Dove 1, Black-faced Coucal 2 + 3 heard,

Philippine Hawk-Owl 3 heard, Philippine Frogmouth 1 heard, Great Eared Nightjar 3 heard, Philippine Nightjar 1 heard, Philippine Trogon 6, Rufous-ored Kingfisher 1 heard (early morning just before rock-tunnel when entering to Magsasay-clearing), Red-bellied Pitta 1, Pied Triller 20, Philippine Fairy-Bluebird 3 + 1 heard, Metallic-winged Sunbird 1 male.

45 species, total 105 species.

11.3.

Rajah Sikatuna NP. 4.50 - 15.50, 17.00 - 18.15. +22 - +25°C, cloudy, hard rain 11.00 - 11.50 and 14.50 - 15.30, weak wind.

In the morning we started in dark and walked Main trail, then turned to Kingfisher-trail. We walked to the fifth clearing and then back to Main trail. Then we went to Magsasay-clearing, continued to Steere's Pitta-trail and Tarictic-trail and then returned to the HQ. Evening hours were spent again around HQ. In Kingfisher -trail we lost the trail when entering to 2nd clearing. The trail goes besides the clearing on the right, so it doesn't lead to the clearing at all.

Best birds: Drongo Cuckoo 2 heard, Black-faced Coucal 5 heard, an usual set of nightbirds, Silvery Kingfisher 1 + 1 (First one on Kingfisher-trails 4th clearing, sitting on top of sign which stands in water when entering the clearing, 2nd bird on Main trail, when coming back from Kingfisher-trail. There is hairpincurve after the entrance gate. In the "armpit" of the curve there is a watery spot with some branches and stones. There was the bird). Rufous-ored Kingfisher 1, Yellow-wattled Bulbul 1, Streaked Ground-Babbler, heard (at 3 different places between Kingfisher-trails beginning and 2nd clearing), Brown Tit-Babbler 3+3.

38 species, total 110 species.

12.3.

Rajah Sikatuna NP. 5.00 - 10.00. +19 - +28°C, cloudy, N 7-8 m/s, rainshowers.

In the morning we did an usual route: HQ - Magsasay - Steere's Pitta-trail - Tarictic -trail - HQ. At noon we went from Bilar by bus to Tagbilaran (25 pesos). In Tagbilaran a haircut costed 40 p/head. In late afternoon we went to Cebu by fastferry. In Cebu we settled down at nice and friendly and well-situated McSherry PensionHouse 300 peso/double.

Best birds in Rajah Sikatuna: Besra 1 (around Magsasay) Reddish Cuckoo-Dove 1, Black-faced Coucal heard, Philippine Coucal 1, Philippine Hawk-Owl 1 heard, Philippine Frogmouth 1 heard, Philippine Nightjar 1 heard, Philippine Trogon 4, Red-bellied Pitta 1, Philippine Oriole 1 (Magsasay), Streaked Ground-Babbler 2 (Steere's Pitta-trail, 2 heard at Magsasay-clearing), Everett's White-eye 3.

41 species, total 115 species.

13.3.

Olango Island, Cebu. 8.30 - 12.45. +20 - +28°C, halfcloudy/cloudy, NE 8-12 m/s, rain in the evening.

From the center of Cebu City we took a taxi to the Olango Island boat jetty, some 20 km from the city. Taxi cost 200 pesos. There are lots of boats coming and going to island. Trip there cost 10 p, crossing took half an hour. In Olango Island it is 6 km from the dock to Nature reserve in southern tip of island. Tricycle cost 50 pesos.

Best birds: Chinese Egret 28, Far Eastern Curlew 2, Asian Dowitcher 12, Great Knot 50, Flyeater 20, Oriental Reed-Warbler 2.

35 species, total 139

14.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, 13.30 - 15.00, 16.20 - 18.00. +22°C, cloudy, at 15.00 started continuous rain

A ferry from Cebu arrived Cagayan de Oro at 6.00. A taxi to main bus-station cost 100 p and next bus to Malaybalay 50 p. In Malaybalay we took a tricycle to DENR-office (1 km east from the main road) to organize our permits to Mt. Kitanglad. The procedure took some 20 minutes. One of the officers made strange questions but we stayed calm and formal. The permit for five days cost 525 pesos/person.

Bread and biscuits, fruits and peanuts and tins and this and that was bought to keep us in good shape and going for next five days. Water we didn't bought. Then we rode by jeepney to Delwangan (12 p/person). A lady from small health center brought us to Carlito's place, which is just behind the elementary school. We had written a letter to Carlito before leaving Finland and set the date when in Delwangan. And now we were three days late... Carlito was home, though, and didn't look to bother.

We had thought it would be Carlito to join us next five days but instead he sent his teenager son Mark. Mark didn't look too happy. Soon a small van drove us some 6 km uphill to a small village (cost 200 p, being quite expensive). One horse was immediately organized, our backpacks were tied on horseback and then we walked uphill about 3 km. We reached Del Monte Ecolodge at 13.30. We were surprised to see Ecolodge in bad shape: cabbage here and there and a roof with tens of holes. We set our beds to the driest corner and then birded in vicinity of lodge. When the rain started we rested for a while but then walked uphill to the first clearing.

Best birds: Philippine Falconet 1, Reddish Cuckoo-Dove 2, Philippine Nightjar 1 heard, Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis 2, Buzzing Flowerpecker 1.

14 species, total 143 species.

15.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 4.50 - 17.30. +15 - +22°C, halfcloudy-cloudy, S 4-8 m/s, rain started 16.45

In the morning we walked slowly to Higher Eagle Viewpoint where we stayed 9.15- 12.10. Carlito had told us Philippine Eagle having nest somewhere in an easy place. We were stupid enough not to ask where it should be. Anyway, when we reached the Higher Eagle Viewpoint and saw a new hide there we knew that must be the place. After 15 min scanning Seppo noticed the nest just opposite the hide some 200-300 m away. Nestling in white babyplumage was just visible being partly behind the branches. The bill was characteristic already. We stayed around the hide and waited for an adult to show up. After two hours one was seen soaring far away. Then we continued someway uphill, seeing nothing and returned back to hide for a short period. Rest of the afternoon was spent by walking slowly to the first clearing, and when the rain started we returned quickly to the lodge.

A hint: the trail from the lodge to the eagle viewpoint is the muddiest of all.

Best birds: Barred Honeybuzzard 1 ad at Higher Eagle Viewpoint, Philippine Eagle 1 ad 1 juv, Philippine Hawk-Eagle 1 ad at Higher Eagle Viewpoint, Philippine Falconet 1 at Higher Eagle Viewpoint, Plain Bush-hen 2 heard at first clearing, Bukidnon Woodcock 1 heard at first clearing only for a few minutes at first clearing just before dawn. We observed the species every day, also further than at 1st clearing, but birds were vocal only for some 10-15 min before sunrise. Only brief glimpses in bad light were seen. McGregors Cuckoo-shrike 2, Stripe-breasted Rhabdornis 10, Brown Tit-Babbler 1, Mountain Leaf-Warbler 3, Long-tailed Ground-Warbler 1, Mountain Verditer-Flycatcher 5, Black-and-cinnamon Fantail 4, Short-tailed Glossy Starling 15, Grey-hooded Sunbird 2, Olive-capped Flowerpecker 1, Mountain White-eye 50, White-cheeked Bullfinch 1.

37 species, total 157

16.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 4.35 - 17.30. +14 - +22°C, halfcloudy-cloudy, S 8-10 m/s, in the afternoon S 3-4 m/s, rain between 6.30 and 11.00

Del Monte Lodge - Higher Eagle Viewpoint - Stream Trail (Bagobo Babbler sites). Originally we wanted to go higher uphill but the rain and harsh wind scared us and we went to forest instead. We walked slowly on forest trails and returned to lodge via different clearings.

Best birds: Philippine Eagle 2 ad 1 juv. Both adults were seen. A supposed male brought the prey on the nest, then a female tore it to pieces (took an half an hour) and a nestling just enjoyed the meal! Philippine Hawk-Eagle 1 ad at Higher Eagle Viewpoint, Plain Bush-hen 2 heard, Bukidnon Woodcock 3 heard, Mindanao Scops-Owl 1 heard around lodge, Philippine Swiftlet 15, Long-tailed Ground-Warbler 7 heard, Snowy-browed Flycatcher 1/1, Tawny

Grassbird 3 (seen nearby Striated Grassbirds), Buzzing Flowerpecker 4, Black-masked White-eye 2, Cinnamon Ibon 1.

45 species, total 167

17.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 4.20 - 17.45. +14 - +23°C, clear-halfcloudy, S 3-4 m/s

Del Monte Lodge - Higher Eagle Viewpoint - Mountain Trail. Returned same way. We started early as we wanted to be on Mountain Trail as early as possible. Reached Higher Eagle Viewpoint at 6.00. Soon after the eagle hide the trail divides (about 50-100m after), right fork goes to forest and start to descend, the left fork goes to the mountain. There are only couple of viewpoints, mostly the trail goes through spectacular but silent forest. We walked for some 3-4 km to the point where after climbing the trail starts to descend. The top of Mt.Kitanglad is still far away but visible with tele-masts. The area has probably been good for Mountain Shrike after the forest fire almost 20 years ago, but we think that there is not much good habitat for the species any more. Yes, we dipped. On the way back from the mountain we got lost for a while. There is a trail network with some very faint trails so it is better to be careful. But we were lucky, when lost we noted the only Apo Sunbirds singing quite high up.

Best birds: Barred Honeybuzzard 1 ad, Philippine Eagle 1 ad 1 juv, Bukidnon Woodcock 2, Mindanao Scops-Owl 1, Giant Scops-Owl 1 probable, seen briefly and heard also. We taped the sound but we haven't confirmed the id as we don't have a confirmed recording of Giant Scops-Owl (yet). On couple of occasions we heard same species around the lodge as well. Philippine Trogon 1, McGregors Cuckoo-shrike 2, Apo Myna 2, Apo Sunbird 2 heard, White-cheeked Bullfinch 1.

39 species, total 171

18.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 4.20 - 13.00 and 14.45 - 18.30. +13 - +25°C, clear-halfcloudy, S 4-5 m/s

In the morning and midday we birded in surroundings of Stream Trail. We tried hard to find Bagogo Babbler, but as far we know, we didn't manage. There were some birds with very high piercing notes, which we didn't see. Some of those we taped, and after careful listening later on we ruled them out - they didn't fit to the theme we had on tape (Raf Drijver's tape). During the day we didn't walk much, mostly we stood silently and scanned canopy. Many feeding flocks were seen. This day we had the highest number of species at Mt. Kitanglad, even though we had almost 2 hours rest midday. Thanks for a different approach.

Midday-hours were spent in lodge, having more biscuits for lunch and a nap. Fortunately we had bought quite a lot biscuits, as we had noticed they were disappearing during daytime...

Also the chocolate-bars were gone, and a big bag of bread! The young guys taking care of us were probably hungry! In the afternoon we went some way downhill and mostly we just stood in the edge of forest and scanned clearings. No surprises, and we dipped with two target-species: Grass Owl and Red-eared Parrotfinch.

Best birds: Philippine Hawk-Eagle 2, Bukidnon Woodcock 1, Amethyst Brown Dove 1, Colasisi 8, Philippine Coucal 3, Mindanao Scops Owl 1 heard, McGregors Cuckoo-shrike 2, Philippine Leaf-Warbler 2, Snowy-browed Flycatcher 1 male, Little Spiderhunter 1, Flame-crowned Flowerpecker 1 male.

49 species, total 175

19.3.

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 4.15 - 7.00 and 8.00 - 9.00 walking downhill. +16 - +22°C, clear, S 0-1 m/s.

In early morning, when it was still dark, we walked to the Stream Trail. On the way we played the call of Blue-capped Wood-Kingfisher. Surprisingly the bird called back! The place was very near of first Bagobo Babbler-site and it was still totally dark. After one series of calls it stayed silent. We thought it responded just "accidentally", as already Jan van der Laans group had noticed the bird knows something is wrong when the tape is played. Also we had heard that bird had been very difficult to observe lately and no-one has observed it in past 6 months or so. Again we heard something which resembled Bagobo Babbler but we couldn't be sure enough. When leaving stream-valley couple of calling birds flew over, which we thought to be Racquet-tailed species. No id again!

Soon we returned to the lodge and packed our things. We went through our things properly – only thing gone, besides a pile of food-items, was a bag of my sleeping bag. For a reason or another somebody needed it badly! Three guys looked all very innocent...

Our backpacks were carried downhill by the horse again and we followed. A car picked us up and drove us to Carlito's place where we settled the bill. 5 nights in the lodge, two plates of cooked rice every evening and return horse-transport cost 3000 pesos/two guys. When we reported about lost things Carlito gave 500 pesos discount. We thought the price was quite reasonable. We didn't use any guide-service and we never knew if any of the young guys knew anything about birds.

From Delwangan we caught the bus to Cagayan de Oro, 45 pesos/person, then a taxi to the airport, 150 pesos. We didn't have timetables but there happened to be a flight to Manila at 13.30 for 2993 pesos/person. Everything happened so smoothly! On the way we tried to catch a glimpse of Yellowish Bulbul, but in vain. We passed a good-looking lowland forest when coming to Cagayan de Oro. That place could hold some interesting birds and it is very near the city itself. The place is called Malasag eco-village (see Lonely Planet under the Cagayan de Oro).

Landed to Manila about 15.00 and took a taxi (160 pesos) to Townhouse in Baclaran in Manila (description in Lonely Planet).

Townhouse guesthouse is conveniently situated nearby both Baclaran market and the airports. Price for double 500 pesos. Before dusk we made a stroll to grassy wasteland just 100 m west of Townhouse and by the shore (Manila Bay).

Best birds: Pied Harrier 1, Bukidnon Woodcock 1 heard, Mindanao Scops Owl 1 heard, Blue-capped Wood-Kingfisher 1 heard, Tropic Hornbill 2, Oriental Reed Warbler 1 (Manila Bay), Bright-capped Cisticola 1 (Manila Bay).

33 species, total 181.

20.3.

Manila, the American Cemetery (6.00 - 8.30) and the Philippine Cemetery (9.15-11.00). +23 - +35°C, clear, 1-2 m/s.

In the morning we took a taxi from Townhouse (Roxas Blvd) to Fort Bonifacio (=AC) for 80 pesos. Opposite the cemetery in a field with high grass some rails or crakes were heard. No id... because no sound-recordings! The cemetery opens at 6.30. There is a guard at the gate. We had to swear we were going to respect the dead souls and we were not going to eat anything or we were not going to take photos or videos or anything like that. I guess the guard wasn't used to our outfit with scopes and shorts and hiking-boots. Also I had to leave my driving licence at the gate.

From outside the AC we took a jeepney to the Philippine Cemetery (4 pesos). The route from the AC to The PC is simple: keep going on McKinley Road for a km or so, turn left at the gym (well visible) and go straight for one more km, the PC's gate looks like a huge monument. Entering the PC wasn't as problematic as to the previous site. The best area was the grassland on the right hand side.

Afternoon hours were spent shopping in Baclaran's market before flight home in the evening. And the Townhouse was a nice place to stay.

Best birds: Barred Buttonquail 1 PC, Spotted Buttonquail 1 PC, Barred Rail 1 AC, Oriental Pratincole 1 PC (flew over), Red Turtle-Dove 2 AC, Lesser Coucal 1 AC, Pied Bushchat 1 PC, Blue Rock-Thrush 1 AC, Golden-bellied Flyeater 10, Oriental Reed Warbler 3 AC, Bright-capped Cisticola 4 PC, Pied Fantail 10 AC, Chestnut-cheeked Starling 8 AC, Lowland White-eye 3 AC.

33 species, total 194.

Species Observed

Taxonomy used is the same than the one used in A Guide to the Birds of the Philippines, except Striated Swallow *Hirundo striolata* we have used to separate from Red-rumped Swallow *Hirundo daurica*. Where there might come changes in taxonomy in near future also the identified (sub)species are mentioned. Endemic species are shown in capital letters.

By following taxonomy Kennedy *et al* uses the number of observed species was 194, including 82 endemics.

Considering many proposed splits both the total number of species, and amount of endemics would rise a bit.

1. Great Egret - *Egretta alba*

Fairly common, seen when travelling from one site to the other.

2. Little Egret - *Egretta garzetta*

Olango Island, Cebu, 30.

3. Chinese Egret - *Egretta eulophotes*

Olango Island, Cebu, 28.

4. Cattle Egret - *Bubulcus ibis*

Common at lowlands cultivated areas.

5. Striated Heron - *Butorides striatus*

Olango Island, Cebu, 1.

6. Black-crowned Night-Heron - *Nycticorax nycticorax*

The American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1 ad flew over.

7. Barred Honey-buzzard - *Pernis celebensis*

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 ad seen 15.3 and 17.3.

8. Brahminy Kite - *Haliastur indus*

Quezon NP, Luzon. 1 ad 6.3., Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 2 ad was seen frequently around Magsasay-clearing.

9. Crested Serpent-Eagle (PHILIPPINE SERPENT EAGLE) - *Spilornis cheela (holospilus)*

Quezon NP, Luzon 2 seen 6.3. and 7.3., Rajah Sikatuna NP 1 seen 9.3. and 11.3. By some authors *holospilus* is treated as a species, not a subspecies.

10. Pied Harrier - *Circus melanoleucos*

Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 male was seen between lodge and Delwangan when leaving mountain 19.3.

11. Besra - *Accipiter virgatus*

Rajah Sikatuna NP, 1 seen 12.3. (Magsasay-clearing).

12. GREAT PHILIPPINE EAGLE - *Pithecophaga jefferyi*

Higher Eagle View Point, Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao. 2 adult and a nestling seen on most of the days when the site was visited.

13. PHILIPPINE HAWK-EAGLE - *Spizaetus philippensis*
Higher Eagle View Point, Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 ad seen 15.3. and 16.3. 2 adults seen 18.3.
14. PHILIPPINE FALCONET - *Microhierax erythrogenys*
Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 ad seen 14.3. behind the lodge, 1 ad seen 15.3. at Higher Eagle View Point.
15. Oriental Hobby - *Falco severus*
Mt. Makiling, Luzon. 1 seen neatly flying over 5.3.
16. Red Junglefowl - *Gallus gallus*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2 was heard in the middle of jungle.
17. Barred Buttonquail - *Turnix suscitator*
Philippine Cemetery. 1 seen briefly but well enough 20.3.
18. SPOTTED BUTTONQUAIL - *Turnix ocellata*
Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. Without any effort we managed to see two buttonquail-species in grassy patches of cemetery.
19. Barred Rail - *Gallirallus torquatus*
Malicboy, ricefields (near Quezon), Luzon. 2 seen 6.3. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. 1 seen between bushes 20.3.
20. PLAIN BUSH-HEN - *Amaurornis olivaceus*
Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 15.-17.3. 1 to 2 heard every morning in the edge of clearings.
21. White-breasted Waterhen - *Amaurornis phoenicurus*
Malicboy, ricefields (near Quezon), Luzon. 1 seen daily.
22. Common Moorhen - *Gallinula chloropus*
Malicboy, ricefields (near Quezon), Luzon. 1 seen 6.3.
23. Grey Plover - *Pluvialis squatarola*
50, Olango Island, Cebu.
24. Greater Sand-Plover - *Charadrius leschenaultii*
25, Olango Island, Cebu.
25. Kentish Plover - *Charadrius alexandrinus*
40, Olango Island, Cebu.
26. Far Eastern Curlew - *Numenius madagascariensis*
2, Olango Island, Cebu.
27. Whimbrel - *Numenius phaeopus*
50, Olango Island, Cebu.

28. Bar-tailed Godwit - *Limosa lapponica*
50, Olango Island, Cebu.
29. Common Redshank - *Tringa totanus*
30, Olango Island, Cebu.
30. Common Greenshank - *Tringa nebularia*
100, Olango Island, Cebu.
31. Common Sandpiper - *Actitis hypoleucos*
1, Manilabay, Manila, Luzon.
32. Terek Sandpiper - *Xenus cinereus*
30, Olango Island, Cebu.
34. Grey-tailed Tattler - *Heteroscelus brevipes*
100, Olango Island, Cebu.
35. Ruddy Turnstone - *Arenaria interpres*
60, Olango Island, Cebu.
36. Asian Dowitcher - *Limnodromus semipalmatus*
12, Olango Island, Cebu.
37. BUKIDNON WOODCOCK - *Scolopax sp. 'bukidnoni'*
Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1-3 heard on every morning between 15. and 19.3., but seen briefly only once. Display-time was quite short, some 10-15 minutes well before dawn. The first and second clearing were the places. No official name is given yet for the species.
38. Red Knot - *Calidris canutus*
2, Olango Island, Cebu.
39. Great Knot - *Calidris tenuirostris*
50, Olango Island, Cebu.
40. Curlew Sandpiper - *Calidris ferruginea*
1, Olango Island, Cebu.
41. Red-necked Stint - *Calidris ruficollis*
100, Olango Island, Cebu.
42. Oriental Pratincole - *Glareola maldivarum*
Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. 1 bird flew over surprising us!
43. Black-headed Gull - *Larus ridibundus*
10, Olango Island, Cebu.
44. Gull-billed Tern - *Gelochelidon nilotica*
15, Olango Island, Cebu.

45. Little Tern - *Sterna albifrons*
40, Olango Island, Cebu.
46. Whiskered Tern - *Chlidonias hybridus*
50, Olango Island, Cebu. Also seen here and there around ricefields.
47. Pompadour Green-Pigeon - *Treron pompadora*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2. Magsasay-clearing.
48. WHITE-EARED BROWN-DOVE - *Phapitreron leucotis*
Common at Mt Makiling, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, Quezon NP, Luzon and Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao.
49. AMETHYST BROWN-DOVE - *Phapitreron amethystina*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 seen amazingly well for long time 18.3. near 1st Bagobo Babbler-site.
50. YELLOW-BREASTED FRUIT-DOVE - *Ptilinopus occipitalis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, Quezon NP, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 2 - 5 heard daily, some seen.
51. Black-chinned Fruit-Dove - *Ptilinopus leclancheri*
Mt Makiling, Luzon. 1 male well seen + 1 one seen.
52. PINK-BELLIED IMPERIAL-PIGEON - *Ducula poliocephala*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 1 flew over at Magsasay.
53. Reddish Cuckoo-Dove - *Macropygia phasianella*
Common at Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao.
54. Spotted Dove - *Streptopelia chinensis*
Noted here and there but not numerous.
55. Red Collared-Dove - *Streptopelia tranquebarica*
American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon. 1 pair seen 20.3.
56. Zebra Dove - *Geopelia striata*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, Olango Island, Cebu, American and Philippine Cemeteries, Manila, Luzon.
57. Rock/Feral Dove — *Columba livia*
Luzena, Luzon. A flock was seen around the main bus-terminal.
58. LUZON BLEEDING-HEART - *Gallicolumba luzonica*
Quezon NP, Luzon. 2-3 birds seen briefly on Summit Trail.
59. GUAIABERO - *Bolbopsittacus lunulatus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, only singles seen. Quezon NP, Luzon, up to 10 daily.

60. COLASISI - *Loriculus philippensis*
Fairly common on Mindanao at Mt Kitanglad and on Luzon at Mt Makiling. Daily total between 2 - 8 birds.
61. HODGSON'S HAWK-CUCKOO - *Cuculus fugax*
Regularly heard on Mt Makiling, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and Mt Kitanglad Mindanao, with daily totals up to 3. Seen couple of times.
62. Plaintive Cuckoo - *Cacomantis merulinus*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol 1 heard, American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon 1 heard.
63. Brush Cuckoo - *Cacomantis variolosus*
Regularly heard on Mt Makiling, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol and Mt Kitanglad Mindanao.
64. Drongo-Cuckoo (PHILIPPINE DRONGO-CUCKOO) - *Surniculus lugubris (velutinus)*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. Heard regularly at both sites. Only once seen.
65. Koel - *Eudynamis scolopacea*
Quezon NP, Luzon, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 1-2 birds heard daily.
66. SCALE-FEATHERED MALKOHA - *Phaenicophaeus cumingi*
Quezon NP, Luzon. 2 were seen daily.
67. RED-CRESTED MALKOHA - *Phaenicophaeus superciliosus*
3 at Mt Makiling, Luzon. Quezon NP, Luzon up to 6 / day were seen.
68. Lesser Coucal - *Centropus bengalensis*
American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1.
69. PHILIPPINE COUCAL - *Centropus viridis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 2. Quezon NP, Luzon, 2. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1. Mt Kitanglad Mindanao, 1-3 daily.
70. BLACK-FACED COUCAL - *Centropus melanops*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 3-5 birds seen and heard daily.
71. RUFIOUS COUCAL - *Centropus unirufus*
Quezon NP, Luzon. 2 very secretive but vocal birds were seen in the dark bush just by the road.
72. MINDANAO SCOPS-OWL - *Otus mirus*
Del Monte Lodge, Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. Heard every night.
73. PHILIPPINE SCOPS-OWL - *Otus megalotis*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. Heard behind the HQ 8.3.
74. GIANT SCOPS OWL - *Mimizuku gurneyi*
Del Monte Lodge, Mt Kitanglad Mindanao. 1-2 bird heard every night behind the lodge were

almost certainly this species. An owl seen in bad light in the edge of 2nd clearing was probably this species. We managed to record the call, but as we don't have "official" recording, the id is still an open case.

75. PHILIPPINE HAWK-OWL - *Ninox philippensis*

Mt Makiling, Luzon 4 heard/night, Quezon NP, Luzon, 2 heard, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1-3 heard every night.

76. PHILIPPINE EAGLE-OWL - *Bubo philippensis*

Mt Makiling, Luzon. 1 was heard in early morning in the forested valley.

77. PHILIPPINE FROGMOUTH - *Batrachostomus septimus*

Mt Makiling, Luzon, 2 heard. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1 heard every night behind the HQ.

78. Great Eared-Nightjar - *Eurostopodus macrotis*

Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 3-4 birds came every evening to the edge of field just by the HQ and were seen well. Del Monte Lodge, Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2 heard every evening.

79. PHILIPPINE NIGHTJAR - *Caprimulgus manillensis*

Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 1 near the HQ every evening. Del Monte Lodge, Mount Kitanglad, Mindanao. 2 behind the lodge every evening.

80. Grey or Island Swiftlet - *Collocalia vanikorensis (amelis)*

Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 50 seen over the fields in evenings.

81. PHILIPPINE SWIFTLET - *Collocalia mearnsi*

Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 3-15 seen almost daily.

82. Glossy swiftlet - *Collocalia esculenta (marginata)*

Mt. Makiling, Luzon. 10 were identified 5.3.

(-) *Collocalia esculenta (bagabo)*

Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 5-40 were seen daily.

83. PYGMY SWIFTLET - *Collocalia troglodytes*

Mt. Makiling, Luzon, 2. Quezon NP, Luzon, 4-8 / day. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 3-10 / day.

84. Purple Needletail - *Hirundapus celebensis*

Mt Makiling, Luzon. Seen only once: 3.3. five birds were seen over the small clearing in the middle of campus.

85. Whiskered Treeswift - *Hemiprocne comata*

Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 1 seen once in the edge of Magsasay-clearing.

86. PHILIPPINE TROGON - *Harpactes ardens*

Quezon NP, Luzon, 1. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, common: 1-6 daily, Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1 heard.

87. INDIGO-BANDED KINGFISHER - *Alcedo cyanopecta*

Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1 male upstreams from Bot.Gardens. See itinerary for details.

88. SILVERY KINGFISHER - *Alcedo argentata*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1 Kingfisher-trail, 1 Main trail. See itinerary for details.
89. White-throated Kingfisher - *Halcyon smyrnensis*
Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1.
90. RUFIOUS-LORED KINGFISHER - *Halcyon winchelli*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 1 heard well before dawn behind the HQ, 1 heard below rock-tunnel when entering Magsasay-clearing, also before dawn.
91. White-collared Kingfisher - *Halcyon chloris*
Malicboy ricefields, near Quezon NP, Luzon, 1. Olango Island, Cebu, 5.
92. SPOTTED WOOD-KINGFISHER - *Actenoides linsayi*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, common: vocal before dawn, less so in daytime. 5-7 daily.
93. BLUE-CAPPED WOOD-KINGFISHER - *Actenoides hombroni*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1 heard near 1st Bagobo Babbler-site before dawn when it was still totally dark. See itinerary for details.
94. Blue-throated Bee-eater - *Merops viridis*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1. Bee-eater sp. 4 was seen in Mt. Kitanglad, Mindanao.
95. TROPICAL HORNBILL - *Penelopides panini (manillae)*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 10-25 daily.
- (-) *Penelopides panini (samarensis)*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 5-8 daily.
- (-) *Penelopides panini (affinis)*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2 was seen 19.3. near 1st Bagobo Babbler-site.
- (This species is sometimes divided into 4 species. For the time being we follow the taxonomy Kennedy *et al* uses.)
96. RUFIOUS HORNBILL - *Buceros hydrocorax*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 2 - 3 daily.
97. Coppersmith Barbet - *Megalaima haemacephala*
Mt Makiling, Luzon 2 - 7 daily, Quezon NP, Luzon 1, Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, just 2 was seen/heard.
98. PHILIPPINE WOODPECKER - *Dendrocopos maculatus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 2. Quezon NP, Luzon, 1. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 2.
99. SOOTY WOODPECKER - *Mulleripicus funebris*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 1 male was videoed by the main road on the top of the hill.

100. White-bellied Woodpecker - *Dryocopus javensis*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1/1 daily around Magsasay-clearing.
101. Greater Flameback - *Chrysocolaptes lucidus*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 1. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1.
102. Red-bellied Pitta - *Pitta erythrogaster*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1-2 heard daily. Quezon NP, Luzon, 1 heard daily. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2 was seen, none heard.
103. STEERE'S PITTA - *Pitta steerii*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1 heard. See itinerary for details.
104. Swallow - *Hirundo rustica*
Seen in low numbers in all visited sites.
105. Pacific Swallow - *Hirundo tahitica*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1. Olango Island, Cebu, 20.
106. Striated Swallow - *Hirundo striolata*
Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1. We are used to treat Striated swallow separated from Red-rumped Swallow (*Hirundo daurica*), unlike Kennedy *et al* does.
107. Bar-bellied Cuckoo-shrike - *Coracina striata*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 15 was seen 6.3. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 3 was seen 10.3.
108. BLACKISH CUCKOO-SHRIKE - *Coracina coerulescens*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 2-15 daily.
109. MCGREGOR'S CUCKOO-SHRIKE - *Coracina mcgregori*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2 was seen in most of the days.
110. BLACK-AND-WHITE TRILLER - *Lalage melanoleuca*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 10 was seen 6.3.
111. Pied Triller - *Lalage nigra*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, in the couple of evenings flocks of 16-55 was seen before dusk going probably to overnight roost. Olango Island, Cebu, 1. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 4.
112. Ashy Minivet - *Pericrocotus divaricatus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, a 20, 3.3.
113. Scarlet Minivet - *Pericrocotus flammeus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1.
114. Yellow-vented Bulbul - *Pycnonotus goiavier*
Quite common on Luzon and Mindanao.

115. YELLOW-WATTLED BULBUL - *Pycnonotus urostictus*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1 both 9.3 and 11.3.

116. PHILIPPINE BULBUL - *Ixos philippinus*
Very common on Mindanao, Luzon and Bohol.

117. BALICASSIAO - *Dicrurus balicassius*
Common on Mount Makiling and Quezon NP, Luzon.

118. Spangled Drongo - *Dicrurus hottentottus (samarensis)*
Common on Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.

119. PHILIPPINE ORIOLE - *Oriolus steerii (samarensis)*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. One heard in Magsasay-clearing.

120. Black-naped Oriole - *Oriolus chinensis*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 5. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2-6 daily.

121. PHILIPPINE FAIRY-BLUEBIRD - *Irena cyanogaster*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. 2-4 daily.

122. Large-billed Crow - *Corvus macrorhynchos*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 3. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2.

123. ELEGANT TIT - *Parus elegans*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 2-3 daily. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1-3 almost daily.

124. Velvet-fronted Nuthatch - *Sitta frontalis (isarog)*
Mt Makiling, Luzon 1-2 daily.

(-) *Sitta frontalis (apo)*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 3-5 daily.

(This species is sometimes treated as an endemic SULPHUR-BILLED NUTHATCH *Sitta oenochlamys*.)

125. STRIPE-HEADED RHABDORNIS - *Rhabdornis mystacalis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon. 15-30 daily. Quezon NP, Luzon 15 was seen on 6.3.

126. STRIPE-BREASTED RHABDORNIS - *Rhabdornis inornatus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1-10 daily.

127. STREAKED GROUND-BABBLER — *Ptilocichla mindanensis*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol. Within 1st km of Kingfisher-trail heard 3 times in 3 different places. Also heard around Magsasay-clearing and briefly seen on Steere's Pitta-trail.

128. RABOR'S WREN-BABBLER - *Napothera rabori*
Quezon NP, Luzon. 2 heard on Summit Trail 7.3. in early morning, the first bird near the 90 degree bend of the trail.

129. BLACK-CROWNED BABBLER - *Stachyris nigrocapitata*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1.
130. CHESTNUT-FACED BABBLER - *Stachyris whiteheadi*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1.
131. BROWN TIT-BABBLER - *Macronous striaticeps*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, flocks of at least 3 + 3 were briefly seen but mostly just heard Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1 bird was seen.
132. White-browed Shortwing - *Brachypteryx montana*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. Quite common. Up to 7 heard everyday, but difficult to see.
133. WHITE-BROWED SHAMA - *Copsychus luzoniensis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon. 6 daily. Quezon NP, Luzon 2-3 daily.
134. Pied Bushchat - *Saxicola caprata*
Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1.
135. Blue Rock-Thrush - *Monticola solitarius*
Quezon NP, Luzon. 1 male around HUGE sign when ascending to the park. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1 male on the roofs in the middle of the place.
136. ASHY GROUND-THRUSH - *Zoothera cinerea*
Mt Makiling, Luzon. 1 seen in the edge of the clearing, some 3 km from the entrance at 7 am.
137. Golden-bellied Gerygone - *Gerygone sulphurea*
Olango Island, Cebu, 20. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 10.
138. Arctic Warbler - *Phylloscopus borealis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1-2 daily. Quezon NP, Luzon, 1 singing. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1.
139. PHILIPPINE LEAF-WARBLER - *Phylloscopus olivaceus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2. Also couple more probable was seen. This species was kind of slowgoing, and was found in mixed flocks.
140. LEMON-THROATED WARBLER - *Phylloscopus cebuensis*
Quezon NP, Luzon, a flock of 7 on Summit trail.
141. Mountain Leaf-Warbler - *Phylloscopus trivirgatus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 3-15 daily.
142. Oriental Reed-Warbler - *Acrocephalus orientalis*
Olango Island, Cebu, 2. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 3.
143. Tawny Grassbird - *Megalurus timoriensis*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 3-4 daily. Often side by side with the next species.

144. Striated Grassbird - *Megalurus palustris*
 Quezon NP, Luzon, 2. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 3-4 daily. American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 3. Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 3.
145. PHILIPPINE TAILORBIRD - *Orthotomus castaneiceps (frontalis)*
 Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 6-12 daily.
146. Mountain Tailorbird - *Orthotomus cuculatus (heterolaemus)*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 3-6 daily.
147. GREY-BACKED TAILORBIRD - *Orthotomus derbianus*
 Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1-2 daily, Quezon NP, Luzon, 2 daily.
148. YELLOW-BREASTED TAILORBIRD - *Orthotomus samarensis*
 Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1.
149. Bright-capped Cisticola - *Cisticola exilis*
 Manilabay, Manila, Luzon, 1. Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 4.
150. LONG-TAILED GROUND-WARBLER - *Bradypterus caudatus*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. Common: 4-8 heard daily, impossible to see.
151. Grey-streaked Flycatcher - *Muscicapa griseisticta*
 Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1 daily. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao 1-5 daily. Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 1.
152. Mountain Verditer-Flycatcher - *Eumyias panayensis*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 4-6 daily.
153. Snowy-browed Flycatcher - *Ficedula hyperythra*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1/1 near Stream-trail, 1/ just before 1st clearing.
154. Little Pied Flycatcher - *Ficedula westermanni*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, total of 4 was seen during our stay.
155. Pied Fantail - *Rhipidura javanica*
 American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 10.
156. BLUE FANTAIL - *Rhipidura superciliaris*
 Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2-10 daily.
157. BLUE-HEADED FANTAIL - *Rhipidura cyaniceps*
 Mt Makiling, Luzon, 6 was seen, all in a one day.
158. BLACK-AND-CINNAMON FANTAIL - *Rhipidura nigrocinnamomea*
 Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 4-12 daily.
159. YELLOW-BELLIED WHISTLER - *Pachycephala philippinensis*
 Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1-2 / day, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2, Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, total of 4 was seen.

160. Grey Wagtail - *Motacilla cinerea*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1 daily, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 5. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao 2-6 daily.
161. Yellow Wagtail - *Motacilla flava*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 3.
162. White-breasted Woodswallow - *Artamus leucorhynchus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 5. Quezon NP, Luzon, 3. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol 3-7 daily.
163. Brown Shrike - *Lanius cristatus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1-2 / day, Quezon NP, Luzon 1-4 / day, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol 1-3 / day, Olango Island, Cebu, 1. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao 2-7 / day.
164. Long-tailed Shrike - *Lanius schach (nasutus)*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1-5 was seen almost daily.
165. Short-tailed Starling - *Aplonis minor*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 15-30 daily.
166. Glossy Starling - *Aplonis panayensis*
Malicboy, near Quezon NP, Luzon, 2. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol 5. Olango Island, Cebu, 50.
167. Chestnut-cheeked Starling - *Sturnus philippensis*
American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 8.
168. COLETO - *Sarcops calvus*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1. Quezon NP, Luzon, 4-25 daily. Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2.
169. Crested Myna - *Acridotheres cristatellus*
American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 30.
170. APO MYNA - *Basilornis miranda*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 2 was seen from the lookout some way up from the Higher Eagle View Point.
171. Plain-throated Sunbird - *Anthreptes malacensis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 3-5 daily.
172. Olive-backed Sunbird - *Nectarinia jugularis*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, total 5, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1. Olango Island, Cebu 5.
173. Purple-throated Sunbird — *Nectarinia sperata*
Mt Makiling, Luzon 1-4 daily, Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1-4 daily.
174. GREY-HOODED SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga primigenius*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2-3 almost daily.
175. METALLIC-WINGED SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga pulcherrima*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1-2 almost daily.

176. APO SUNBIRD - *Aethopyga boltoni*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 2 was heard singing when in lost quite a lot uphill from the Higher Eagle Viewpoint.
177. NAKED-FACED SPIDERHUNTER - *Arachnothera clarae*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 1.
178. Little Spiderhunter - *Arachnothera longirostra*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. Altogether 2 was seen.
179. OLIVE-CAPPED FLOWERPECKER - *Dicaeum nigrilore*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1-6 almost daily.
180. FLAME-CROWNED FLOWERPECKER - *Dicaeum anthonyi kampalili*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1 male near the start of the Stream Trail.
181. RED-KEELED FLOWERPECKER - *Dicaeum australe*
1-8 seen daily in Mt Makiling, Luzon, Quezon NP, Luzon and Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol.
182. BUZZING FLOWERPECKER - *Dicaeum hypoleucum*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1-4 almost daily.
183. Orange-bellied Flowerpecker - *Dicaeum trigonostigma*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 1.
184. Fire-breasted Flowerpecker - *Dicaeum ignipectus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1.
185. LOWLAND WHITE-EYE - *Zosterops meyeri*
American Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 3.
186. Everett's White-eye - *Zosterops everetti*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 3.
187. YELLOWISH WHITE-EYE - *Zosterops nigrorum*
Mt Makiling, Luzon, 1.
188. Mountain White-eye - *Zosterops montanus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 20-100 daily.
189. BLACK-MASKED or MINDANAO WHITE-EYE - *Lophozosterops goodfellowi*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 2 in mixed flock near the 1st of Bagobo Babbler site.
189. CINNAMON IBON - *Hypocryptadius cinnamomeus*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 1-4 almost everyday.
190. Eurasian Tree Sparrow - *Passer montanus*
Common, usually around cities and villages.

191. White-bellied Munia - *Lonchura leucogastra*
Rajah Sikatuna NP, Bohol, 2-3 on couple of days. Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao, 40.

192. Scaly-breasted Munia - *Lonchura punctulata*
Manilabay, Manila, Luzon, 8. Philippine Cemetery, Manila, Luzon, 10.

193. Chestnut Munia - *Lonchura malacca*
Quezon NP, Luzon, 15 in the fields of Malicboy.

194. WHITE-CHEEKED BULLFINCH - *Pyrrhula leucogenis*
Mt Kitanglad, Mindanao. 1 just beside the Higher Eagle Viewpoint, 1 in the forest uphill from the Higher Eagle Viewpoint.
