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Linkletter 'Refused Envoy Job'

Los Angeles

Television personality Art Linkletter has said in an interview here that he was offered the post of ambassador to Australia by President Nixon in 1969 but turned it down. give the 13,000 affected t s

Linkletter, a personal friend of the President, said he turned the offer down because he did not relish the social life of an ambassador or having to refer all decisions to Washington.

"I said that I didn't want to go over and sit around with a bunch of stuffy, pompous representative of other governments and go to receptions . . .

"And if by chance anything important came up for a decision (I would) have to call the State Department for what to say."

Linkletter, a major landholder in Australia, was quoted yesterday in the Los Angeles Free Press, a weekly underground newspaper.

Linkletter said he found it difficult to turn the President down but succeeded by convincing Mr. Nixon that his anti-drug crusade was more important.

Reuters