SPEIDEL HERE-PAYS OWN WAY

By RONALD WALKER

UNWILLING star of a 160-strong international cast starting a two-week tour of Britain today is Herr Doktor Hans Speidel, military adviser to Dr. Adenauer,

the German Chancellor.

He arrived at London Airport last night. His only answer to questions was a smile.

The limelight focuses on Speidel following Wednesday's row in the Commons when M.P.s objected to Rommel's Chief of Staff being shown Britain's military secrets.

Speidel comes to Britain as the German representative on the European Defence Community whose European Defence Force will include a reborn German Army.

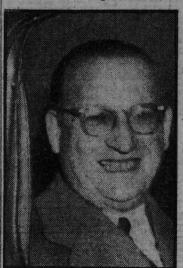


He has been invited here by the Ministry of Defence with the representatives of 18 other nations to inspect British military equipment. The 160 delegates come from the 14 NATO nations and the Commonwealth countries.

They will see much that is still secret, but the real purpose behind this arranged tour is big business.

The armies of Western Europe need equipment. What the Ministry of Defence has done, in effect, is to organise a series of shop windows and sales demonstrations of modern military equipment ranging from small arms to tanks. Britain is out for business.

But the sales drive is not being made regardless of expense. Delegates have to travel to London and stay here at their own expense. The British Government is paying only for transport and meals on the various visits planned.



Dr. HANS SPEIDEL
At London Airport last night

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