

Files are opened on unexplained

ON JANUARY 6, 1995, the pilot of a British Airways Boeing 737 radioed the tower to report a near miss with an unidentified flying object 4,000 feet over Manchester.

The pilot told the controller that a "wedge-shaped" object with lights had just passed down the right-hand-side of the plane. Ominously, the tower replied that nothing had appeared on their radar.

The details of the incident were only released last week after an inquiry by the Joint Airmiss Working Group. But for local 'UFOlogist', Margaret Fry, the close encounter is just one of hundreds of UFO sightings she has investigated.

In the 30 years she has been studying UFOs, she has interviewed over 1,000 witnesses to mysterious sightings, and says she has seen 46 UFOs herself.

"We heard about the Manchester incident almost a year ago," said Mrs Fry, of Frys Croft, Llangerayw.

"A colleague of mine in Cheshire has interviewed the pilot and spoken to another witness on the ground who saw it and the descriptions they gave are almost identical to another reported sighting I was given."

After studying the aircrew's report, aviation experts concluded that it was not possible to explain the incident. The pilot, Captain Roger Wilks, 35, and his co-pilot, Mark Stewart, said that they heard no noise from the craft and despite travelling at great speed and coming very close to the plane, no turbulence could be felt either.

But what interested Margaret most about the aircrew's recollections was the similarity of the craft's description to the one she had had reported to her some years ago in the skies above Bod-



Margaret Fry has been following up reports of UFOs for over 30 years. Aeron Haworth reports

elwyddan.

On November 2, 1992, two women, returning home from a day out in Betws-y-Coed, saw an object illuminated by different coloured lights hovering about 60 feet above the ground.

The two women, one a nurse, the other a retired police officer, reported the object to Mrs Fry as being "pear-shaped" and measuring about 20 feet across.

"It was extremely low and they managed to get very close to it," said Mrs Fry.

"But when they woke the next morning, they both had rashes and second degree burns on their skins."

The two women were given cortisone injections for their injuries but were too embarrassed to tell their doctors how the burns had happened.



□ An artist's impression of a UFO reported near Wilmslow, Cheshire.

"There are quite a few cases of UFOs causing burns but one of the women still has the rash - it won't go away," said Mrs Fry, who added that she first saw a UFO when one nearly landed on her head in 1955.

Mrs Fry said it is a misconception to say that UFOs have 'near misses' with terrestrial aircraft, like the incident at Manchester.

"If they come near, they do so because they want to see how the plane operates - it's not a mistake. From my experience, UFOs are always very controlled. They know exactly where they're going."

Mrs Fry said that of the 46 craft she has seen, only one was the stereotypical 'lights in the sky' type. All the others she has viewed in daylight as actual objects of various descriptions.

□ An artist's impression of the UFO seen above Bodelwyddan by the two women in November, 1992.

"As you get more experienced, I think your eye becomes professionally trained to pick things out of the sky and that could be the reason why I've seen so many."

Despite her many encounters with UFOs, Mrs Fry, who was brought up in the Himalayas, doesn't believe we will ever meet an "alien being". (Incorrect) I do

"I feel UFOs come from the satellites - moons of planets within our own galaxy. I don't think it's possible for them to come from any further away."

"As for ... I don't think it's possible. That's why I only investigate UFOs from a very 'down to earth' point of view." Chancesling I say.

● Anyone who thinks they may have seen a UFO can contact Mrs Fry by writing to her at: PO Box 43, Rhyl, LL18 1YW.