

Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: October 8, 2013
Prepared By/Phone Number: David Salazar
Executive Assistant
County Judge's Office

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: 512-854-9558
Commissioners Court Sponsor:

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS IN PENG HU COUNTY TAIWAN:

A. AGREEMENT TO WELCOME PENG HU COUNTY OFFICIALS TO TRAVIS COUNTY IN LATE OCTOBER 2013; AND

B. OPPORTUNITY FOR DELEGATION FROM PENG HU COUNTY TO APPEAR BEFORE THE TRAVIS COUNTY COMMISSIONERS COURT TO SIGN DOCUMENTS ESTABLISHING A SISTER-COUNTY PROGRAM WITH TRAVIS COUNTY TO FOSTER COOPERATION IN CULTURE, TOURISM, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Please see attached letter and previous agenda information.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Travis County Commissioners Court

SAMUEL T. BISCOE
County Judge

RON DAVIS
Commissioner, Pct. 1

BRUCE TODD
Commissioner, Pct. 2

GERALD DAUGHERTY
Commissioner, Pct. 3



MARGARET J. GÓMEZ
Commissioner, Pct. 4

Travis County Administration Building, 700 Lavaca St., Commissioners Courtroom, 1st Floor, Austin, Tx 78701

June 18, 2013

Honorable County Chief Wang, Chien-Fa
County Government, Penghu County
32 Chihping Road
Makung Penhu, Taiwan, R.O.C.

RE: Invitation to Visit Travis County, Texas, USA

Dear Honorable County Chief Wang, Chien-Fa:

Thank you for your letter dated May 21, 2013 in which you encourage the establishment of a Sister-County relationship to develop economic and business cooperation as well as share aspects of our respective cultures.

On behalf of Travis County, Texas, it is our honor to officially invite a Penghu County delegation to visit with government, business and community leaders in Austin, Texas.

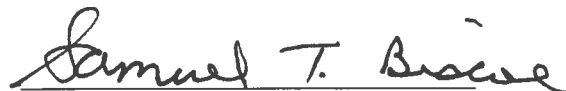
Travis County is located in south central Texas and has a population of more than one million residents. Our county seat is Austin, the capital of Texas. Additionally, Travis County is home to twenty-two smaller cities.

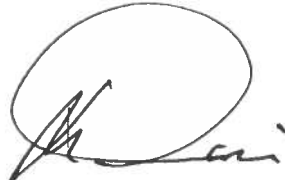
Our local economy is full of innovative enterprises, such as technology, digital, media, clean energy and life sciences. The area's diverse business

climate has provided consistent job growth for some of the world's most successful companies, including Dell, Motorola, IBM, Samsung and Applied Materials. Moreover, thousands of college graduates each year provide a steady source of employees that help drive our local economy.


With Penghu's rich history, cultural tourism and strong economy, we are certain there are countless opportunities for collaboration and exchange. Please accept our invitation for your delegation to visit Travis County in 2013 or at any time afterwards.

Sincerely,


SAMUEL T. BISCOE
Travis County Judge



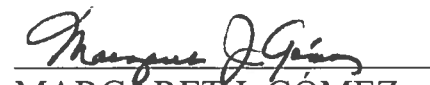
RON DAVIS
Commissioner, Pct. 1



BRUCE TODD
Commissioner, Pct. 2

absent

GERALD DAUGHERTY
Commissioner, Pct. 3



MARGARET J. GOMEZ
Commissioner, Pct. 4

Item 21 REVISED



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: June 18, 2013
Prepared By/Phone Number: David Salazar, 854-9555
Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: County Judge
Commissioners Court Sponsor: Judge Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

CONSIDER AND TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING REQUESTS FROM PENG HU COUNTY GOVERNMENT IN TAIWAN:

- A. REQUEST FROM WANG, CHIN-FA TO ESTABLISH A SISTER-COUNTY PROGRAM WITH TRAVIS COUNTY TO FOSTER COOPERATION IN CULTURE, TOURISM, EDUCATION, RESEARCH, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND RENEWABLE ENERGY;
- B. REQUEST FOR INVITATION FOR PENG HU COUNTY OFFICIALS TO VISIT TRAVIS COUNTY; AND
- C. RELATED ISSUES.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

Please see attached documents.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials should be submitted as a pdf to the County Judge's office, agenda@co.travis.tx.us by Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. for the next week's meeting.

SAMUEL T. BISCOE
COUNTY JUDGE



TRAVIS COUNTY ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
P.O. BOX 1748 ROOM 520
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78767
(512) 854-9555
(512) 854-9535 FAX

MEMORANDUM

TO: Commissioners Court Members

FROM: Samuel T. Biscoe, Travis County Judge

DATE: June 14, 2013

RE: Item 21 on June 18, 2013 Agenda
Requests from Penghu County Government in
Taiwan

We recently received a letter (attached) from Wang, Chien-Fa, County Chief of Peng Hu County in Taiwan requesting that the Court consider the following:

- A. The establishment of a cooperative Sister-County relationship to share aspects of each County's culture that might lead to enhancing the development of the economy, trade, tourism, science, education and social welfare; and
- B. The hosting of a visit of a delegation of Penghu County officials as the beginning of Travis County's partnership.

As Travis County has long been recognized as a leader in local government, establishing such a relationship may prove to be valuable in re-examining current practices and lead to future innovations in management and governance for both Counties.

Government of Penghu County

May 21, 2013

Travis County, Texas

Honorable County Judge Sam T. Biscoe:

Sherry Wang of "World Journal" was in Taiwan this month. During her stay, she specifically visited Penghu County. It's our understanding that she loves both places, Travis and Penghu Counties, due to their wonderful living environment and their lovely people. She thinks that the people in our two areas can cooperate and work together for future development. Further, she suggested that Travis and Penghu Counties should establish a Sister-County type of partnership.

Travis County situates at where the capital of the State of Texas is. We recognize that Travis County has been a model in management for local governments. This County is also a place of great developments in culture, economy, trade, science, education, and society welfare. People in this county emphasize democracy, freedom, and justice and equality.

Penghu County is located in the middle of the Taiwan Strait, an island of tourism which has been an important resource of Taiwan. It is also identified as a low-carbon area. This County consists of 90 islands of different sizes, being considered a focal point composed of cultures from the continent and the surrounding oceans. A famous magazine, "Lonely Planet," has identified "Penghu" to be one of the 10 great, mysterious islands in the world, because of its excellent infrastructure, friendly people, and great protection in environment. Also, Penghu has been selected as a Member of the organization, so called "Most Beautiful Bays in the World."

This letter expresses our respect and friendship to you, County Judge, other County Commissioners, and the people in Travis County. We hope, cooperatively, that Travis and Penghu Counties could have a plan to establish a Sister-County Program. This shall provide a great opportunity for cooperation and developments in culture, tourism, education, research, science and technology, and the renewable energy. Travis County may provide the best guidance to Penghu in various areas, while Penghu County can be an excellent partner of Travis County in Pacific Asia.

We would expect our two entities, Travis County and Penghu County, create, and establish a close relationship in the future. Again we express our sincere wishes and respect to the honorable County Judge and Travis County Commissioners, and the great citizens in Travis County.

Respectfully,

Wang, Chien-Fa

Wang, Chien-Fa
County Chief, Penghu County

County Government, Penghu County
32 Chihping Road, Makung Penhu, Taiwan, R.O.C.
Tel: 886-6-9272300 Fax: 886-6-9264060
Email: hdlid@ms12.hinet.net

Penghu County Government

澎湖縣政府

德克薩斯州崔維思郡

Samuel T. Biscoe 郡長閣下

世界日報 Sherry Wang(柯筱蓉小姐)在今年五月抵達台灣,期間特地到澎湖縣進行參訪,她非常熱愛貴郡以及澎湖縣兩地宜人的生活環境以及友善的風土民情,更關心兩地人民未來長遠的合作發展,提議推動崔維思郡和澎湖縣做為姊妹縣。

貴郡是德州首府所在地,人民崇尚民主、自由與正義,在文化、經貿、科技、教育以及社會福利各領域都屬高度文明發展地區,是地方治理成功的典範。

澎湖縣位處台灣海峽中點,是臺灣重要的觀光度假島嶼,也是低碳計畫的指標地區。大小 90 座島嶼是大陸文明與海洋文明交融而成的文化瑰寶,各項基礎設施完善、人民熱情友善、重視島嶼環境維護與海洋生態保育,是寂寞星球雜誌(Lonely Planet)所評選的世界十大神秘島,也是「世界最美麗海灣組織」(the Most Beautiful Bays in the World)的會員。

這封信函表達對 郡長閣下、各位議員以及貴郡人民來自太平洋西岸台灣澎湖縣最誠摯的友誼,希望我們一起促成崔維思郡與澎湖縣締結姊妹縣的計畫,讓兩地的人民未來在文化、科技、再生能源、經貿、旅遊、教育、學術方面,有合作發展的機會。崔維思郡是澎湖縣在美國德州交流最好的指引者,澎湖縣也是崔維思郡在亞洲發展的新基地。

我們衷心期盼 郡長閣下、各位議員以及所有人民幸福繁榮,崔維思郡與澎湖縣兩地在不遠的將來能開創更緊密的友誼。

澎湖縣縣長 王乾發



敬上

05/21/2013

澎湖縣馬公市治平路32號

32 Chihping RD, Makung Penghu, Taiwan R.O.C

Tel:886-6-9272300 Fax:886-6-9264060

Travis County Commissioners Court

SAMUEL T. BISCOE
County Judge

RON DAVIS
Commissioner, Pct. 1

BRUCE TODD
Commissioner, Pct. 2

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Commissioner, Pct. 3



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Travis County Administration Building, 700 Lavaca St., Commissioners Courtroom, 1st Floor, Austin, Tx 78701

June 18, 2013

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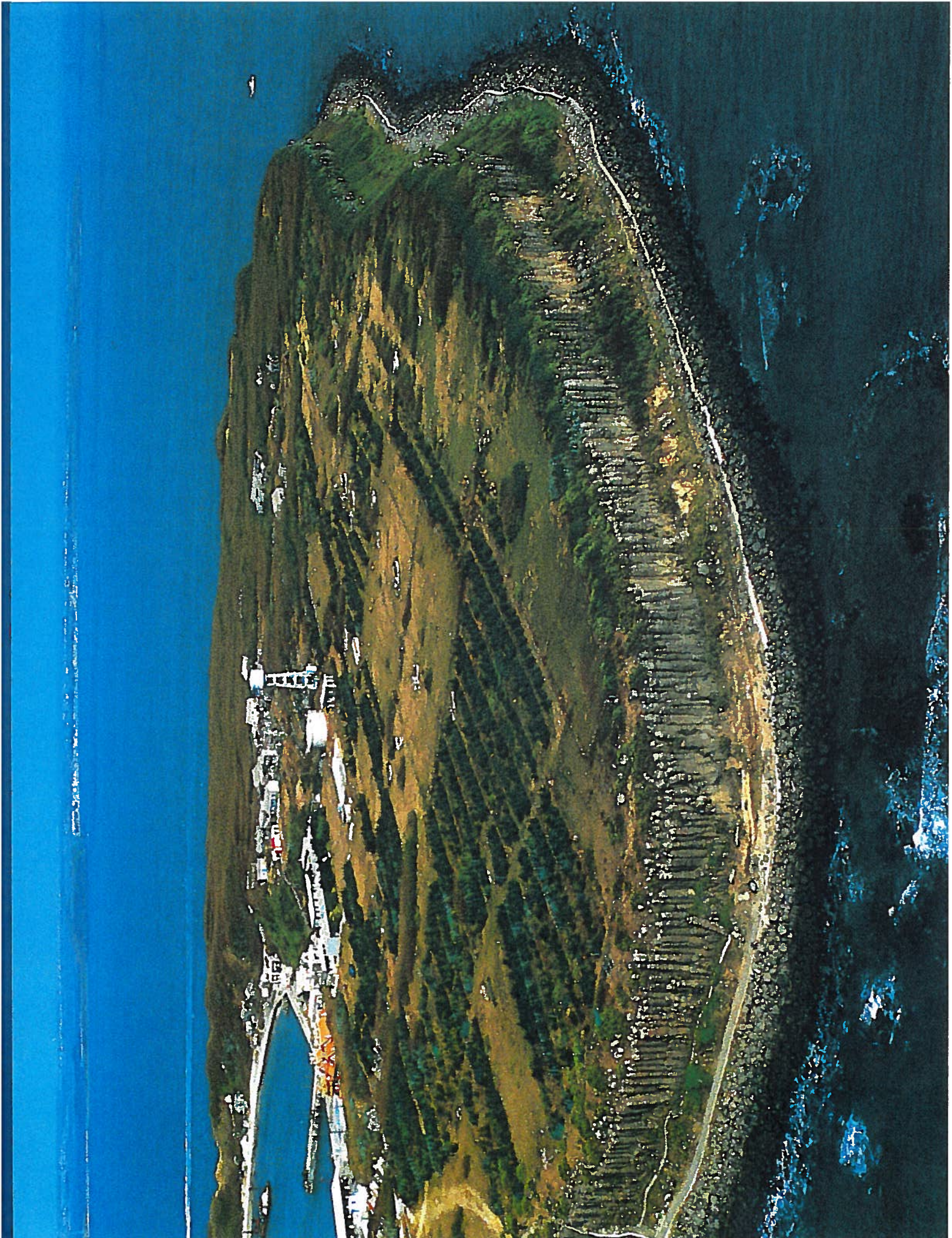
SAMUEL T. BISCOE
Travis County Judge

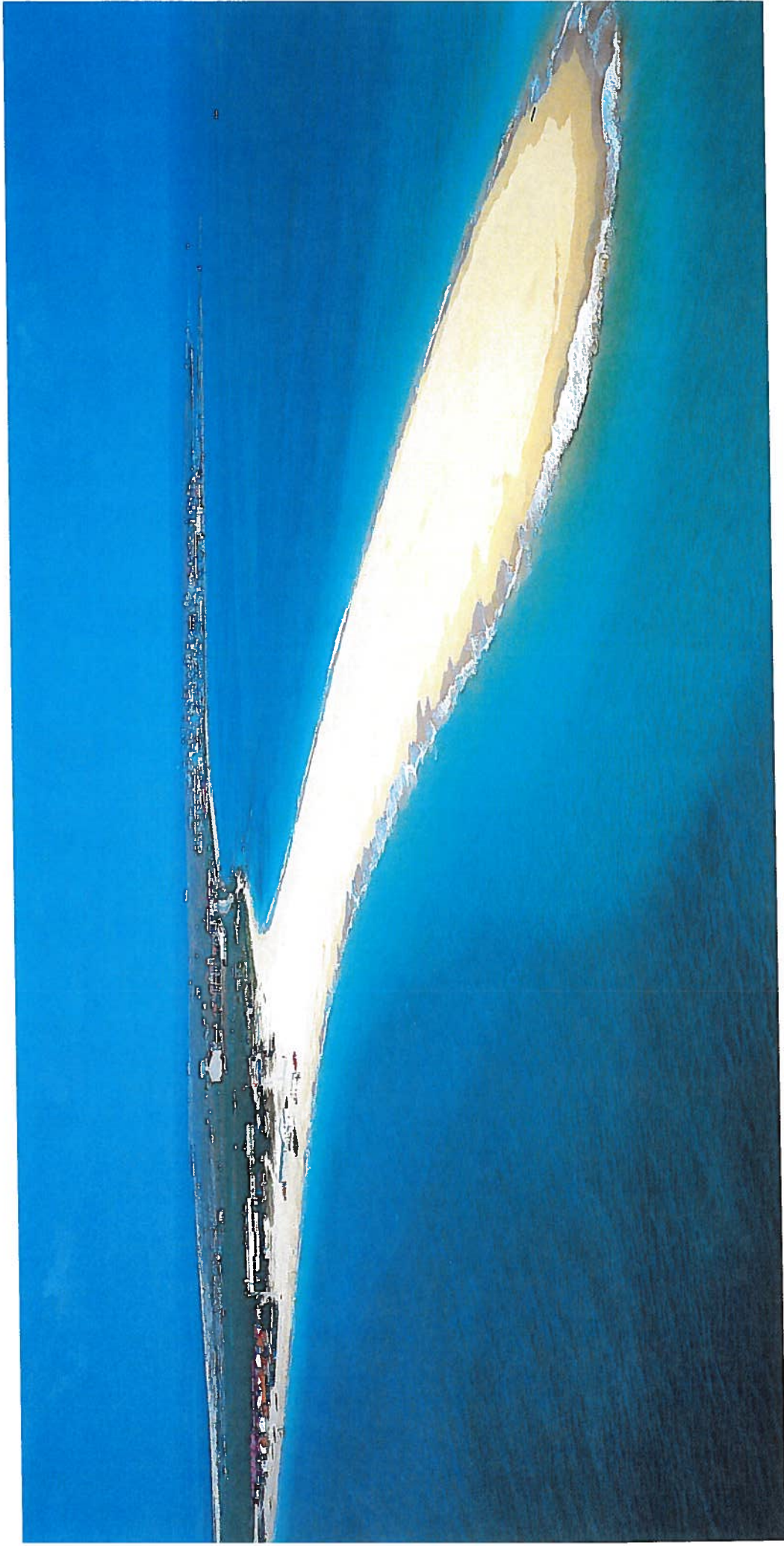
RON DAVIS
Commissioner, Pct. 1

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Commissioner, Pct. 4





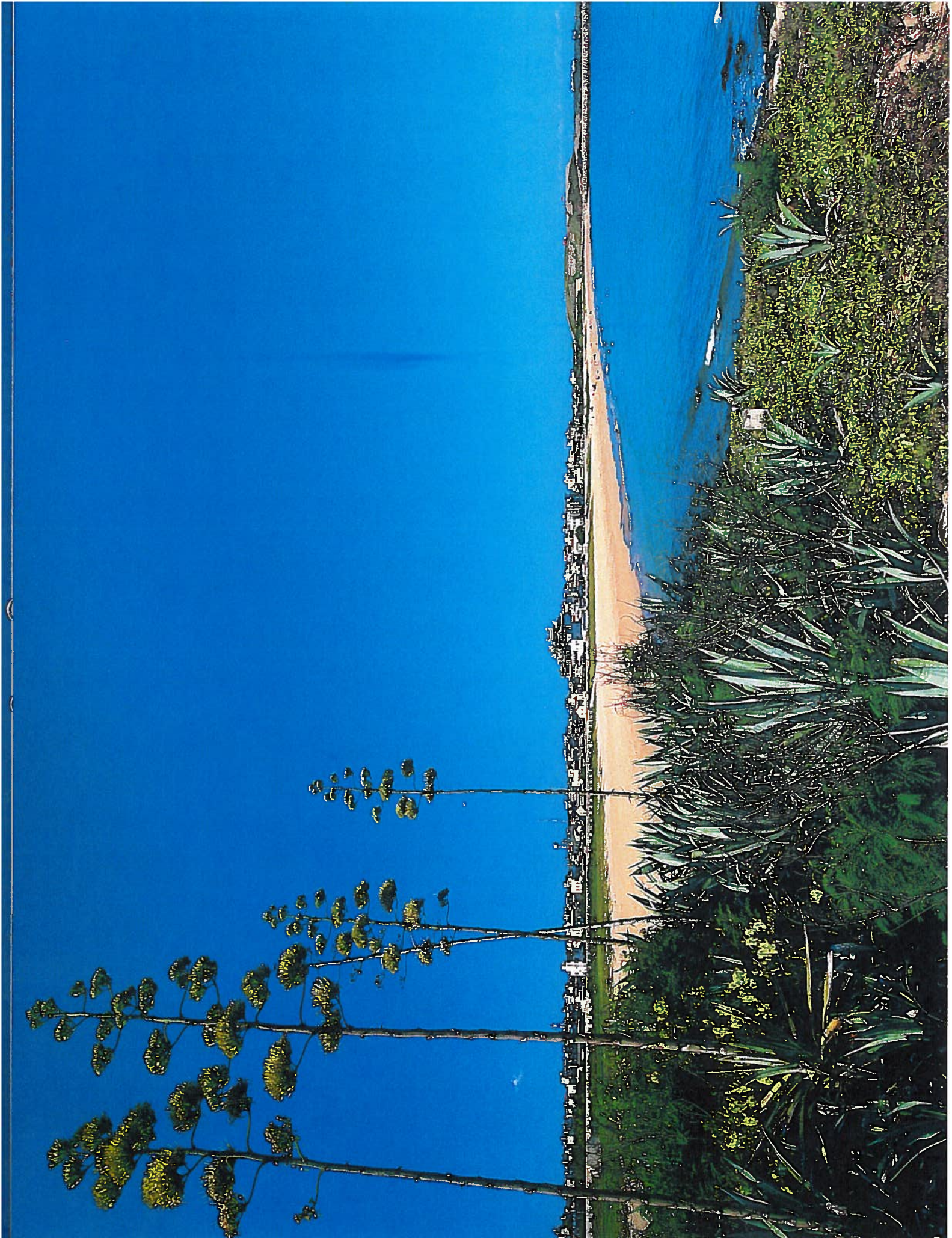
吉貝沙嘴 Jibei Sand Beach

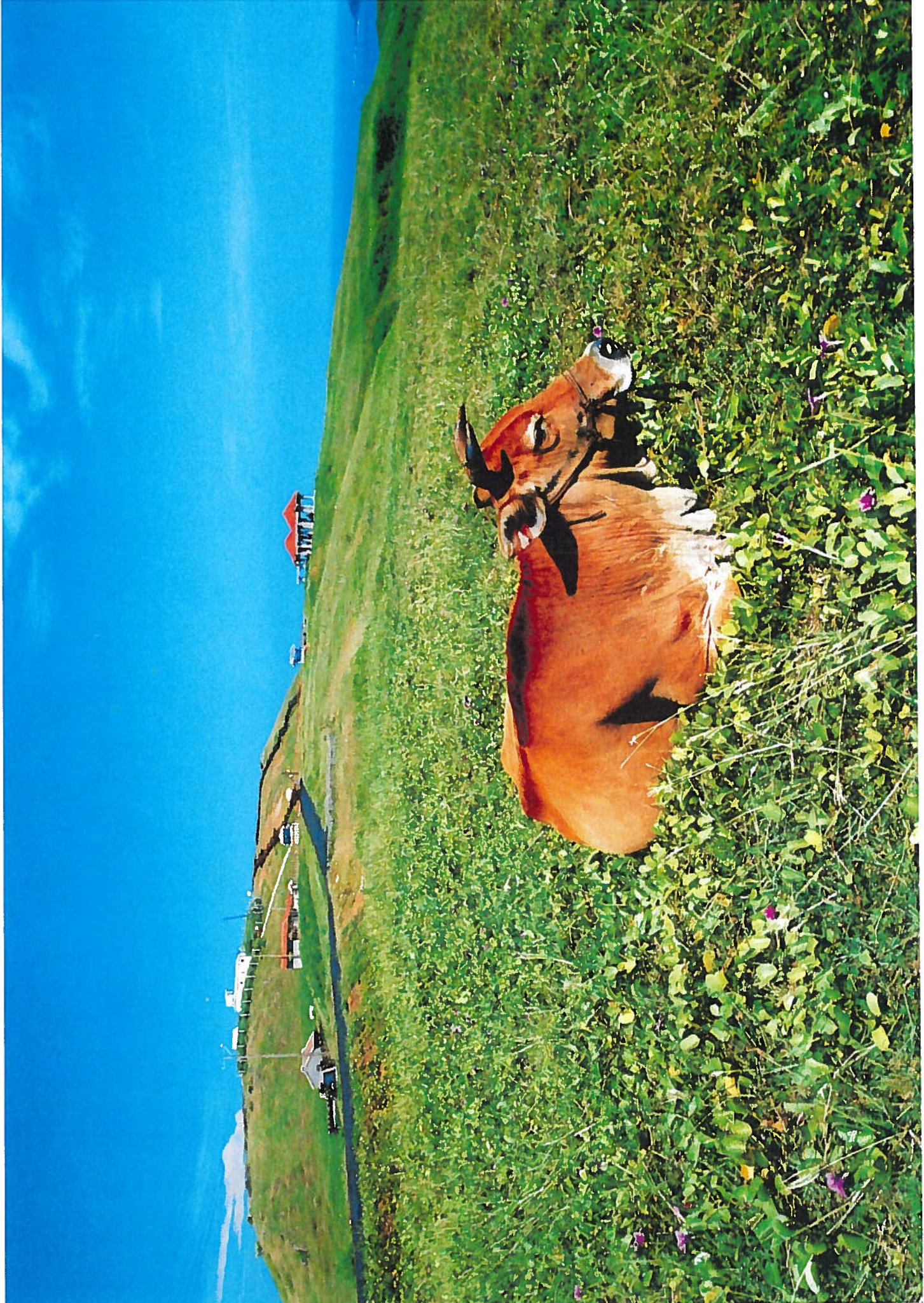
吉貝的沙嘴是摘不下的一枚彎月
沙灘纖形幻變，因為對於風的致感

讀著貝殼，讀著珊瑚
也讀著石礁聽過的透明海水
讀成了一個彎彎的擁抱

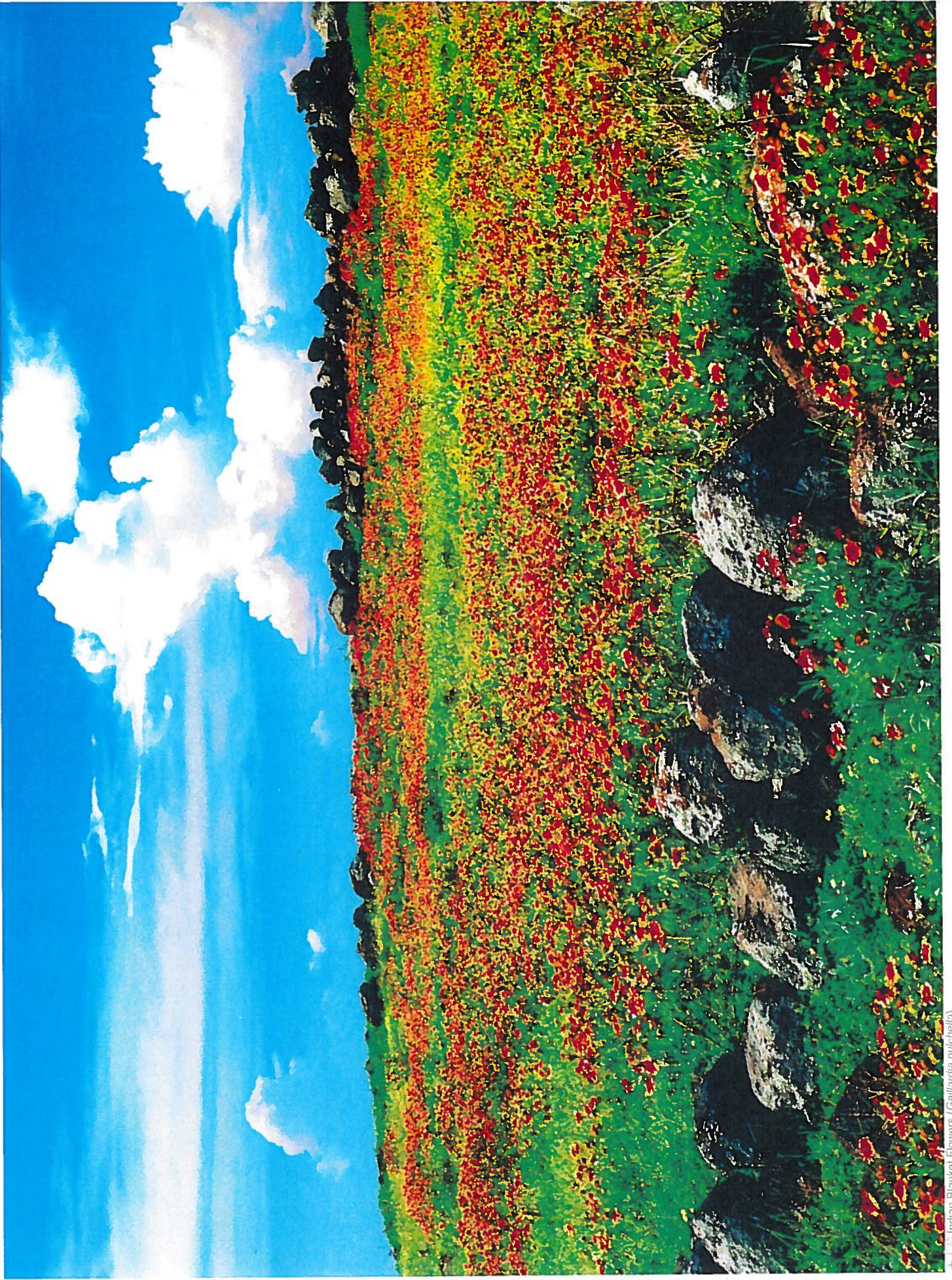
Jibei Sand Beach Beak, a crescent you cannot pluck
Sensitively dancing to the wind, the fine beach magically changes form

Reading shells, reading corals
Reading transparent sea filtered by stone weirs
Ocean hugged by the bay

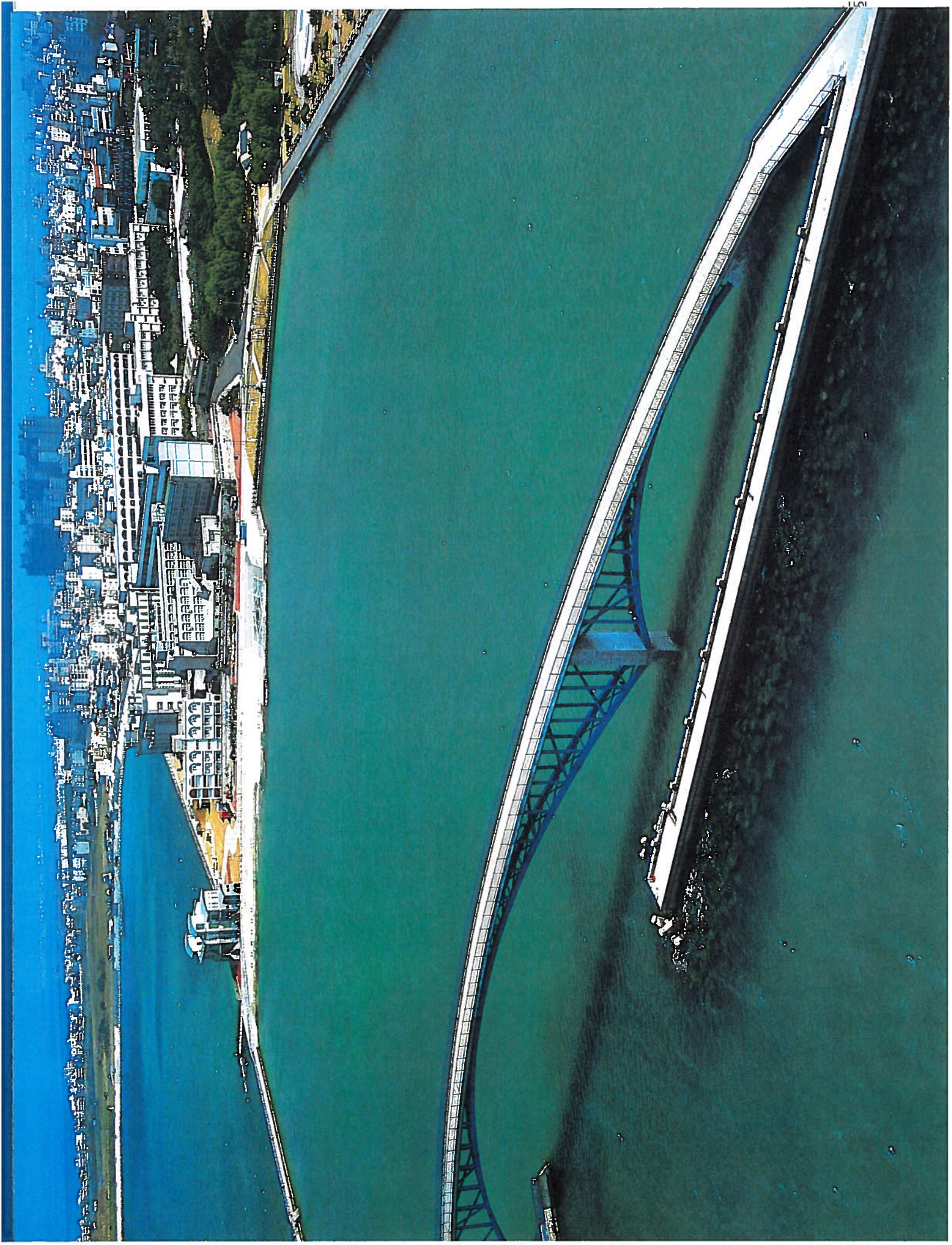


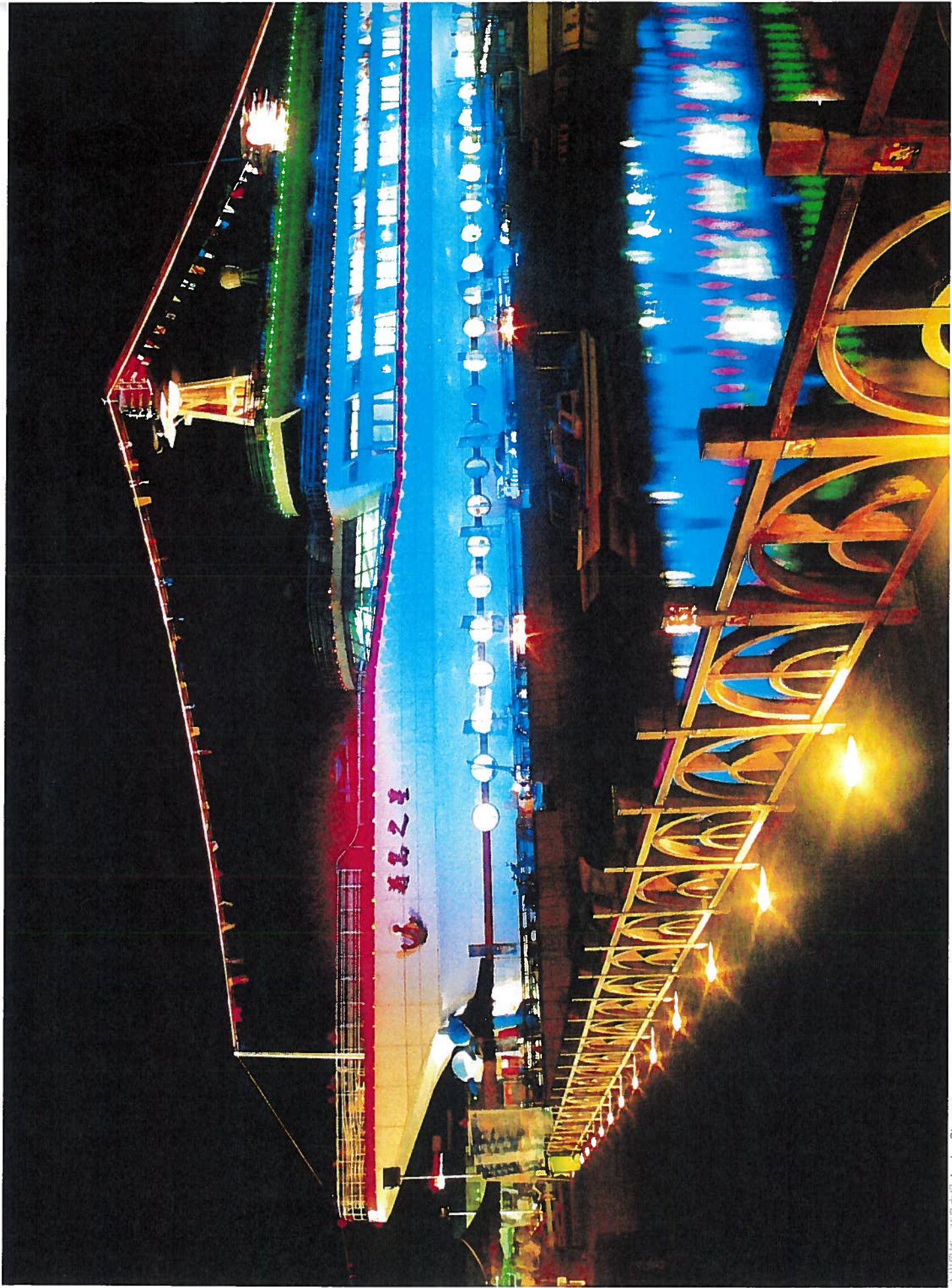


蒙古大草原 天竺山 在 王蒙



夫人花 Indian Blanket Flowers (*Gaillardia pinnatifida*)





水清風靜一奇島之星 Jyudao Star