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Investigating whether there really is 'anybody out there'

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OUT THERE by Howard Blum
(Simon & Schuster, £14.95)

Is there intelligent life, or even simple life, elsewhere in the universe, or are the inhabitants of the Earth unique?

This question is the basis of Mr Blum's book, in which he reveals that in 1987 a group of 17 members of US Intelligence were gathered together in the Pentagon to form the UFO Working Group and to find out the truth.

That there are already a number of FOs in space is not only undeniable, but staggering fact. There are actually 7,087 man-made objects in space, including ten screws a mere one-eighth of an inch in diameter; a thermal glove; a screwdriver from the Soviet Mir space station; and

thousands of satellites.

But are there any UFOs?

That UFOs have been sighted, recorded, logged and investigated is not disputed — but have any been identified as being of extra-terrestrial origin? Again, many sources say yes, but official sources definitely say no.

So why were these experts brought together? Is the US Government secretly scared about UFO sightings while consistently denying them? Mr Blum reveals an amazing number of facts — including messages from space to Elmwood, Wisconsin, where, it appears, everybody has had a close encounter of one sort or another.

This is an intriguing book, but I must confess that I am still not convinced. — *Gordon Young.*