

2 IN CONGRESS ASK WAR PAPERS RULING

WASHINGTON, Dec. 3 (UPD)

— Lawyers for two Congressmen asked a Federal judge today to read four volumes of the Pentagon Papers that are still classified to determine whether they should be made public.

The request was opposed by Government lawyers who want the judge to rely on an affidavit describing the general nature of the documents.

The hearing stemmed from a suit filed June 23 by Representatives Ogden R. Reid, Republican of Westchester, and John E. Moss, Democrat of California, seeking to force declassification of the four volumes that the Department of Defence maintains should remain secret. The case is before District Court Judge Gerhard E. Gesell. He is expected to rule next week on today's plea.

In September, the Pentagon released all but about four volumes of a 47-volume study that documented the history of United States involvement in Indochina.

Mr. Reid and Mr. Moss are arguing for release of the papers under the Freedom of Information Act, which they say "expressly places the burden upon the Government to justify its withholding of information, and the Defense Department must be made to justify its action in this case to an impartial court."

The two Representatives said in a statement they did not believe "the Executive Branch has unbridled discretion to decide what shall be kept secret and what may be made public."