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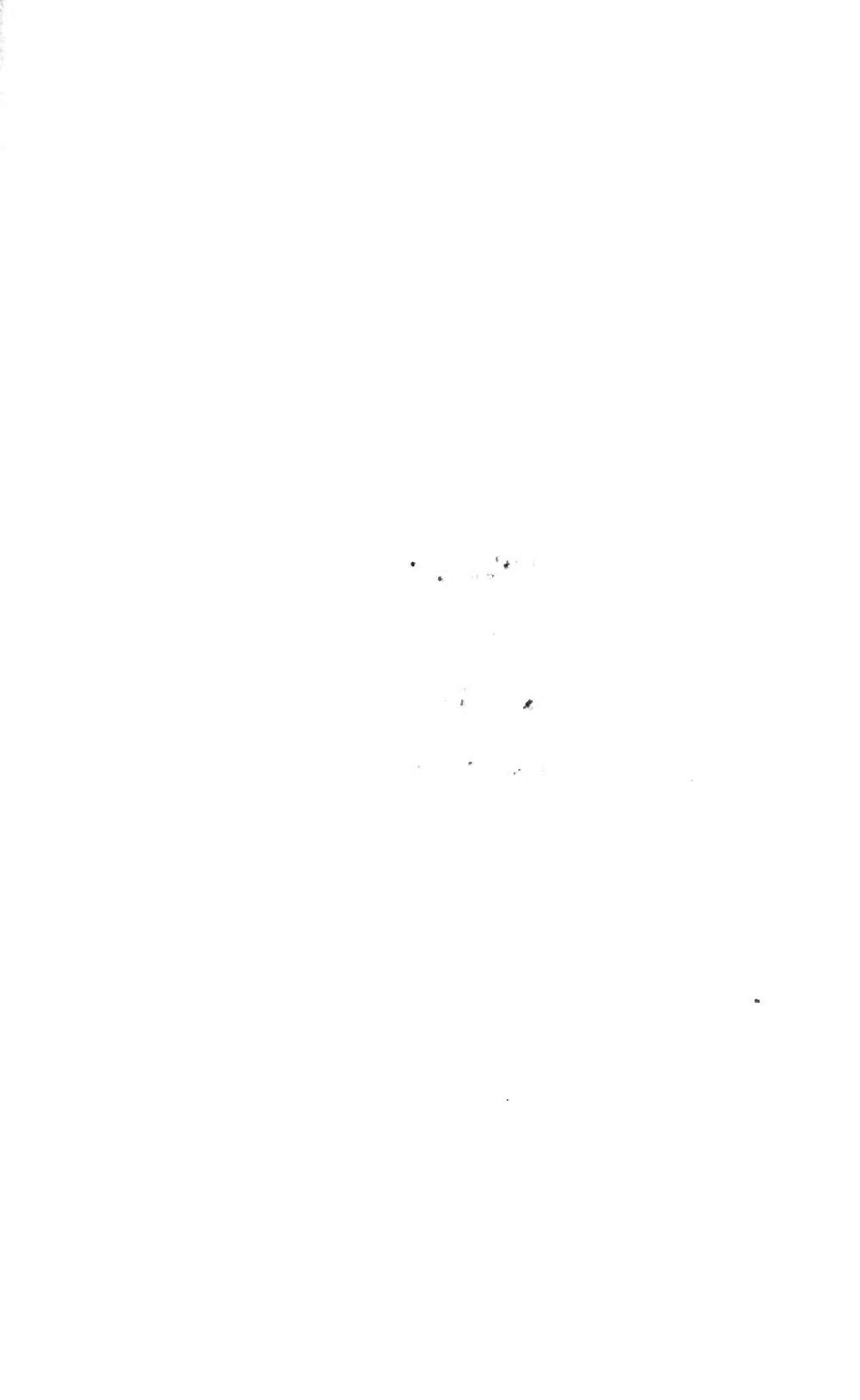
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NATURAL HISTORY
SURVEY



A New Race of Crow, *Corvus enca*,
from the PhilippinesAUSTIN L. RAND
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AND
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In the course of Dr. Rabor's field work in northeastern Luzon, in 1960, he collected two specimens of the crow, *Corvus enca*, which provide a substantial range extension of the species, and, as he recognized, represent an undescribed subspecies. For this we propose the name:

Corvus enca sierramadrensis, new subspecies

Type.—Chicago Natural History Museum No. 260,006, from San Pascua, Gonzaga, Cagayan Province, in Sierra Madre, Luzon. Adult female, collected April 20, 1960, by D. S. Rabor.

Diagnosis.—Most like *C. e. samarensis*, from Samar, but bill shorter and more slender, culmen less arched; concealed bases of feathers of neck and forepart of body grayer; plumage generally more intensely black.

Range.—Known only from Cagayan Province of extreme north-eastern Luzon.

Remarks.—The discovery of this species on Luzon has some zoogeographical implications. Hitherto, its supposed absence there has suggested that some historical factor might have been responsible for its not reaching Luzon. Now that we know that it occurs in the three largest main islands of the Eastern Philippine Province (Luzon-Samar-Mindanao), as well as the Mindoro District and the Palawan group (small and large islands), it would seem that the distribution pattern and the great variations in abundance in the Philippines

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(Luzon, scarce and local; Samar, common; Mindanao, rare and local; Mindoro, rare; Palawan, common) may be due to ecological factors.

The three Philippine races, judging by present material, are fairly distinct as follows:

(a) *C. e. pusillus* Tweeddale.—Palawan (type locality), Balabac, Calamianes, Mindoro. Plumage with a grayish sheen, especially on under parts; feathers of foreback, breast, and neck with white bases; bill long but slender; wing, tail, and tarsus long.

Meinertzhagen (1926, Nov. Zool., **33**: 72) listed Mindoro birds as "subsp.," saying that they were glossier than *pusillus*, especially on crown and forehead. While there may be a difference, in that the Mindoro birds are very slightly darker and glossier, and on measurements the Mindoro birds have a slightly heavier bill than do Palawan birds, these characters are not nearly evident enough to keep them separate, judging by present material.

(b) *C. e. samarensis* Steere.—Samar (type locality) and Mindanao. Like *pusillus*, but plumage more intensely black above and below, and with a purplish blue gloss, especially on upper parts; feathers of neck with concealed bases grayish white; bill long but deeper and with culmen more arched; wing, tail, and tarsus shorter.

Dorst (1947, L'Oiseau et Rev. Française d'Orn., **17**, (n.s.), p. 74), who separated *violaceus* of Ceram (with the Philippine birds *pusillus* and *samarensis* as subspecies), as a different species from *enca*, considered Mindoro birds as referable to *samarensis*. Our material lends little support to this allocation (see above). We have seen no Mindanao specimens, but we assume that they are *samarensis*, as usually considered.

(c) *C. e. sierramadrensis* Rand and Rabor.—Extreme northeastern Luzon (see above for characters). This race shows an intensification of the plumage characters which separate *samarensis* from *pusillus*, and it is as small or even slightly smaller than *samarensis* on wing, tail, and tarsus measurements, again separating it more widely from *pusillus*, but the bill is slender as in *pusillus* and is shorter than in either of the other two races.

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MEASUREMENTS
 (in millimeters)

	Wing	Tail	Culmen from base	Bill depth at nostril	Tarsus
<i>C. e. pusillus</i>					
(Palawan and Calamianes)...	♀ 247, 247, 248	130, 132, 134	52, 52, 53	17, 17, 17	47, 47, 48
(Mindoro)..... {	♂ 245	127	55	18.5	48
	♀ 245	129	50	17.5	50
<i>C. e. samarensis</i>					
(Samar)..... {	♂ (5) 214-240 (av. 229)	(5) 103-120 (av. 113)	(5) 52-56 (av. 53.6)	(4) 18.5-21 (av. 19.6)	(5) 44-46 (av. 45)
	♀ 227	111	55	20	44
<i>C. e. sierramadrensis</i>					
(Luzon).....	♀ 216, 220	112, 113	48, 49	16.5, 17	43, 46



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