

Judge rules out Toronto travel for Black

by UPI

CHICAGO -- A U.S. District judge in Chicago quashed a request by convicted newspaper baron Conrad Black to leave the country for his Toronto home. Pending his Nov. 30 sentencing for fraud and obstruction of justice, Black was originally ordered to stay either in Chicago at his Ritz-Carlton hotel room or his \$35 million home in Palm Beach, Fla., the Chicago Sun-Times reported Thursday. Earlier this week, his Canadian lawyer Edward Greenspan petitioned U.S. District Judge Amy St. Eve to allow Black to return to Toronto while awaiting sentencing. Black put his Florida home and a New York Park Avenue penthouse up as collateral but prosecutors objected, the report said. They said all of Black's assets have been claimed by the government or others who have sued him and therefore aren't his to offer. While the judge said she didn't think Black was "a man to run away and hide," she denied the request, saying there was a possibility Black could use the Canadian legal system to launch a lengthy battle against extradition to Chicago, the newspaper said.

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