

$$\text{cov}(a^T \hat{\beta}, a^T \tilde{\beta})$$

$$= \text{cov}(a^T (M^T M)^{-1} M^T Y, a^T A Y)$$

$A = B$   
oops!

$$= E \left\{ a^T (M^T M)^{-1} M^T \begin{pmatrix} Y \\ Y \end{pmatrix}^T A^T a \right\}$$

$$= a^T (M^T M)^{-1} M^T \text{var}(Y) A^T a$$

$$= \sigma^2 (M^T M)^{-1} M^T A^T a = 0$$

because  
 $AM = 0$   
 $M^T A^T = 0$