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MR NORGROVE

6 September 1985

ARG BORROWINGS

Last year's closing figure of borrowings has not been included in the DTI table, which would otherwise show that during the first five months of the year, Austin Rover's borrowings increased by roughly £100 million. The close correlation between the actual and budgeted figures is misleading as the budget was not finally established until April and thus there has been only one month during which they could diverge.

Austin Rover are expected to take just 17.1% of the market in August; their overall 1985 market share will be under 18% and could be a new all-time low. This compares with just under 30% on nationalisation in 1975, and a little over 19% in 1979.

Peter Warry
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