

THE RIDDLE OF THE SHINING CONE IN THE SKY

Sunday Express Reporter

A GIANT cone-shaped object hovered 15,000ft. above the seven coastguards.

For more than an hour they watched it through high-powered glasses.

As the object hovered over Brixham, Devon, it slowly revolved, revealing some sort of door in its side.

An aircraft approached, flew round it, and then flew away. Eventually the object vanished behind cloud after climbing to about 20,000ft.

Scores of people along the Devon coast telephoned police stations to ask about the object, sighted at noon on April 28.

The coastguards' report about the object was forwarded within minutes to the Ministry of Defence by the R.A.F. at Plymouth.

But last night the Ministry's reaction to the report was puzzling the Brixham coastguards.

Laughable

For the Ministry at first denied that it had ever received a report.

Later, a spokesman said: "Further inquiries reveal that we did receive a report, but somehow it was not logged.

"We can only suggest that the object may have been a reflection of car headlights or some sort of meteorological phenomena. I cannot comment further."

A senior R.A.F. controller at Plymouth said: "We reported all the details. I cannot tell you where the aircraft came from, and you will have a job to get anyone to admit that one was sent up. I understand the U.F.O. was also tracked by radar."

At the coastguard station at Berry Head, Brixham, last night the chief officer, Harry Johnson, said: "It's just laughable for anyone to suggest to a body of highly-trained observers that this was the reflection of car headlights. It was midday. The object was obviously made of something very highly polished, and reflected the sunlight almost like a star."

Coastguard Brian Jenkins said: "I was able to make a detailed drawing of it which I showed to an air vice-marshal who called at the station a few days later.

"His only comment was: 'Most interesting.'"