

May miss vestiture

Australia's premier man of magic, Mr Colin Palmer of Ter-rigal, better known in theatrical circles as Dexter the Magician, has been admitted to Prince Henry Hospital following a slight stroke.

He is at present undergoing a series of tests and it is not yet known if he will be able to make his planned trip to London next month for his vestiture by the Queen at Buckingham Palace as a Member of the British Empire, the honour he received earlier this year for his contributions to magic, to the community and to medical hypnosis.

Close friends said yesterday he was still hoping he would be able to make the trip for the investiture on October 31 but this will depend on the results of the tests.

Only recently, Mr Palmer was offered the opportunity to present a week of magic in Hollywood. Only he and the late David Nixon have been so honoured by the Magic Circle of London, of which he is a member.

Apart from his magic talents Mr Palmer is also a trained medical hypnotist and a social worker at Gosford District Hospital.



OPERATION SEAGULL

LEFT: A "patient" is placed into a waiting ambulance ready for transport to hospital, following the mock bus and petrol tanker disaster at Wyoming which concentrated 200 police and rescue personnel in Gosford for the exercise. A hospital tent (background right) was set up to take the "casualties" as they were removed from the overturned bus.

BELOW: "Injured" lay everywhere after the bus and petrol tanker "disaster" at Wyoming on Wednesday. Operation Seagull, as the exercise was called, was organised by NSW Police to test the ability of police and rescue units to effectively carry out a rescue operation involving 50 dead and injured people in a major disaster of the nature simulated.



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