Starting with production of XL/XLCH motorcycles during March, 1974 a spotwelded reinforcement section has been added underneath the fender at the license plate bracket mounting holes. This was done to strengthen the area on the fender to which the security system alarm unit is mounted and to prevent possible cracking through the mounting holes on the fender.

This improvement will also be incorporated on FX/FXE models during April 1974 production.

Bolt-on versions of these reinforcements are being made available for parts order under part No. 59770-73A for XL/XLCH models and part No. 59714-74 for FX/FXE models.

We recommend that you install the reinforcement on all 1973 and early 1974 motorcycles equipped with the security system. (Late 1974 production motorcycles have the reinforcements installed at the factory.

You can easily identify late 1974 fenders having the reinforcement by noting the new license plate bracket with three mounting bolts at the fender instead of two bolts.

We are enclosing separate special order blanks to expedite processing and shipment of parts. Order your requirements of fender reinforcements immediately on special order blanks only, because these parts if ordered in the regular way, will not receive priority handling.

An instruction sheet for installing the reinforcements is enclosed for your information.
INSTRUCTIONS

REAR FENDER REINFORCEMENT
FOR LICENSE PLATE BRACKET

NOTE:
Reinforcement for XL/XLCH, Part No. 59770-73A, must have the clips for tail lamp wire cut off before installing it on fender. Hold reinforcement in a vise and cut off portions shown in diagram using a hack saw. FX/FXE reinforcement, Part No. 59714-74, can be installed as is.

Install reinforcement as follows:
Unsnap seat at front end. Put a piece of cardboard underneath rear end of seat to protect fender painted finish and rotate rear end of seat sideways 90°. Remove bolts (immediately to rear of shock mounting studs) which mount rear fender supports to frame. Remove fender rear mounting screws and loosen front ones on chrome fender supports. Tip fender rear end up and remove both license plate bracket nuts, large flat washers and lockwashers from underneath fender. Remove license plate bracket and two screws.

Take tail lamp wire conduit out of rearmost clip underneath fender by bending clip open.

Slip reinforcement underneath wire conduit and press it up into place so that license plate holes and brace holes line up with fender holes. Install license plate bracket, screws, washers, lockwashers and nuts loosely. Install fender brace rear mounting bolts loosely. This may require moving fender forward to align holes correctly. Insert cable conduit in rear clip underneath fender and bend clip in place to secure conduit.

Lower fender assembly into position and install front brace mounting bolts. Tighten all bolts and nuts securely and reinstall seat front end.