

Canadian challenge to monarchy advances

by UPI

TORONTO - An Ontario appeals court has cleared the way for a man's challenge to Canada's citizenship oath of allegiance to the queen to be reviewed by the Supreme Court. Tuesday, a three-judge panel in Toronto denied the federal government's request to throw out the challenge brought by Charles Roach, a 74-year-old black Trinidad native who has lived in Canada for 53 years, but refuses to become a citizen, the National Post reported. Roach claims forcing black people to take an oath to Queen Elizabeth is akin to forcing Jews to take an oath to Hitler, because of the monarchy's past connection to slavery. His class action suit seeks damages of \$5,000 for every person who refused to take the oath or did so under duress, the newspaper said. His grievance is with the oath that says the immigrant will "be faithful to Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth the Second, Queen of Canada, her Heirs and Successors." In an Internet search, various Canadian conservative publications pointed out as a citizen of Trinidad, Roach is already considered to be a citizen of the British Commonwealth.

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