## Mathematics <br> of COMPUTATION

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# DERRICK HENRY LEHMER <br> February 23, 1905-May 22, 1991 

Professor Derrick Henry Lehmer, one of the founding editors of Mathematical Tables and Other Aids to Computation, the forerunner of Mathematics of Computation, passed away on May 22, 1991, at Berkeley, California. Professor Lehmer served on the Editorial Board of MTAC from the very beginning in 1943 to 1954, the last five years as chairman. He has been an active and regular contributor to all facets of the journal, his most recent paper having appeared in 1988. An appreciation of Professor Lehmer's scientific accomplishments will appear in a future issue of Mathematics of Computation.

The field of computational mathematics and number theory has lost one of its true pioneers. All who have known Professor Lehmer, either personally or through his work, share in this deep sense of loss.

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## Anatolii T. Fomenko

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Anatoliǐ Fomenko is a Soviet mathematician with a talent for expressing abstract mathematical concepts through artwork. Some of his works echo those of M.C. Escher in their meticulous rendering of shapes and patterns, while other pieces seem to be more visceral expressions of mathematical ideas. Stimulating to the imagination and to the eye, his rich and evocative work can be interpreted and appreciated in various ways-mathematical, aesthetic, or emotional.

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A small group of civilians, which began with four scientists and two lawyers, comprised the Operations Research Section, an advisory body attached to the Headquarters of the Eighth Bomber Command. During the course of the war in Europe, over forty operations analysts worked with the Eighth Air Force. By the end of 1943, the section had established itself as the authority on measurement and analysis of bombing accuracy, loss and battle damage, aerial gunnery, and general mission analysis, such as fuel consumption. In their dealings with visual bombing, radar, radio countermeasures, V-weapons, and flak analysis, these experts discovered that the air force could do a much better job with fewer bombs by using bombs of the correct size with the correct fuse settings. In addition, the section advised the commanding generals on major aspects of the strategic bombing campaign in Europe, including bombardment of German lines and support of Allied ground troops in the Normandy invasion, the isolation of Normandy by aerial destruction, and the demolition of the German synthetic oil industry.

The author emphasizes the people involved in these historical events, rather than the technical matters with which they dealt. Focusing on a time of great importance in the history of this century, the book reveals the vital role this group of civilian scientists played in the defeat of Germany.

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