

**MUSEUM OF NATIONAL
HISTORY, CHECKLIST OF
THE BIRDS OF THAILAND**

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Museum of National History, Checklist of the Birds of Thailand by Herbert G. Deignan

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SMITHSONIAN
INSTITUTION



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MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Checklist
of the
Birds of Thailand

HERBERT G. DEIGNAN
Research Associate, Smithsonian Institution

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION
WASHINGTON, 1963

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The scientific publications of the United States National Museum include two series, *Proceedings of the United States National Museum* and *United States National Museum Bulletin*.

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FRANK A. TAYLOR,
Director, United States National Museum

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Introduction

The late Count Nils Gyldenstolpe, of Sweden, was the author of the only previously published and theoretically complete checklist of the birds of Thailand. His "A Nominal List of the Birds at Present Known to Inhabit Siam" (*Ibis*, 1920, pp. 446-496, 569-607, 735-780) gave the names of 732 forms, of which some were only dubiously to be considered Siamese. The present list includes the names of 1,173 birds and is complete so far as the avifauna of Thailand is known at this date (1962).

For information on the Siamese collections in their care and, often, for the privilege of personal examination of important specimens, I owe thanks to literally dozens of museums in America, Europe, and Asia, and to members of their ornithological staffs. Special gratitude is due Mrs. B. P. Hall, of the British Museum (Natural History), London, who painstakingly recorded for me the data for the entire extensive collection of Siamese birds presented the Museum by the late Sir Walter J. F. Williamson, C.M.G.

I should mention also the rich collections of Dr. Bun Song Lekhakun of Bangkok and of Dr. Robert E. Elbel, USOM/Thailand, who have sent me copious material during the past ten years, and whose explorations of previously uninvestigated areas have added dozens of birds to the Siamese list.

Finally, I must express my heartfelt thanks to Dr. Edward H. Taylor and Dr. George W. Byers, Editors of the *University of Kansas Science Bulletin*, who have graciously permitted me to use their invaluable plate of the map of Thailand showing provincial boundaries.

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