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MEDAL OF SCIENCE - LINUS PAULING

Question:

Can you tell us why President Nixon refused to give Linus Pauling the Medal of Science?

Answer:

I could only speculate on that and I doubt that my speculation about a previous President's decision would be particularly useful.

I can tell you that nominations for the award are received from members of the scientific community and then reviewed by a Presidentially-appointed committee of eminent scientists.

The final choices are made by the President with the advice of the President's Committee and the Science Adviser.

President Ford made his selections on the basis of especially meritorious scientific accomplishments. Selections are not based on political philosophies or other such factors.

Thirteen scientists are receiving the Medal.

G.R.S.
9/18/75