# The original documents are located in Box 55, folder "1976/01/05 - Louis Maisel and John Helmer" of the James M. Cannon Files at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Library.

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LOUIS MAISEL AND JOHN HELMER 3:45 p.m.
January 6, 1976

LOUIS MAISEL, JOHN HELMER January 5, 1976 12:00 p.m.

Mr. Cannon's Office

Ming 8 341 Bm

Thursday, December 4, 1975

716 882 5341

JMC:

Louis Maisel, Assistant Professor of Government at Colby College - Waterville, Maine and Dr. John Helmer, a sociologist at the University of Melbourne in Australia, will be in D.C. the first week in January and would like to interview you.

Dr. Helmer is preparing a study of the operations of the Australian Priorities Review Staff, comparing them with the functions of the Domestic Council.

They are also requesting to meet with each member of the Domestic Council staff.

Schedule me to meet

with Messrs Maisel and Dr. Helmer

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THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

November 21, 1975

Dear Mr. Helmer:

Thank you for your letter of November 4 regarding your study of the high-level advisory units of the American, British, and Australian governments.

I would be happy to arrange the interviews you requested for the week of January 1 through 8 with members of my staff if you would kindly advise which ones you would be interested in seeing. Enclosed is some information which may be of some help to you.

Sincerely,

James M. Cannon
Assistant to the President
/for Domestic Affairs

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Mr. John Helmer
Department of Political Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville, Victoria 3052
Australia



### COLBY COLLEGE

WATERVILLE, MAINE 04901

DEPARTMENT OF ISTORY AND GOVERNMENT

December 1, 1975

James M. Cannon Assistant to the President for Domestic Affairs The White House Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Cannon:

I am responding to your letter of November 21st to Dr. John Helmer of the University of Melbourne. As John mentioned in his earlier (November 4th) letter, he and I are collaborating on a book examining advisory units in the US., G.B., and Australia.

John and I will both be in Washington for the first week in January. His last letter to me asked if I would correspond with you, as he is leaving for London - to interview members of the CPRS - and thus I am an easier contact. It is unclear to me whether he had time to respond to your letter before leaving Melbourne or not.

We would like to interview all of the professional members of the Domestic Council Staff. Our structured interviews will take about one hour. We can interview separately, so we could do as many as four or five in a day. We very much appreciate individuals giving their time and are willing to adjust our schedules to whatever is most convenient, from early mornings until evening. We will both arrive in Washington on New Year's Day. John will stay until the 8th; I will stay until the 9th or 10th and will be able to return if this is necessary.

We do want to thank you in advance for your cooperation on this project. We hope that a comparative study of this sort can produce results which will benefit those making decisions in all of the governments.

Yours sincerely,
Sank, Wanne

Louis Maisel

Assistant Professor of Government

P.S. John did send me the list of professionals you sent to him. We certainly would like to interview you, your Deputy Director, the Associate and Assistant Directors. Our only questions are about Sam Halper, whom you list as "Consultant," and Judy Hope, with no title; we would like to leave that to your judgment.



# OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER CANBERRA

30 October 1975.

Dear Mr Cannon,

I wish to provide an introduction to you and the Domestic Council for Dr John Helmer.

Dr Helmer was a part-time adviser for a short time to the Priorities Review Staff of the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet and a consultant to a number of other departments. He is a political sociologist at the University of Melbourne.

On his own initiative he is proposing to carry out a study of the operations of the Australian Priorities Review Staff, comparing them with the functions of the Domestic Council and of the Central Policy Review Staff in Whitehall.

Dr Helmer will be in contact with you himself shortly to outline his proposal and to seek your concurrence and cooperation in what I believe will be a brief program of interviews.

Yours sincerely,

(John Mant)
Principal Private Secretary
to the Prime Minister

Mr James Cannon, Executive Director, Domestic Council, WASHINGTON D.C., U.S.A.

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Mr. John Helmer
Department of Political Science
University of Melbourne
Parkville, Victoria 3052
Australia

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Yours sincerely, Sandy Manne

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