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TECHNOLOGY AND SOCIETY

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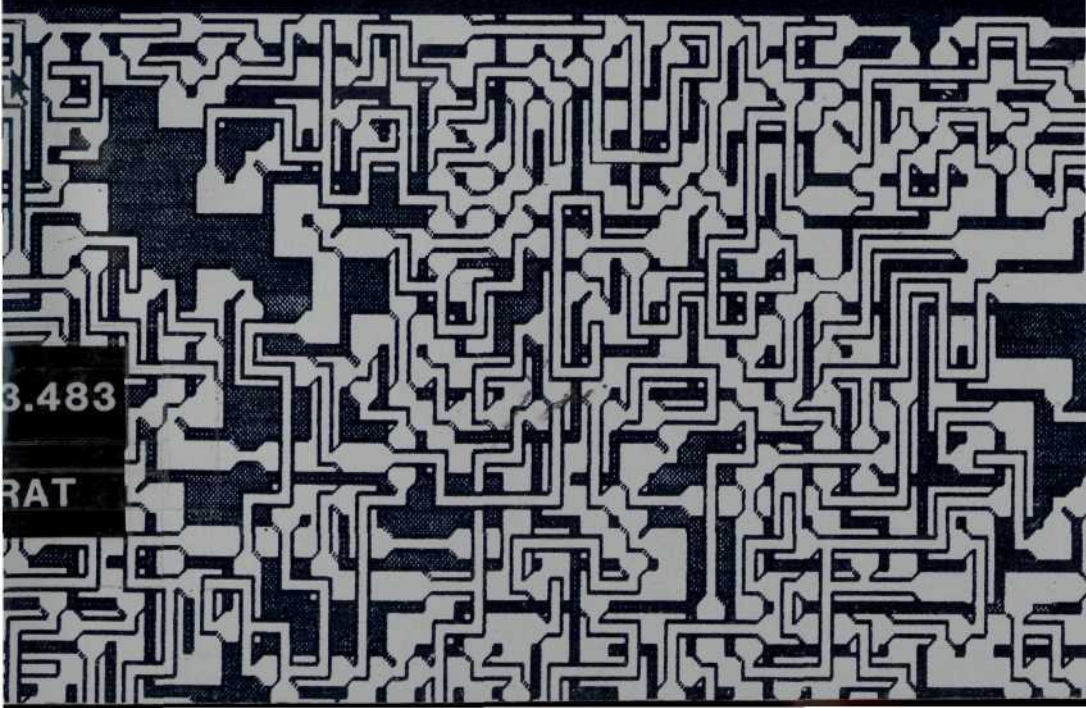


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And yet in countries outside the industrial world, where the bulk of the world's population lives, modern technology has had a very different impact and in many cases hardly any impact at all. Moreover, there is a real possibility that these countries may become even more disadvantaged than they are at present as a result of new technological developments, some of which may weaken their global-economic role, increase their dependence on others and widen the already dangerous and unconscionable disparity between them and the industrial countries. This is a dimension of technological progress that needs more attention than it has so far received, and it is one of the objectives of this book to explore that dimension. Indeed, if there is an overriding purpose behind this book, it is that of providing what might broadly be termed a Third World perspective from which to view the role of technology — not, it must be emphasised, as an alternative to other perspectives but rather as a complement to them.