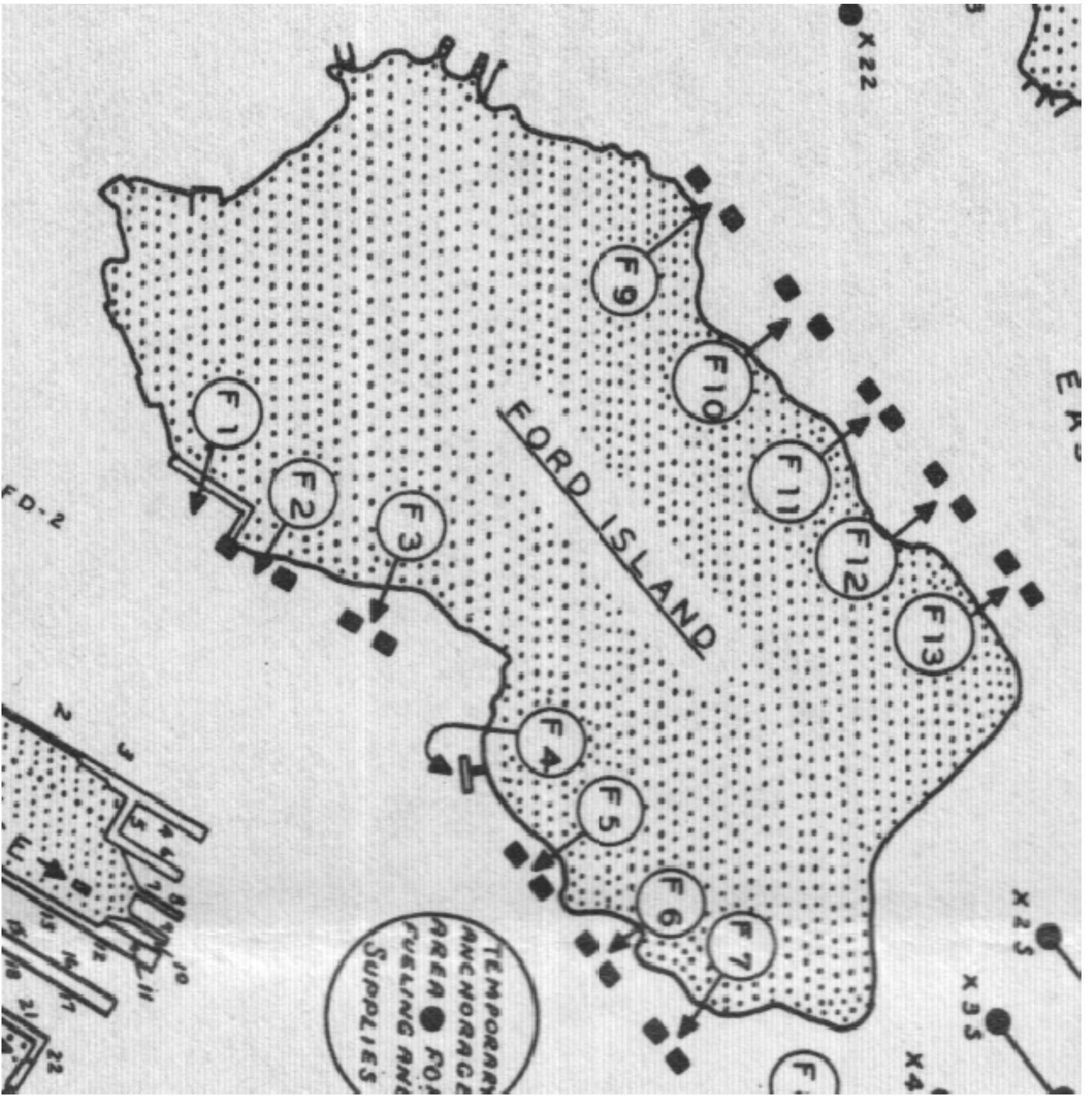


Contributed by Tracy White

Extracts from Kitty Hawk War Diary

APRIL 1, 1942: U.S.S. KITTY HAWK (APV1), operating under The Commander, Service Force, Pacific Fleet. Verbal orders of the Commandant, 14th Naval District, berthed Fox One, Pearl Harbor, T.H. Discharged cargo at berth Fox One until 1130. At 1440 shifted berths to "B22", Pearl Harbor, T.H., and continued discharging cargo.



FIRST VOYAGE

The KITTY HAWK began her work in the Pacific by joining a convoy bound for Pearl Harbor on February 8, 1942. Numerous enemy submarines had been reported to be operating off the West Coast, so this convoy was under heavy escort. At 2319 on the 13th of February lookouts reported seeing the wakes of two torpedos, one that crossed forward of the KITTY HAWK's bow and one that crossed aft of the stern. The one that crossed the bow, port to starboard, was sighted by an experienced man and the fact was entered in the ship's log. The escorts layed down an embarrassing barrage but no further contact was made.

At Pearl Harbor the KITTY HAWK moored to the Army Dock at battered Hickam Field. Upon completion of the discharging of the cargo, the ship got underway in convoy for San Francisco. From San Francisco, the KITTY HAWK went to San Diego and then again to Pearl Harbor where on March 30 she moored at Berth F-1 Ford Island, Pearl Harbor.

The KITTY HAWK began operating under the Commander Service Forces, Pacific Fleet on April 1, 1942. Under this command the KITTY HAWK again made the trip to San Francisco, San Diego and returned to Pearl Harbor. On the trip from San Diego to Pearl, the KITTY HAWK joined a convoy of 14 other ships with the U.S.S. ST. LOUIS as Escort Commander.