

Probe Charge Of Sirhan Kin On Citizenship

PASADENA, (AP) — The American Civil Liberties Union says it is investigating a claim by Saidallah Sirhan, brother of the man charged with murdering Sen. Robert F. Kennedy, that his U.S. citizenship is being withheld.

Sirhan, 36, said he was scheduled to report to the Los Angeles Naturalization Board to be sworn in June 7. However, after the June 5 assassination, he said he was told not to appear.

U.S. IMMIGRATION officials said an investigation was pending, but they declined to elaborate.

In jail awaiting trial is Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, 24, charged with the fatal shooting of Kennedy in Los Angeles.

"The denial of citizenship solely because a member of one's family is charged with an offense, is patently the clearest violation of elemental rights," the ACLU's chief defense attorney for Southern California said yesterday.

A. L. Wirin, the lawyer, added: "It is the application of the doctrine of guilt by association in its ugliest form."

THE ATTORNEY said the case was being handled by Saidallah Sirhan's attorney, David Marcus of Los Angeles, but added that the ACLU would look into the matter and "take such action as may be appropriate."

Sirhan's family came to the United States from Jerusalem in 1957.