

The following is an extract from "The Monitor", a newspaper published by the American Military Base at Fort Bliss, Texas, U.S.A.

Former British liaison officer visits Fort Bliss.

From LT. COL. ERIC G. HAPPE, present British Liaison Officer

The first liaison officer appointment to be established by the United Kingdom was the one in Fort Bliss. The first one arrived here just after World War II in 1946, and the post has been filled continuously since that time.

The officer who filled the appointment from 1962 to 1964 was Lt. Col. Hugh Fairgrieve, who was accompanied by his wife Rona and their two sons Christopher and Peter. They also have a daughter, Rosemarie, who was born in the William Beaumont Army Medical Center during their time in El Paso. Sadly, Fairgrieve's wife died in the summer of 1998, and she did not, therefore, see their daughter married in the fall.

Fairgrieve recently paid a visit to El Paso where he took the opportunity of looking around Fort Bliss, escorted by the current British Liaison Officer, Lt. Col. Eric G Happe.

He was received by the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Post, Col. Ronald E Ouellette, who presented him with a memento for the commanding general. He was keen to visit WBAMC, where he was met by the Commander, Col. David B Crandall, and the Chief of the Department of Paediatrics, Col. Aileen Thong. Fairgrieve expressed his sincere thanks for the wonderful care that he and his family had received during his three years in El Paso, which included the safe delivery of his daughter.

After the visit, Happe took Fairgrieve for a tour of the grounds of the WBAMC including the site where the hospital previously stood before the new facility was opened in 1973.



Lt. Colonel Hugh Fairgrieve,
Colonel (Dr.) D.B. Grandall,
Medical Centre Commander,
and Colonel (Dr.) Aileen Thong,
Chief of Paediatrics,.

As many readers will know, Hugh Fairgrieve lives in Fifield, which village he represents on the Editorial Board of this magazine.