

White House Post for Kuchel Seen

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SACRAMENTO, Aug. 23—

Former Sen. Thomas H. Kuchel of California is apparently being considered for a high-level post in the Ford administration.

FBI agents were in the state capital here this week interviewing former associates of Kuchel. The character investigation is customary before an administration appointment.

Kuchel, 64, a member of the liberal wing of the Republican Party, served in the Senate from 1952 until 1968. He was appointed to the job by former Gov. Earl Warren to succeed Richard M. Nixon, who resigned in 1952 following his election to the vice presidency.

Kuchel lost his seat in the 1968 primary election when a wave of conservatism swept California. Former Superintendent of Instruction Max Rafferty defeated Kuchel in the primary election, but the seat was won in November by Democrat Alan Cranston.

Since then Kuchel has been a member of the law firm of Wyman, Bautzer, Rothman and Kuchel in Beverly Hills.