Digital Depression

Information Technology and Economic Crisis

DAN SCHILLER

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS PRESS
Urbana, Chicago, and Springfield
Contents

Acknowledgments ix

Introduction: A Contradictory Moment 1

PART I: DIGITAL CAPITALISM'S ASCENT TO CRISIS
1. Network Connectivity and Labor Systems 13
2. Networked Production and Reconstructed Commodity Chains 27
3. Networked Financialization 43
4. Networked Militarization 57

PART II: THE RECOMPOSITION OF COMMUNICATIONS
5. The Historical Run-Up 73
6. Web Communications Commodity Chains 83
7. Services and Applications 115
8. The Sponsor System Resurgent 125
9. Growth amid Depression? 142
PART III: GEOPOLITICS AND SOCIAL PURPOSE

10. A Struggle for Growth  151
11. "A New Foreign Policy Imperative"  161
12. Taking Care of Business: The Internet
    at the U.S. Commerce Department  170
13. Beyond a U.S.-centric Internet?  185
14. Accumulation and Repression  211
15. From Geopolitics to Social and Political Struggle  229

Notes  247
Index  349