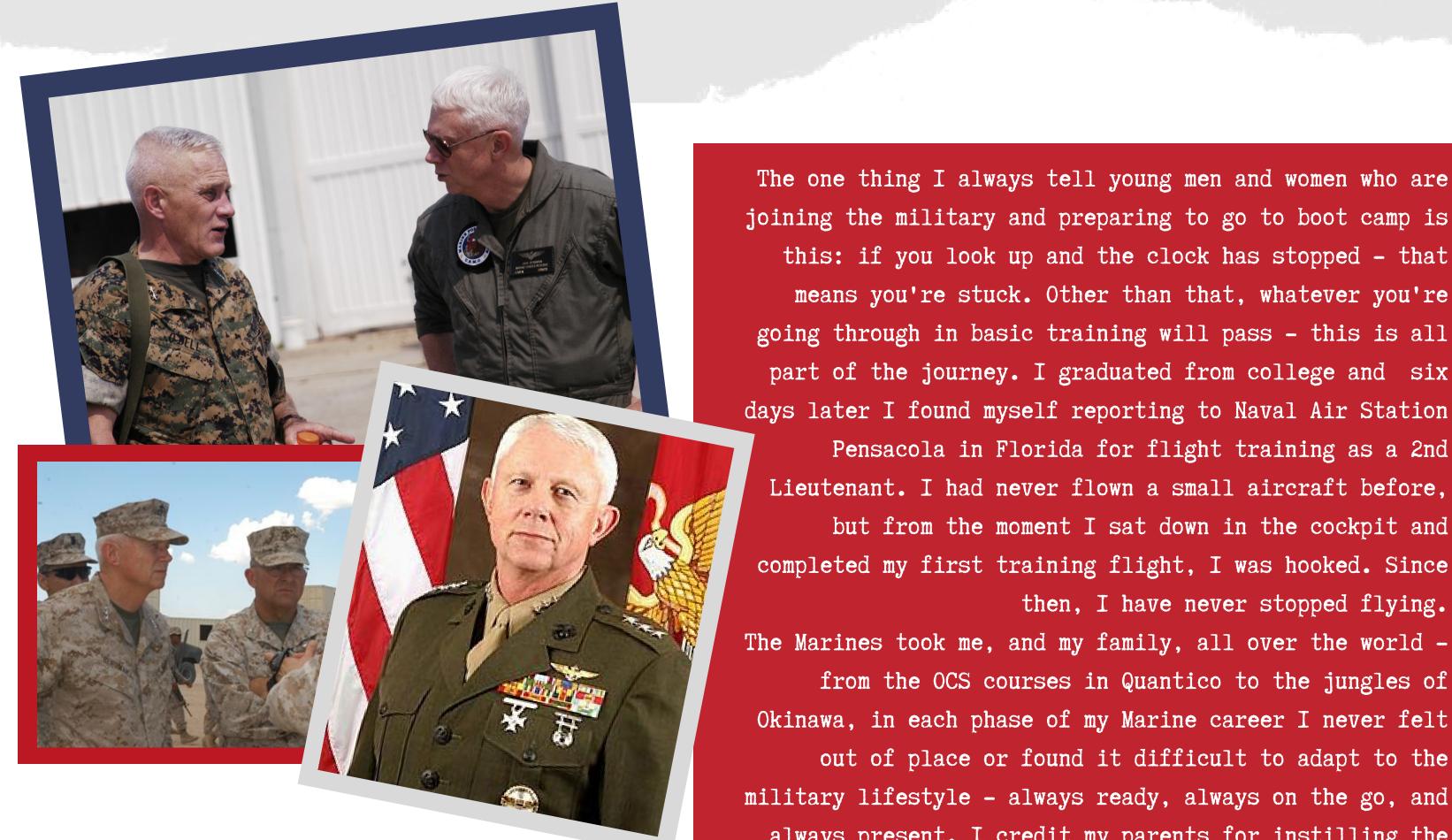
## The Veterans History Project

SPOTLIGHT: REP. JACK BERGMAN (MI-01)



BRANCH: U.S. MARINE CORPS

UNIT: MULTIPLE UNITS

RANK: THREE-STAR GENERAL

WAR: NUMEROUS COMBAT DEPLOYMENTS

YEARS OF SERVICE: 1969 - 2009

joining the military and preparing to go to boot camp is this: if you look up and the clock has stopped - that means you're stuck. Other than that, whatever you're going through in basic training will pass - this is all part of the journey. I graduated from college and six days later I found myself reporting to Naval Air Station Pensacola in Florida for flight training as a 2nd Lieutenant. I had never flown a small aircraft before, but from the moment I sat down in the cockpit and completed my first training flight, I was hooked. Since then, I have never stopped flying. The Marines took me, and my family, all over the world from the OCS courses in Quantico to the jungles of Okinawa, in each phase of my Marine career I never felt out of place or found it difficult to adapt to the military lifestyle - always ready, always on the go, and always present. I credit my parents for instilling the value of service over self in me from a young age. Because of this, I always felt the guiding hand of God at my side throughout my journey. As I reflect on my time as a Marine, outside of becoming a father and grandfather, having the unique opportunity to lead Marines in the fight has always been the proudest moment in my life.

## WATCH GENERAL BERGMAN'S FULL VHP INTERVIEW



