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Nota di contenuto	Front matter -- Acknowledgments -- Contents -- 1. Introduction -- 2. Setting the stage -- 3. Whirlwind -- 4. SAGE -- 5. Basic circuitry -- 6. Central processor -- 7. Drum system -- 8. Input/output system -- 9. Display system -- 10. Machine consoles -- 11. Power supply -- 12. Programming -- 13. Software -- 14. Failure or Success? -- 15. Epilogue -- A. Whirlwind instruction set -- B. Programming cards -- Bibliography -- Acronyms -- Index
Sommario/riassunto	Das Buch widmet sich AN/FSQ-7, einem der aussergewöhnlichsten und einflussreichsten Digitalrechner aller Zeiten, über den erst in den letzten Jahren (aufgrund von Geheimhaltungsvorschriften) detaillierte Informationen zugänglich wurden. Über einen Zeitraum von über 30 Jahren wurden in den USA 23 Rechenzentren auf Basis von jeweils zwei AN/FSQ-7 betrieben, die das Herz von SAGE, dem Semi Automatic Ground Environment bildeten, das für die Luftraumüberwachung der USA und (in Teilen) Kanada zuständig war. One of the most impressive computer systems ever was the vacuum tube based behemoth AN/FSQ-7, which was the heart of the "Semi Automatic Ground Environment". Machines of this type were children of

the Cold War and had a tremendous effect in politics. They also generated a vast amount of spin-offs which still shape our world. This book focuses on the technological achievements and details of this marvelous machine and of its predecessor Whirlwind. The various developments, ranging from magnetic core memory to data transmission via telephone lines, are covered in detail with schematics, circuit descriptions and small programming examples. This book is a treasure trove for those interested in the technology of early digital computers and those interested in the impact these machines had and still have on our current computer systems.
