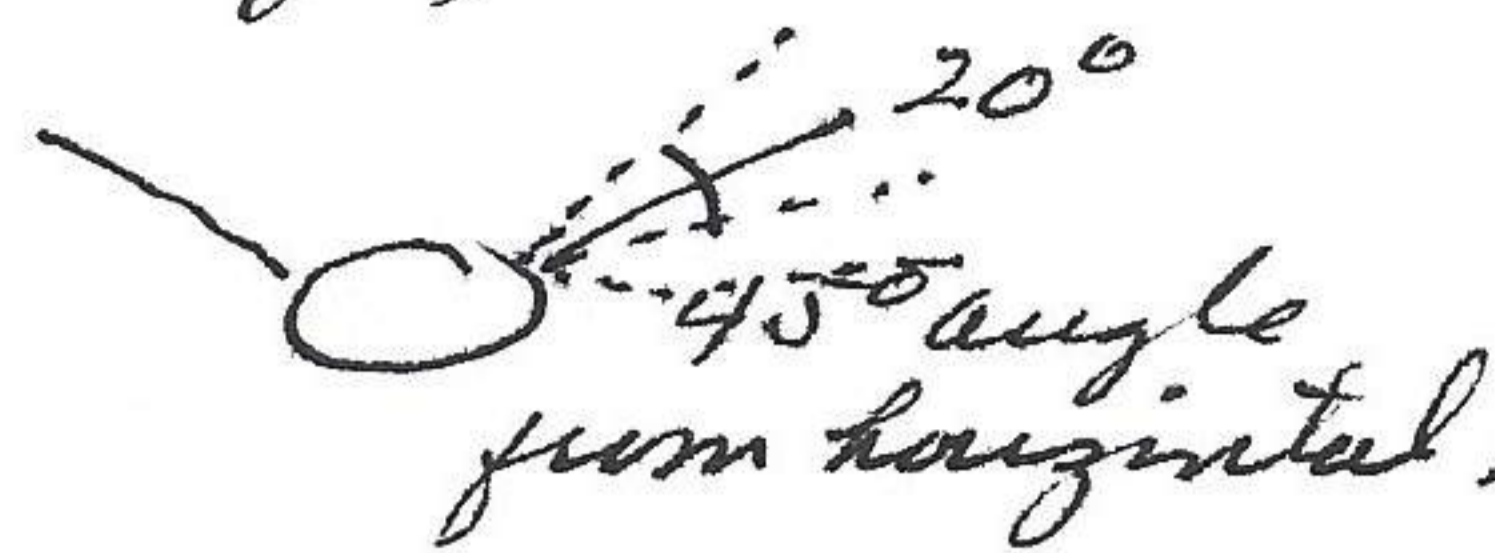


walked beach from site 117 to homes to W approx 2/10 mile.

Black skimmer, pair fed together and one single. Fed 90% into wind and 10% diagonal or with the wind. Work 100'-300' then fly back and start over. One fed continuously for 300' wing moves in a 20° arc at 45° angle thus: while close to water will catch prey, then eat without bill almost in water. Water plowing over small waves but lifts up over larger or cresting waves. At times will paddle with feet on surface of water. The one remained in area the entire evening and frequently alighted in about same place to rest.



Groups of 4-8-20-10 knots. ♂ about 8% of groups. Behaviour is like sanderling, close organization, running from incoming wave and following water back. They form a line parallel with wave. Their compact organization is characteristic, however I observed 2 instances of single birds on the beach. Unmottled back is good characteristic in flight.

3 black-bellied plovers, one with just an indication of black on belly and chest area. <sup>fed in water as deep as legs.</sup> When in flight, black in air diagnostic. White in wing & tail remind one of the willet but is less extensive or conspicuous. <sup>individual birds like the sanderling</sup> no aggressive behavior of.

Sanderling about 30 all tall. Some fed at junctions of grass & beach. Aggressive action occurs with groups of even 2 or 3.

willet. 6. Individuals rather than pairs. They feed in wake up to belly and will tolerate waves that lift them 1 or 2 inches as the wave passes by.

Other birds on beach: laughing gull 18, common tern 3, ring-billed gulls 2.

Galveston Island State Park, Galveston Co., Texas

April 8, 1983

(7:00 A.M. - 8:30 A.M.)

most unusual observation was 8 groups of Louisiana herons, of groups of 8-23-15-21-11-13-6-18 all moving E. Each group had cattle egret with one or two in small groups to 5 in the larger groups. They fly about 3' <sup>300' seaward, some 2/10 mile out.</sup> above waves or water. <sup>ventral part of</sup> The neck does not show white but the white belly is diagnostic. Temp this A.M. 51°F. Cloudy. At 9:00 A.M. sun shown thru for about 10 minutes for this area I would propose 2 or 3 elevated stalls for viewing the