

Mylai Study To Remain Closed Book

The Army's investigation into the Mylai massacre in March of 1968 is not a public document, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled yesterday.

The decision blocks an attempt by U.S. Rep. Les Aspin (D-Wis.) to force the government to release the document, known as the "Peers Commission Report." Lt. Gen. William R. Peers had been in charge of the probe, requested by Army Chief of Staff William C. Westmoreland as an attempt to see if Army personnel had inadequately investigated or covered up the Mylai incident.

Fifteen persons — including Lt. William L. Calley — have been court-martialed as a result of the Peers Commission Report, according to yesterday's appeals court opinion. Therefore, the report is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act because it is an "investigatory file compiled for law enforcement purposes."