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**SendTo:** CN=David Marwell/O=ARRB @ ARRB  
**CopyTo:** CN=Jeremy Gunn/O=ARRB @ ARRB;CN=Michelle Combs/O=ARRB @ ARRB  
**DisplayBlindCopyTo:**  
**BlindCopyTo:** CN=R ecord/O=ARRB  
**From:** CN=Tom Samoluk/O=ARRB  
**DisplayFromDomain:**  
**DisplayDate:** 05/08/1997  
**DisplayDate\_Time:** 4:39:54 PM  
**ComposedDate:** 05/08/1997  
**ComposedDate\_Time:** 4:05:37 PM  
**Subject:** John Byrne Collection Update

I will be reviewing the John Byrne papers on Monday, May 12. Here is how things developed: I spoke to Megan Desnoyers this afternoon regarding our interest in access to the John Byrne Collection (after an initial conversation with Steve Plotkins this morning). She confirmed that they were undeeded, but went on to say that since the JFK Library staff had asked the donor if we could review the papers and he had said no, she would not be comfortable giving us access. I cited the JFK Act and Section 11(a) as the basis for our review . She said that the situation was similar to the Manchester Collection and obviously those materials were not open. Megan went on to say that the Byrne papers were not of any value to us, that it was mostly "junk." She opined that this should not be the test case because the materials were not of any value. Megan proposed that she call Byrne and ask him again for permission to give the Board access. She then called Byrne and in a second telephone conversation told me that he said we could review the files. Byrne wants to keep the materials closed to the public until 1999 because he still intends to write his memoirs. At that time, he would like to send copies of his papers to the JFK Collection. Megan told me that she was going to send Byrne documentation of their discussion and his wishes. I did not agree with anything related to her conversation with Mr. Byrne other than that I was going to review the documents. I said only that I would take this first step, which is simply to review the papers. Megan and I agreed on Monday, May 12 for the date of my

**Body:** review. My two conversations with Megan were professional and cordial.  
**recstat:** Record

**DeliveryPriority:** N  
**DeliveryReport:** B

**ReturnReceipt:**

**Categories:**