Robert Henry Dicke Encyclopedia Article

Robert Henry Dicke

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Robert Henry Dicke

1916-1997

American physicist who made contributions to a number of theoretical and experimental fields, including relativity and cosmology theory, atomic physics, and radar and microwave technology. He is best known for his prediction that the universe should be filled with background radiation of microwave frequency, the remains of the energy of the Big Bang that was, theoretically, the beginning of the universe. His quantum theory of coherent radiation emission led to the development of the laser.