

Dana P. Mitchell **FREE**

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*Physics Today* **19** (3), 111 (1966);  
<https://doi.org/10.1063/1.3048095>

  
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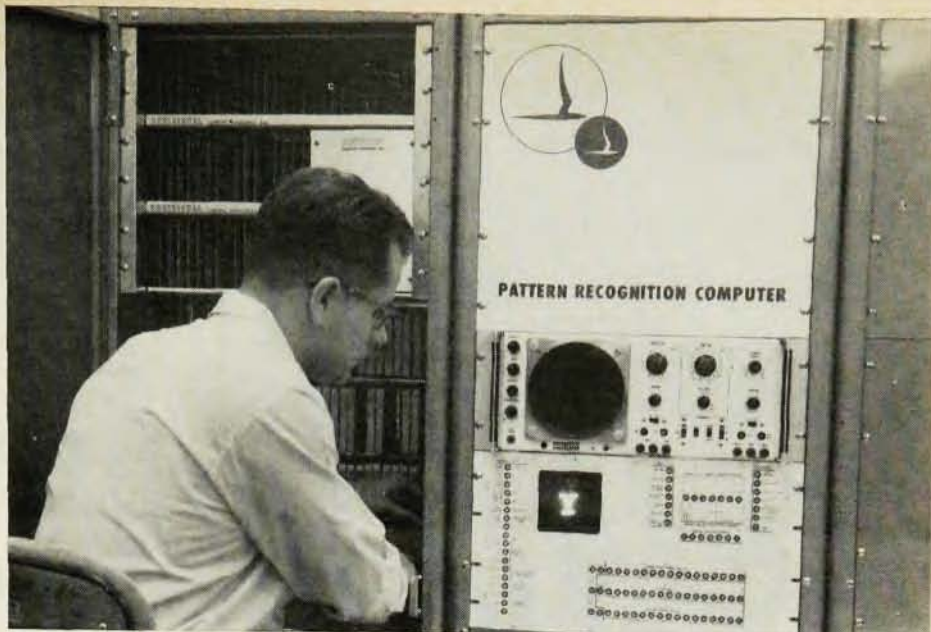
### Dana P. Mitchell

A veteran member of the Columbia University physics faculty, Dana P. Mitchell, was found shot to death along with his wife on the morning of 7 Feb. Mrs. Mitchell had been bedridden as a result of an automobile accident last summer. Authorities believe that Mitchell shot his wife and then killed himself.

Mitchell was born in 1899 in Fowler, Ind. He received a bachelor's degree from Tri-State College in Angola, Ind., in 1918, and taught there until 1921. Upon joining the Columbia physics faculty in 1921 he served as an assistant and as an instructor while pursuing graduate studies. He received his PhD in 1936 and was an associate professor at the time of his death.

During his 45 years at Columbia, Mitchell worked on x-ray spectroscopy, neutron interactions, nuclear physics, and antisubmarine warfare by underwater sound detection. While working for his doctorate under John Dunning, Mitchell assisted in the construction of the old Columbia cyclotron, now in the Smithsonian Institution. In 1941 he joined the staff of the undersea-warfare laboratories that Columbia operated for the Navy at New London, Conn. The following year he returned to Columbia to work on the gaseous-diffusion process for isotope separation in the production of  $^{235}\text{U}$  at the SAM (Substitute Alloy Materials) Laboratory under Dunning and Harold C. Urey. From 1943 to 1945 he was at the Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory where he was responsible for procurement of scientific equipment. After the war he spent several years as executive director of Columbia's radiation laboratory. In recent years he had returned to undersea-warfare research at the Columbia Hudson Laboratories at Dobbs Ferry, N.Y.

Mitchell was a fellow of the American Physical Society.



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