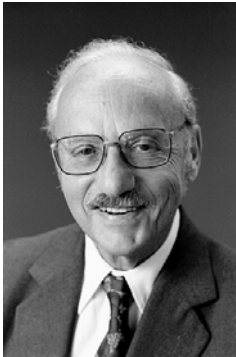# George Bernard Dantzig

Born November 8, 1914, Portland, Ore.; inventor of the Simplex method of linear programming.

Education: AB, University of Maryland, 1936; MA, University of Michigan, 1937; PhD, mathematics, University of California, Berkeley, 1946.

Professional Experience: junior statistician, US Bureau of Labor Statistics, 1937-1939; statistician, US Air Force, 1941-1945; chief mathematician, US Air Force Hq. Comptroller, 1945-1952; research mathematician, Rand Corp., 1952-1960; professor of engineering science and chairman, Operations Research Center, University of California, Berkeley, 1960-1966; professor of operations research and computer science, Stanford University, 1966-present.

Honors and Awards: DSc (Hon.): Israel Institute of Technology, 1973; University Linkoping, Sweden, 1975; University of Maryland, 1976; Yale University, 1978; Exceptional Meritorious Service Medal, War Dept., 1944; National Medal of Science, 1975; Von Neumann Theory Prize, Operations Research Society and Materials Science Society, 1975; Applied Mathematics and Numerical Analysis Prize, National Academy of Science, 1976; member, National Academy of Science; fellow, American Academy of Arts and Science; fellow, Operations Research Society; fellow, Institute for Management Science (president, 1966).

QUOTATION

"For a short period of time Dantzig almost deliberately tried to avoid discovering the simplex method that made him famous. But logic triumphed over doubt. In a few months of brilliant, concentrated effort in the latter half of 1947, Dantzig conceived the inclusive framework into which the scattered pieces fitted and added a critical missing piece, the simplex method of solution. With that, linear programming was born." (Dorfman 1984)

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UPDATES

George Dantzig died on May 13, 2005 in Stanford, California. (MRW, 2012)

Portrait inserted (MRW, 2012)