

That small box yields the first Macao perfin

Late last year, the Portuguese colony of Macao was officially returned to Chinese control for the first time in more than 400 years. Macao had been the oldest 1557 and river lead-about 40 associ- Now it



European settlement in China. It was established in covers six square miles on the south bank of the ing up to the Chinese city of Canton. Hong Kong is miles away across the river's mouth. Macao is often ated with gambling, opium smuggling, and spies. can finally be associated with perfins. In that "small box" of perfins Bob Schwerdt recently acquired, he found a 1000-reis revenue from Macao with an incomplete perfin. Schwerdt speculates that the first line may say B.W & Co followed by the clear LONDON of the second line. Does anyone have a similar perfin on another stamp that might help determine what this pattern really is? Even better, does anybody else have a perfin from Macao hidden away somewhere?