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Two Defendants Left in Ray Libel Suit

All but two defendants in a libel suit filed by Jerry Ray, brother of convicted assassin James Earl Ray, have been dismissed by Chief U.S. Dist. Judge Bailey Brown.

Ray, in the suit filed Aug. 31, claims he was libeled by the author and publisher of the book, *The Making of an Assassin*. Ray sought \$750,000 from each defendant, which included Little, Brown & Co.; George McMillan, the author; W. Henry Haile, a former assistant state attorney

general; and author William Bradford Huie.

Also included as defendants were the Memphis FBI office and Missouri Department of Corrections, where James Earl Ray was imprisoned before Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was shot.

Brown yesterday ruled that only McMillan and the publisher may be held liable because the suit alleges that publication was done "with knowledge of or reckless disregard for the truth of the statements made."