

# CHEEKY CHOPPER TRACKED



A LYNX HELICOPTER ... two in the area

# DOWN

**EXCLUSIVE** By ANGUS MACLEOD

**STARTLING** new evidence has been uncovered about the military helicopter which buzzed a Highland woman's car.

The Sunday Mail can reveal that it almost certainly belonged to the Royal Marines.

We have unearthed facts which have embarrassed Defence Ministry officials who wanted to hide the identity of chopper and pilot.

Moira Taylor was driving her navy-blue Ford Escort on the Oban-Glasgow road near Tyndrum, Argyll, on May 5 when the helicopter suddenly appeared and landed on her car's roof.

Now we can reveal:

- ANOTHER chopper which the MoD has not admitted to was in the area on the same day.

- THE helicopter involved is strongly suspected to have been a Royal Marines' Lynx, serial number XZ614.

- AND Mrs Taylor has been visited by MoD officials who wanted to discuss her insurance.

After the incident Junior Defence Minister Roger Freeman told the Commons in a written answer: "The only military helicopter AUTHORISED to fly at low level in Scotland on May 5 was a naval Lynx operating from HMS Minerva."

## SOURCES

But using proven aviation monitoring sources, the Mail has established that Lynx XZ614 was at Prestwick on May 5 and conducted exercises down the west coast.

Mrs Taylor from Balvicar, near Oban, said: "The first I knew that the MoD was involved was when two officials came to discuss any insurance claim."

A spokesman for the Royal Marines last night said a full investigation was being carried out.



HIT-AND-FLY VICTIM ... Moira Taylor with her Ford Fiesta car.