

Documents reviewed by CWO4 Raymond D. Kester, USN (RET); Data Sources:

01 JAN 1937—04 May 1942: Extracts from U. S. S. Marblehead (CL-12) Deck Log located in NARA Washington, DC

01 Sep 1941—28 Nov 1945 Extracts from Ports of Call (Ship Movement Reports located in Naval History Archives)

Annotation: keyed for personal recollection by Raymond D. Kester RM2 & RM1 aboard Marby: 25 Nov 1940—17 July 1942

ARRIVE	LOCATION	DEPART	REMARKS
01 Jan 1937	San Diego area	5 Jan	Gunnery operations San Clemente
6 Jan	San Pedro	7 Jan	Vestal availability
8 Jan	San Francisco	15 Jan	
16 Jan	San Diego area		Gunnery operations San Clemente
01 Mar	Pearl Harbor		
12 June	San Diego		
25 June	San Francisco	9 July	
10 July	Tacoma	15 July	Trenton, Memphis & Richmond (CruDiv 4)
16 July	Portland	29 July	Fleet week. (Indianapolis, Tuscaloosa, Quincy) & (CruDiv 4) Full power run – 32 Kts. (KE visited)
31 July	San Francisco	1 Aug	World Exposition (Treasure Island)
01 Aug	Oakland	10 Aug	Pier side for San Francisco World Exposition. 1600 visitors 8/5
14 Aug	San Diego	29 Aug	Pat Kimbley from Trenton 8/27
5 Sept	Pearl Harbor	11 Sep	Escort Chaumont to Shanghai
19 Sept	Woosung China		
20 Sept	Tsingtao		
4 Oct	Chefoo		Station Ship
5 Oct	Tsingtao		
10 Dec	Shanghai		
21 Oct	Tsingtao		
16 Jan 1938	Chefoo		
11 Feb	Hong Kong		
18 Feb	Manila		
23 Mar	Coron Straits		
25 Mar	Malampaya Sound		
26 Mar	Jolo		
28 Mar	Tawi Tawi		
21 Mar	Zamboanga		
17 April	Manila area/ops	12 May	
18 May	Hong Kong		

23 May	Amoy		
11 June	Shanghai		
21 June	Tsingtao		
24 June	Shanghai		
13 July	Chinwangtao		
15 July	Chefoo		
6 Aug	Tsingtao		
11 Aug	Yokohoma		
21 Aug	Tsingtao		
23 Aug	Chefoo		
24 Aug	Chinwangtao		
27 Aug	Shanghai		
1 Sept	Chinwangtao		
3 Sept	Tsingtao		
19 Sept	Shanghai		
30 Sept	Cavite	Navy yard availability	
17 Nov	Manila area		
27 Feb 1939	Manila area	Operations with Augusta	
2 Mar	Singapore		
6 Mar	Penang		
10 Mar	Rangoon		
21 Mar	Tanjong Oeban NEI		
23 Mar	Bangkok		
3 April	Saigon		
9 Apr	Hong Kong		
14 Apr	Shanghai		
10 May	Tsingtao		
17 May	Amoy		
29 May	Shanghai		
3 June	Chinwangtao		
17 June	Tsingtao		
30 June	Tsingtao	2 July	Operations
24 Aug	Shanghai		
3 Sept	Chinwangtao		
4 Sept	Tsingtao		
5 Sept	Shanghai		

8 Oct	Amoy		
10 Oct	Manila		
18 Oct	Bantangas PI		
19 Oct	Looe		
20 Oct	Depitan		
21 Oct	Palloc Harbor		
4 Nov	Davao		
6 Nov	Palloc Harbor		
13 Nov	Cavite Navy Yard		
25 Nov	Manila		
1 Dec	Shanghai	20 Jan 1940	
1 Feb 1940	Manila	3 Mar	
4 Mar	Cavite Navy Yard	14 April	
17 Apr	Manila area	12 May	Operations
18 May	Hong Kong		
23 May	Amoy		
11 June	Shanghai		
29 June	Tsingtao	1 July	
3 Sept	Shanghai	7 Sept	
8 Sept	Tsingtao		
30 Sept	Manila	10 Nov	
07 Nov	Manila		James, Evans to Augusta.
11 Nov	Olongapo Dry Dock	17 Nov	Strickland departs
22 Nov	Olongapo		Grantham, Nelson, Owens from Augusta. Pozgai, Marrow to Chaumont. McCully aboard.
25 Nov	Olongapo		Kester, Harman, Sherrer, Sweeny from Houston
1 Dec	Olongapo anchorage	8 Dec	
8 Dec	Operations	15 Dec	
16 Dec	Cavite	5 Jan 1941	Navy Yard availability
6 Jan 1941	Manila area OPS	19 Jan	
30 Jan	Enroute Guam		
4 Feb	Guam	7 Feb	Concord CCD3. Joyner aboard (Escorted Chaumont)
	Enroute Manila		
9 Feb	Manila	10 Feb	Cumming, Jennings, Douglas xfd to Chaumont
10 Feb	Operations	16 Feb	
17 Feb	Manila	9 Mar	Trenton escorts Chaumont to Guam
12 Mar	Cavite	31 Mar	Navy Yard. Pan Am China Clipper landed

1 Apr	Manila	21 Apr	Cleared NYD 4/14. Rodgers & Schmidt to Houston
25 Apr	Dry Dock Miraveles		
23 Apr	Iloilo Cebu	25 Apr	
26 Apr	TuTu Bay, Jolo	2 May	
2 May	Jolo	5 May	
5 May	TuTu Bay	10 May	
12 May	Manila area	15 May	
17 May	Tawi Tawi	23 May	
26 May	Manila	6 July	
10 July	Manila area	12 July	
13 July	Puerto Bincoca	14 July	
17 July	Tawi Tawi	8 Aug	
9 Aug	TuTu Bay		
21 Sept	Cavite & Manila Area		CTF 5 operations.
	Dry dock Miraveles	25 Nov	
27 Nov	Jolo	29 Nov	Darken ship
29 Nov	Tarakan, N Borneo	8 Dec	0328 Rcvd war msg:
9 Dec	Balik Papan, NEI	11 Dec	Escort Langley, Trinity, Pecos. Misc eqpt to Harbor Mstr. Crane alongside
	118-26-00E		Crossed equator (first of several)
	Strip Ship		REL Nelson/Ke repaired RDF & xmtr in & provided press to S.S. Pres. Madison.
11 Dec	Anchored roads		EX WPL 4 Japan, Germany & Italy.
14 Dec	Balik Papan fuel dock	16 Dec	McDonald to Houston. CTF 5.2.
18 Dec	Makassar, Celebes	22 Dec	Anchored Makassar Rds Celebes. Re-supply from Gold Star
24 Dec	Surabaya, Java.	27 Dec	Escorted convoy. Moored Holland Pier. (NYD learning. Met Carnes & Smitty in Oranje Hotel)
30 Dec	Flores Sea		Escort Marechal Joffre
2 Jan 1942	Port Darwin	8 Jan	Escort troop ship. Radio Darwin (GM & KE first operators.
10 Jan	Koepang, Timor	11 Jan	
	Alor Straits		R/V Boise.
13 Jan	Saleh Bay Soembawa Island	16Jan	.
	Enroute Kema, Celebes raid	17 Jan	KE copied msg. Raid aborted—poor com. Marby: low pressure turbine problem.
20 Jan	Waworada Bay	21 Jan	Depart for Surabaya. Covered DesDiv 59 retirement from 24 Jan Balikpapan raid.
25 Jan	Surabaya	30 Jan	Moored Navy Yard pier
1 Feb	Bunder Roads	4 Feb	Proceed to Madura Straits. R/V Dutch ships.
4 Feb	7, 23–30S; 115,46–30E	4 Feb	Flores Sea: 3 bombs; 2 hits, 1 near miss. Damage. 6 KIA (2 later), 3 W; 30 burns & 40 minor burns.
	Lombok Straits to Tjilatjap		Situation serious-doubtful. Relocated pump: gaining slowly.
6 Feb	Tjilatjap, Java		Paden, Bell, Chariton records to Tulsa. Grantham, Capper, Pawelczak, Carmichael to WestPac.

7 Feb	Tjiltatjap	13 Feb	12 funerals. Ship patched. Ke repair cables, batteries; Woodrell antennas. HMS Birmingham again
21 Feb	Trincomlee, Ceylon	2 Mar	Sighted German Q boat during rain squall
15 Mar	Durban, S.A.	17 Mar	Routine compartment check. Two killed by Methane gas. Van Bergen zapped in rescue.
18 Mar	Port Elizabeth	22 Mar	Aschenbrenner & Wardinski funeral in Port Elizabeth.
24 Mar	Simonstown	15 Apr	9,243 miles from Lombok Straits. Radio contact with NPO & passed to NSS. (NPO closed next day)
23 Apr	Recife	25 Apr	7,768 miles from Simonstown. Lited rudder control. Visited Milwaukee (Phelps & old home)
4 May 42	New York		Arrival territorial waters. Searched channel 1200Z 5/4/42. McGuirk, KE & Owens RDF oprs.
	New York		3,578 miles from Recife. Navy yard Brooklyn for overhaul
	New York	15 Oct 1942	Depart 1000Z
16 Oct	At sea		1500Z: 200 miles north of Bermuda
18 Oct	St. Croix	28 Oct 42	1200Z: BELKNAP escort CTF23
29 Oct	Trinidad		1800Z: Report to CTF23 for duty
30 Oct	Trinidad	1 Nov 42	Ready to depart
	East of 50-00N	1 Nov 42	1300Z: Escort S & W convoy w/Omaha, Jouett, Davis (CTF23)
18 Nov	Recife		First Daylight posit: Leave convoy Patrol along equator to Long. Of Ascension; return Recife
	Off Recife	23 Nov 42	1200Z: with Omaha, Jouett, Blockade runner patrol.
	04-03N; 19-56W		
30 Nov	Recife	7 Dec	1100Z
9 Dec	Patrol		Between 00-35S, 27-45W and 01-35S, 23-10W with Winslow
14 Dec	Patrol		Between 4S, 18W and 6S, 23W: Search for lost plane
21 Dec	Recife	28 Dec	TG 23.5. Depart 1100Z
1943	Patrol	6 Jan 43	Depart 1500Z. 0 to 5S, 18 to 25W.
9 Jan	Bahia	13 Jan	Depart 1500Z TU 23.1.4 with Winslow
	40S, 44W		At 12.5 knots
25 Jan	Pernambuco	26 Jan	Depart 1500Z TU 23.1.4 with Davis
	32S, 18W		Ocean patrol
6 Feb	Bahia	8 Feb	TU 23.1.4
21 Feb	Recife	22 Feb	Arrive 1500Z, depart 1900Z TU 23.1.5 with Memphis
28 Feb	Montevideo	4 Mar	With Memphis, Davis
	20S, 20W		R/V with Davis
17 Mar	Rio De Janeiro	25 Mar	TG 41.4
1 Apr	15S, 20W		Arrive 1100Z. Patrol
6 Apr	Bahia	7 Apr	Arrive 1300Z, depart 2000Z. TG 41.4 Patrol
19 Apr	Recife	22 Apr	Arrive 1130Z, depart 2000Z. TG 41.4 with Davis. Patrol

3 May	Bahia	5 May	Depart 1500Z. TG 41.4
9 May		9 May	Search for B-26 Bomber crew; 1453 Gamache reported 4 men on rubber raft – rescued.
14 May	Recife	17 May	Arrive 1130Z, depart 1600Z TG 41.4 Patrol
27 May	Recife	31 May	Arrive 1230Z, depart 2000Z TG 41.4 with Moffett
5 June	Ascension	5 June	
6 June	10-00S, 20-00W	6 June	R/V Milwaukee
9 June	Recife	11 June	Arrive 1900Z, depart 1100Z with Moffett
12 June	Bahia	16 June	TG 41.4 Patrol
29 June	Recife	5 July	Arrive 1200Z, depart 1915Z TG41.1 patrol
17 July	Bahia	21 July	Patrol
2 Aug	Recife	14 Aug	Arrive 1200Z, depart 1700Z TG 41.1 patrol
25 Aug	Recife	28 Aug	Arrive 1200Z, depart 1700Z patrol
5 Sept	Miami	23 Sept	
24 Sept	St. Thomas	25 Sept	(Dates are doubtful)
2 Oct	Recife	4 Oct	
5 Oct	Bahia	7 Oct	TG 41.4 Ocean patrol
28 Oct	Bahia	3 Nov	Patrol
16 Nov	Recife	21 Nov	TG 41.4 Patrol area. Pick up German sub survivors on raft 31 days
4 Dec	Recife	6 Dec	Arrive 0900Z, depart 1200Z TG 41.4 patrol
16 Dec	Recife	18 Dec	Arrive 0900Z, depart 1200Z TG 41.4 patrol
24 Dec	Recife	27 Dec	Patrol
1944	Ascension Island	4 Jan 1944	Depart 2400Z TG 41.4
8 Jan 1944	07°45'S, 33		rescued 72 survivors of sunken German blockade runner <i>Rio Grande</i> ,
9 Jan 1944	Recife	15 Jan	TG 41.4 patrol
22 Jan	08S, 30W		R/V Pennewill & assume escort BRITISH DESTINY
26 Jan	Ascension	27 Jan	
30 Jan	Bahia	4 Feb	Arrive 1700Z, depart 1400Z TG 41.4
9 Feb	Rio De Janeiro	9 Feb	Refuel
13 Feb			Cross equator, 1325
16 Feb	Trinidad	17 Feb	
20 Feb	Bayonne NJ	27 Feb	Availability. TU-9, TF 69. Underway 0656 with convoy to Europe
8 Mar	Belfast Ireland	15 Mar	Underway with convoy
	New York	14 Mar	TU-9
25 Mar	New York,		Detached from TF 69. Brooklyn Navy Yard, remove torpedo tubes
6 May			Leave NYD. Cassella to V-12. Lots of stragglers.
	New York	8 May	Degaused. Anchored Graves End Bay, Coney Island. Post repair trials

8 May	New York	9 May	Night firing
10 May	New York	12 May	TG 21.2
23 May	Belfast Ireland	6 June	Detached TG 21
11 June	Boston	28 June	Dry Dock Depart 2100Z. Complete O.H. avail. Training. as needed
29 June	New York, Pier 88	2 July	Ready ext. duty. TG 21.9, TCU-30. Convoy
12 July	U. K. Belfast	16 July	
17 July	Plymouth England	18 July	Depart 0730Z. TG 120.9
24 July	Gibraltar		
25 July	Oran	28 July	Report COMNAVNAW for duty.8 th Flt. With Quincy to break off point.
29 July	Palermo	13 Aug	Anchored & dockside
15 Aug	Off Saint Raphael France	17 Aug	UNTF OpPlan 4-44 with Brooklyn & Omaha (Operation Anvil). 157 rounds
18 Aug	Ajaccio Corsica	27 Aug	Anchored
28 Aug	Naples	28 Aug	
29 Aug	Polermo	30 Aug	
31 Aug	Oran	1 Sept	For fuel and provisions then report CINCLANT. REQUEST ROUTE
6 Sept	Crossed Equator		Initiation ceremonies
10 Sept	Bahia	20 Sept	With Omaha
20 Sept	Off Bahia		R/V with DE-100 and become TG 41.1
23 Sept	13-50N, 36-35W		1000Z, join & augment TG 41.5 further orders later
27 Sept	Off Recife	27 Sept	
2 Oct	Rio De Janeiro	8 Oct	Arrive 1600Z, depart 1100Z . TG 41.1
9 Oct	Recife	11 Oct	Arrive 1100Z, depart 1500Z. TG 41.1 Training. Proceed to Rio for rudder repairs.
15 Oct	Rio De Janeiro		TG 41.4 Patrol
17 Oct	Dry Dock, Rio	14 Nov	
17 Nov			TG 41.4 patrol. Challenged Argentinian vessel, boarding party boarded, OK
25 Nov	Santos	26 Nov	
27 Nov	Rio De Janeiro	3 Dec	TG 41.4 Patrol
7 Dec			Man overboard Peterson, E.W. lost
15 Dec	Bahia	21 Dec	Arrive 1200Z, depart 1100Z. Granted availability until 1200Z 21 Dec
	13S, 37N		Exercises with TG 41.3
24 Dec 44	Bahia	2 Jan 1945	Eight day availability. TG 41.4 patrol
4 Jan 45	Rio De Janeiro	6 Jan	TG 41.4 , CTU 41.3 patrol
14 Jan	Rio De Janeiro	8 Feb	Arrive 1900Z, depart 1000Z. TG 41. Escort Gen Meigs. Capt Colloney in command
9 Feb	17-48S, 37-07W		Micka & Straub will relieve. Escort Brazilian Troop ship
10 Feb	Recife	11 Feb	TG 41.4 CTG 41.4
12 Feb	07-30S, 33-30W		TG 41.4 will later relieve DE's. B-29 SOS

19 Feb	Gibraltar	20 Feb	Depart 1300Z.
27 Feb			Severe storm, several injured
28 Feb	New Jersey dock	2 Mar	Arrived 1430Z. Off load ammo. Depart 0230Z. CTU 27.1 with Simpson
2 Mar	Brooklyn Navy Yard	1 May	Sea Trials 4/23-4/26, Ammo Depart NJ 4/26 – 4/28. Oyster Bay ops
2 May	Hampton Roads	28 May	Arrive 1530Z, depart 1130Z to operate between 38-45/39-00N & 73-05/73-50N
31 May	NOB Norfolk	7 June	TG 23.21 CTF 23
8 June	Newport	11 June	Arrive 1500Z, depart 1200Z. TG 23.21 CTF 23
	Hampton Roads?		Report CTG 23.21 – CTF 23
13 June	Guantanamo	18 June	Arrive 2000Z, depart 1200Z
21 June	Hampton Roads	1 July	Arrive 2100Z, depart 1015Z. TG 23.21
1 July	Annapolis	7 July	Arrive 2000Z, depart 1900Z. TG 23.21 Midshipman Training
14 July	Guantanamo	18 July	Arrive 2000Z, depart 2000Z. CTG 23.21
19 July	Gonaives	22 July	Arrive 1000Z, depart 2300Z. Exercising until 22 nd with CTG 23.21
20 July	San Juan	26 July	Arrive 1100Z, depart 1200Z
26 July	Culebra	26 July	Arrive 1630Z, depart 2100Z.
	South drill grounds	5 Aug	CTG 23.21
6 Aug	New York	11 Aug	Arrive 1130Z, depart 1700Z. CTG 23.21
16 Aug	Annapolis	18 Aug	Arrive 1330Z, depart 1400Z TG 23.21
18 Aug	Lynnhaven Roads	19 Aug	Depart 1000Z
23 Aug	Guantanamo		
	Gonaives	1 Sept	Depart 0700Z
1 Sept	Port Au Prince		
3 Sept	Off Cape Dame Marie		Arrive 1200Z, with Sampson & Savannah
4 Sept	Ponce, P.R.		
	Culebra	9 Sept	Depart 1830Z
	Guantanamo	13 Sept	Depart 1900Z. TG 23.21
16 Sept	New York	22 Sept	Arrive 1400Z, depart 2000Z. CTG 23.21
27 Sept	Annapolis	29 Sept	Arrive 2000Z, depart 1300Z
29 Sept	Philadelphia		Arrive 1900Z
1 Nov	Philadelphia		Decommissioned
28 Nov	Philadelphia		Stricken
27 Feb 1946	Philadelphia	.	Her hulk was scrapped

Brief History of U.S.S. Marblehead (CL 12)

Displacement: 7,050 t. Speed: 34 k.

Length: 555'6" Complement: 458

Beam: 55'4" Armament: 12 6"; 4 3"; 10 21" torpedo tubes

Draft: 13'6" Class: OMAHA

The third **Marblehead** (CL-12) was laid down 4 August 1920 by William Cramp & Son, Philadelphia, Pa.; launched 9 October 1923, sponsored by Mrs. Joseph Evans; and commissioned 8 September 1924, Capt. Chauncey Shackford in command.

After commissioning, the scout cruiser **Marblehead** departed Boston for shakedown in the English Channel and Mediterranean. In 1925, she visited Australia, stopping enroute in the Samoan and Society Islands and, on her return, in the Galapagos. A year after her return, **Marblehead** was underway again on an extended voyage. Early in 1927, she cruised off Bluefields and Bragman's Bluffs, Nicaragua, her mission there to aid American efforts to bring together and reconcile the various political factions then fighting in that country. With one exception, Sandino, faction leaders agreed to the terms of the Peace of Tipitapa, 4 May 1927, and the United States was requested to supervise elections in 1928.

Marblehead next sailed for Pearl Harbor, where she joined **Richmond** (CL-9) and **Trenton** (CL-11) and headed for Shanghai, China. Upon arrival there she contributed to the show of force aimed at the protection of American and other foreign nationals of Shanghai's international settlement during operations against that city through the summer of 1927 in China's civil war.

In addition to her stay at Shanghai, **Marblehead** spent 2 months up the Yangtze River at Hankow, and visited several Japanese ports before leaving the Far East in March 1928.

En route home the cruiser stopped at Corinto, Nicaragua, to assist in the preparations for elections under the Peace of Tipitapa, delaying her return to Boston until August.

During the next decade, **Marblehead** operated with both the Atlantic (August 1928 to January 1933) and Pacific (February 1933 to January 1938) Fleets. In January 1938, she was temporarily assigned to the Asiatic Fleet, receiving permanent assignment there 7 months later. Home ported at Cavite, Philippine Islands, she cruised the Sea of Japan and the South and East China seas as tension, political and military, rapidly increased in the Far East.

"About 24 November 1941," her war diary reported "the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Asiatic Fleet sensed that the relations between the United States and Japan had reached such a critical state that movement of men-of war . . . was indicated." The next day, **Marblehead** , with TF 5, departed Manila Bay for seemingly "routine weekly operations." She anchored at Tarakan, Borneo, 29 November and waited for further instructions. On 8 December (7 December in the

United States) she received the message "Japan started hostilities; govern yourselves accordingly."

Marblehead and other American warships then joined with those of the Royal Netherlands Navy and the Royal Australian Navy to patrol the waters surrounding the Netherlands East Indies and to screen Allied shipping moving south from the Philippines. On the night of 24 January 1942, **Marblehead** covered the withdrawal of a force of Dutch and American warships after they had attacked, with devastating effect, an enemy convoy off Balikpapan. Six days later, in an attempt to repeat this success, the force departed Surabaya,

Java, to intercept an enemy convoy concentration at Kendari. The Japanese convoy, however, sailed soon after, and the Allied force changed course, anchoring in Bunda Roads 2 February. On the 4th, the ships steamed out of Bunda Roads and headed for another Japanese convoy sighted at the southern entrance to the Makassar Straits. At 0949, 36 enemy bombers were sighted closing in on the formation from the east.

Marblehead successfully maneuvered through three attacks. After the third, an enemy plane spiraled toward the cruiser, but her gunners splashed it. The next minute a fourth wave of seven bombers released bombs at **Marblehead** . Two were direct hits and a third a near miss close aboard the port bow causing severe underwater damage. Fires swept the ship as she listed to starboard and began to settle by the bow. Her rudder jammed, **Marblehead** , continuing to steam at full speed, circled to port. Her gunners kept firing, while damage control crews fought the fires and helped the wounded. By 1100 the fires were under control. Before noon the enemy planes departed, leaving the damaged cruiser with 15 dead or mortally wounded and 34 seriously injured.

Marblehead's engineers soon released the rudder angle to 9 degrees left, and at 1255, she retired to Tjilatjap, steering by working the engines at varying speeds. She made Tjilatjap with a forward draft at 30 feet, aft 22 feet. Unable to be docked there, her worst leaks were repaired and she put to sea again on the 13th, beginning a voyage of more than 9,000 miles in search of complete repairs.

Still steering with her engines, she made Trincomalee, Ceylon, on the 21st. Repairs could not be made there or anywhere in India for several weeks. So **Marblehead** departed for South Africa 2 March. After touching at Durban and Port Elizabeth, **Marblehead** arrived at Simonstown 24 March. There she underwent extensive repairs and on 15 April sailed for New York. Steaming via Recife, Brazil, she arrived New York 4 May and immediately entered drydock at the navy yard.

On 15 October 1942, the rebuilt **Marblehead** again put to sea. Attached to the South Atlantic Force, she operated against the enemy in the South Atlantic from Recife and Bahia, Brazil, until February 1944. Returning to New York 20 February, she operated along the convoy lanes of the North Atlantic for the next 5 months. She then sailed for the Mediterranean. Arriving at Palermo 29 July, she joined the task force then staging for operation "Anvil," the invasion of southern France. On 15, 16, and 17 August, the cruiser bombarded enemy installations in the vicinity of Saint Raphael, where Allied assault troops were landing. On the 18th, she withdrew to Corsica, her mission complete.

Marblehead returned to the United States, conducted a summer training cruise for Naval Academy midshipmen and then entered the Philadelphia Naval Shipyard, where she decommissioned 1 November 1945. Her name was struck from the Navy Register 28 November 1945 and her hulk was scrapped 27 February 1946.

Marblehead received two battle stars for World War II service.