

WXPost
Suit Alleges
IRS Political
MAR 26 1975
Harassment

The New York Civil Liberties Union filed a class-action civil rights suit yesterday against the Internal Revenue Service on behalf of 11,000 individuals and organizations. The NYCLU charges they were subjected to special tax investigations "due to their political beliefs and activities."

The suit was brought in U.S. District Court here by Walter Teague III, an antiwar activist, and the Indochina Solidarity Committee, an antiwar organization.

A spokesman for the NYCLU called the suit the first court test of the legality of the "Special Service Staff," an IRS unit that collected information on political dissidents.

IRS Commissioner Donald C. Alexander has said he abolished the SSS in August, 1973. Alexander testified recently, "We need some sort of information-gathering system, but we don't need anything like our Special Service Staff."