Profits, Politics and Panics
Hong Kong's Banks and the Making of a Miracle Economy, 1935–1985

Leo F. Goodstadt

HONG KONG UNIVERSITY PRESS
Contents

Preface vii
Acknowledgments xi

Introduction 1

1 Mismanaged by Mandarins 19
2 Chinese Revolutionaries, Colonial Reformers 37
3 Post-war Emergencies: From Boom to Bust 59
4 Financial Centre under Siege 75
5 Industrial Take-off: Cut-price and Self-financed 97
6 The Rise and Fall of the Chinese Banks 115
7 A Dangerous Business Model 129
8 An Avoidable Crisis: The 1965 Bank Runs 145
9 From Banking Crisis to Financial Catastrophe 163
10 Colonial Money and Its Management 183
11 The Exceptional Colony 201

Conclusions — A Political Deficit 213
vi Contents

Notes 223

Bibliography 291

Index 311