HONDA

HONDA MOTOR CO., LTD. TOKYO, JAPAN

313232

K1

E1000904

PRINTED IN JAPAN

HONDA CB500

Owner's Manual

CONSUMER INFORMATION

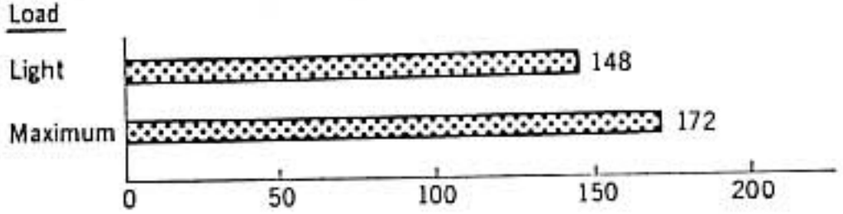
VEHICLE STOPPING DISTANCE

This figure indicates braking performance that can be met or exceeded by the vehicles to which it applies, without locking the wheels under different conditions of loading.

The information presented represents results obtainable by skilled drivers under controlled road and vehicle conditions, and the information may not be correct under other conditions.

Description of vehicles to which this table applies: **HONDA CB 500**

Fully Operational Service Brake



Stopping Distance in Feet from 60 mph.

ACCELERATION AND PASSING ABILITY

This figure indicates passing times and distances that can be met or exceeded by the vehicles to which it applies, in the situations diagrammed on the next page. The low-speed pass assumes an initial speed of 20 MPH and a limiting speed of 35 MPH. The high-speed pass assumes an initial speed of 50 MPH and a limiting speed of 80 MPH.

NOTICE: The information presented represents results obtainable by skilled drivers under controlled road and vehicle conditions, and the information may not be correct under other conditions.

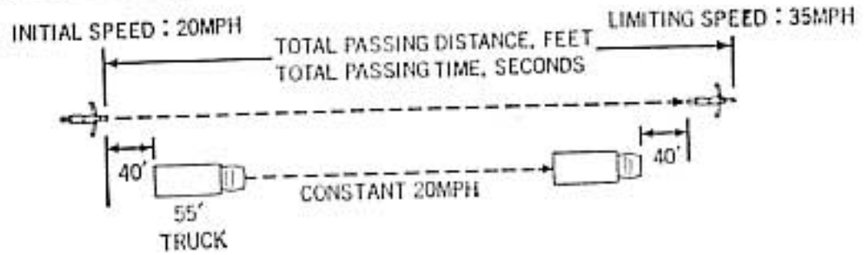
Description of vehicles to which this table applies: **HONDA CB 500**

SUMMARY TABLE:

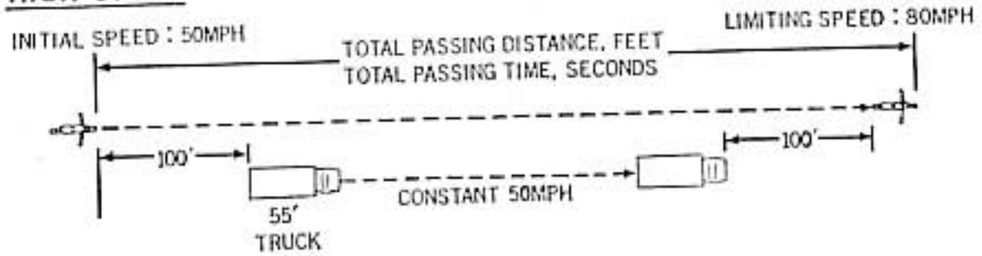
Low-speed pass..... 344 Feet; 7.1 Seconds

High-speed pass..... 975 Feet; 9.8 Seconds

LOW- SPEED



HIGH- SPEED



PREFACE

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to THE HONDA CB 500 FOUR. You have selected the finest high speed touring sport motorcycle available. The CB500 has been designed, engineered and tested to meet the demands and requirements of the most discriminating motorcyclist.

The manual is provided so that you can operate and maintain your HONDA CB 500 at the highest level of performance. Therefore, for your satisfaction it is IMPORTANT that you read and observe the information contained herein.

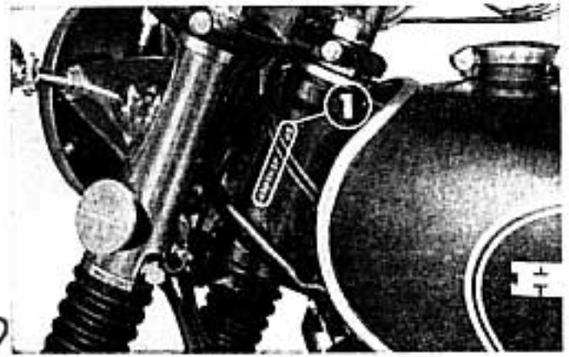
When service is necessary, consult the HONDA dealer from whom you purchased the motorcycle or any authorized HONDA dealer and you will receive prompt and satisfying service.

We take this opportunity to thank you for selecting a HONDA and to assure your continuing interest in safe and pleasant motorcycling.

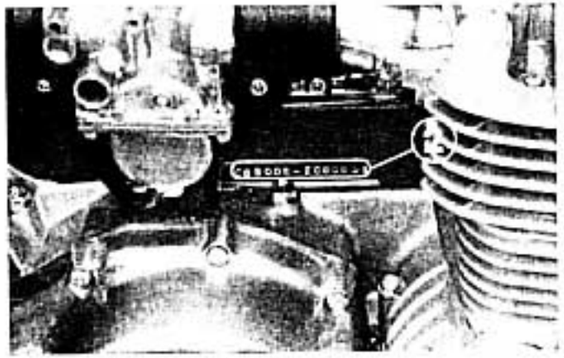
CONTENTS

SERIAL NUMBER LOCATION

The frame serial number ① is stamped on the left of the steering head pipe, and the engine serial number ② is located on top of the crankcase left side. These numbers are required when registering the motorcycle and also for processing warranty claims. Applicable frame or engine serial numbers should be given when ordering replacement parts.



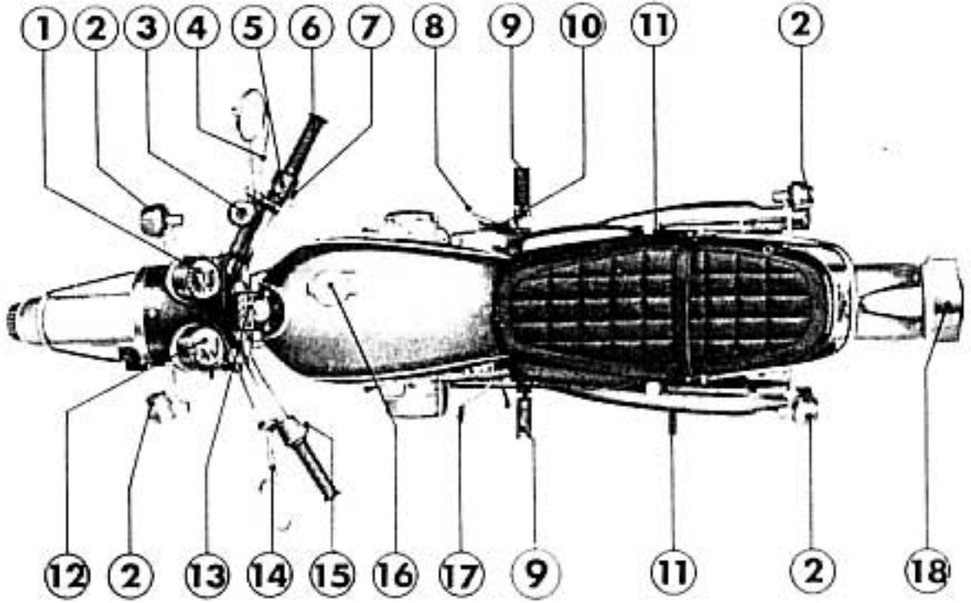
① Frame serial number

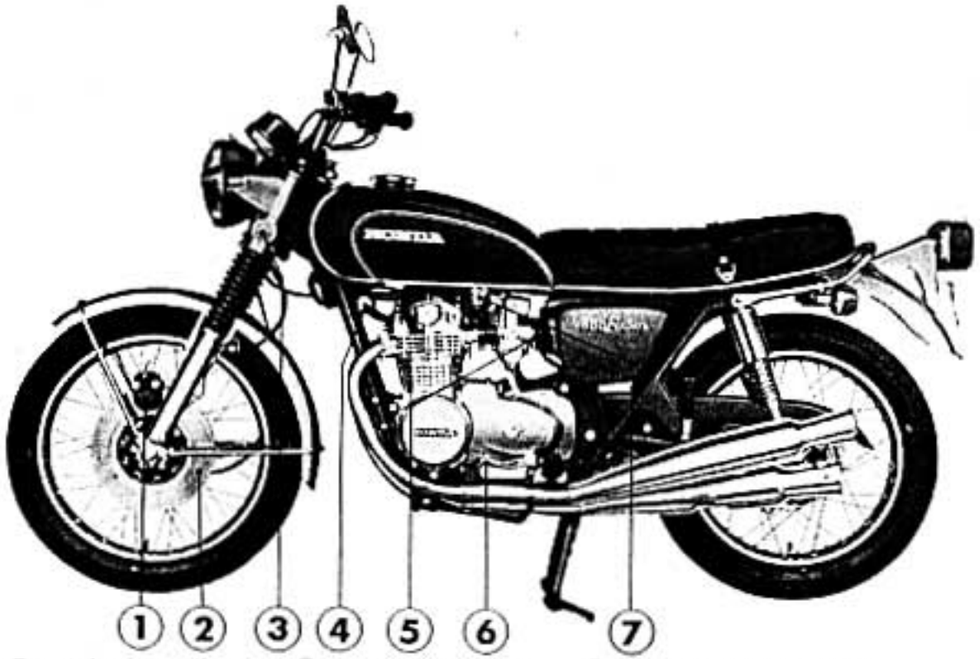


② Engine serial number

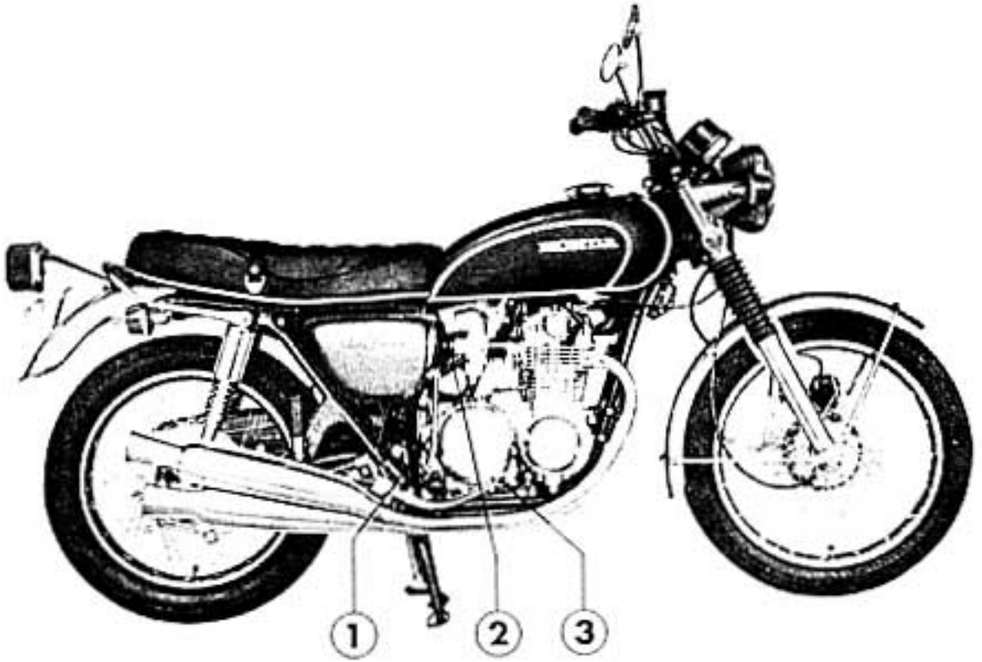
CONTROL LOCATION

① Tachometer
② Turn signal lights
③ Disc brake fluid reservoir and master cylinder
④ Front brake lever
⑤ Ignition switch
⑥ Throttle control grip
⑦ Headlight beam selector switch (above), Starter switch (below)
⑧ Rear brake pedal
⑨ Footrests-rider
⑩ Kick starter pedal
⑪ Footrests-passenger
⑫ Speedometer
⑬ Indicator and warning lamp cluster
⑭ Clutch lever
⑮ Turn signal control switch (above) Horn button (below)
⑯ Fuel tank cap
⑰ Gear change pedal
⑱ Tail, stop and parking light





① Front brake caliper ② Front brake disc ③ Side marker reflector
④ Main switch ⑤ Choke lever ⑥ Gear change pedal
⑦ Fuel control valve and fuel strainer



① Engine oil filler cap ② Kick starter pedal ③ Rear brake pedal

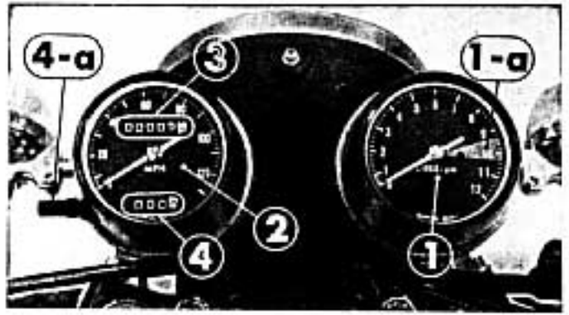
OPERATING INSTRUCTIONS

The following pages explain the operation of individual controls. Study and become familiar with their location and function before attempting to start and operate the motorcycle.

INSTRUMENTS AND INDICATOR LAMPS

The instruments are grouped together and mounted above the headlight. The indicator and warning lamps are clustered between the handle mounting clamps.

- Their functions are shown in the table.



① Tachometer ①-a Tachometer RED zone ② Speedometer ③ Odometer ④ Trip-meter ④-a Trip-meter reset knob ⑤ High beam indicator lamp ⑥ Turn signal indicator lamp ⑦ Oil pressure warning lamp ⑧ Neutral indicator lamp

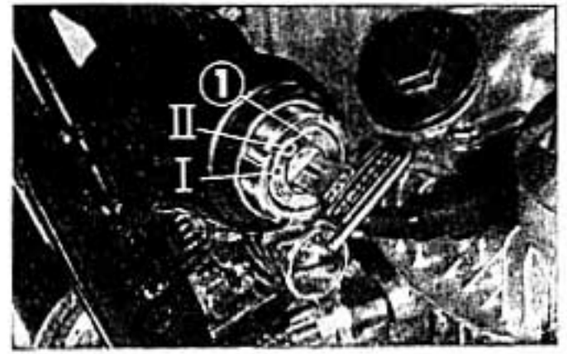
Ref. No.	Description	Function
1	Tachometer	Indicates engine operating rpm.
1-a	Tachometer Red Zone	Indicates critical engine operating range. To avoid over-stressing engine components the tachometer needle must NEVER be permitted to enter the RED ZONE.
2	Speedometer	Indicates the riding speed.
3	Odometer	Indicates the total accumulated travelled distance.
4	Trip-meter	Indicates the distance travelled since meter resetting.
4-a	Trip-meter reset knob	Reset knob for "Zeroing" the trip-meter. Turn in direction of the arrow.
5	High beam indicator lamp (red)	Lamp will be ON when the headlight is on high beam.

Ref. No.	Description	Function
6	Turn signal indicator lamp (amber)	Lamp will be flashing while the turn signal is operating.
7	Oil pressure warning lamp (red)	After turning on the main switch but before starting engine, check to make sure the oil pressure warning lamp is functioning (lamp comes on). The oil pressure warning lamp comes on when the main switch is switched on; it goes off when the engine is started and the prescribed engine oil pressure reached. Should the lamp light up while driving, it is an indication of a malfunction in the lubricating system, in which case, the motorcycle must be stopped at once, the engine turned off, and the engine oil level checked. If the check reveals that the engine oil level is within the prescribed limits, the cause of the malfunction will have to be determined and corrected by contacting the nearest HONDA dealer. However, an occasional flickering of the warning lamp at or near idling speeds when the engine is at operating temperature, is of no concern since low oil pressure is normal at low-speed.
8	Neutral indicator lamp (green)	Lamp will be on when the transmission is in neutral.

ELECTRICAL CONTROLS

MAIN SWITCH

The main switch ① is located on the left side under the forward end of the fuel tank. Functions of the respective switch positions are shown in the chart below.



① Main switch

Key position	Function	Key Removal
OFF	Electric circuit is open, engine will not start and no lights will operate.	Key can be removed.
I (ON)	Electric circuit is completed, lights will operate and engine can be started.	Key can not be removed.
II (Parking)	Electric circuit is open, however, the tail light will be lighted. The key should be removed when parking the motorcycle.	Key can be removed.

IGNITION SWITCH

The three position ignition switch ① is located on top of the right handle grip switch housing. In the "ON" position (center) the ignition circuit will be completed and engine can be started.

In the "OFF" position (either side of center) the ignition circuit will be open and the engine will not operate.

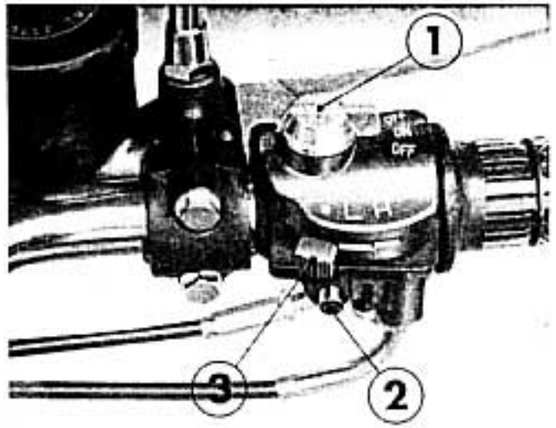
This switch is intended primarily as a safety or emergency switch. When parking the motorcycle the main switch should always be turned to the "OFF" or parking position and the key removed.

STARTER SWITCH

This is a push button switch ② located directly below the headlight control switch ③. While the starter switch is depressed the starter motor will crank the engine. Refer to the section on STARTING THE ENGINE (Page 28) for the correct starting procedure.

HEADLIGHT (CONTROL) SWITCH

The click type, sliding switch ③ is located on the right handle grip switch housing. It can be operated without taking the hand off the handle grip. The red dot is the "OFF" position (headlight and tail light off). "L" is the low beam position (low beam light and tail light on). "H" is the high beam position (high beam light and tail light on). The headlight will only operate when the main switch is in the "ON" position. Refer to main switch page 13.



① Ignition switch ② Starter switch
③ Headlight control switch

STOP LIGHT SWITCHES

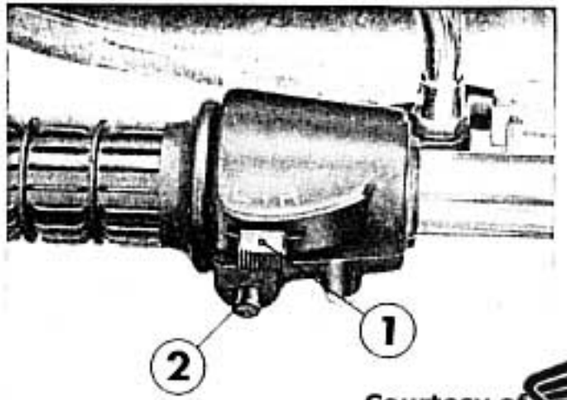
These switches operate the stop light when the front or rear brake is applied. The front brake switch is incorporated in the front brake hydraulic system and requires no adjustment. The rear brake switch, which is an adjustable plunger type, is located near the rear brake pedal (See page 80).

HORN BUTTON

This is a push button switch ② located directly below the turn signal switch ①. While the horn button switch is depressed the horn will operate. (See page 16).

TURN SIGNAL (CONTROL) SWITCH

This is a sliding switch ① located on the left handle grip switch housing. It can be operated without taking the hand off the handle grip. To signal a left turn, move the switch knob to the "L" position. To signal a right turn, move the switch knob to the "R" position. When the turn has been completed the switch knob must be returned to the center "OFF" position.

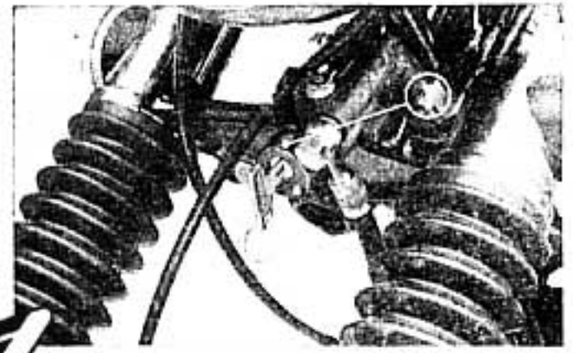


① Turn signal switch ② Horn button

MECHANICAL CONTROLS

STEERING LOCK

The steering lock ① is located on the steering stem directly below the head light case. Turn the handle bar all the way to the steering stop, either to the left or right, insert the key into the lock, turn key 60° to the left, press in, and then turn the key back to the original position and remove the key. This locks steering to prevent theft.



① Steering lock

SEAT LOCK

The seat lock ① is located at the right center of bottom side. To raise the seat, insert the key into the seat lock and turn it counterclockwise.

NOTE:

The seat lock is of 2-stage. To lock, push down the seat to make sure seat is locked properly.

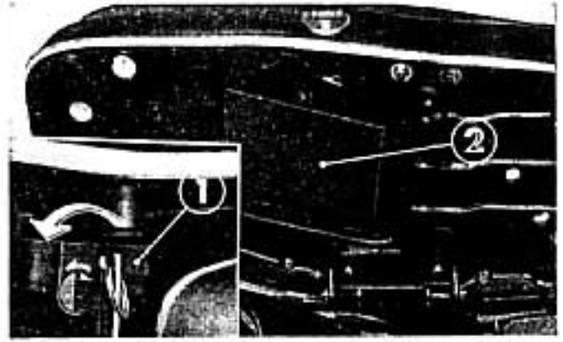
Document Box

The document box ② is located under the seat.

Put owner's manual and other documents in vinyl sack and contain them in document box.

NOTE:

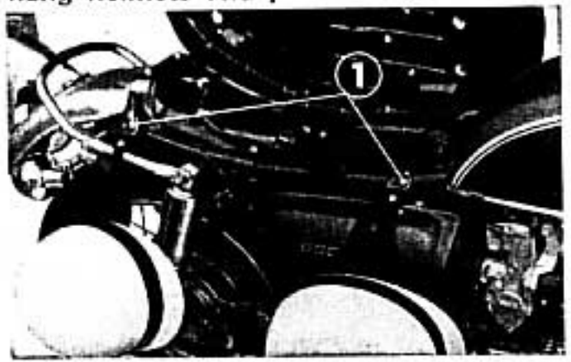
When washing your motorcycle, be careful not to direct a blast of water from bottom side of seat.



① Seat lock ② Document box

HELMET HOLDER

Two helmet holders ① are located under the seat. To hang helmets, raise the seat, hang helmets and push down the seat.



① Helmet holder

FRONT BRAKE (CONTROL) LEVER

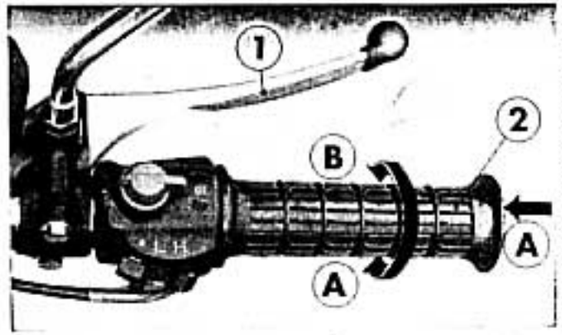
The brake lever ① is located at the right handle bar grip. Application of the front brake is effected by squeezing the lever with a force proportional to the braking effort required.

NOTE:

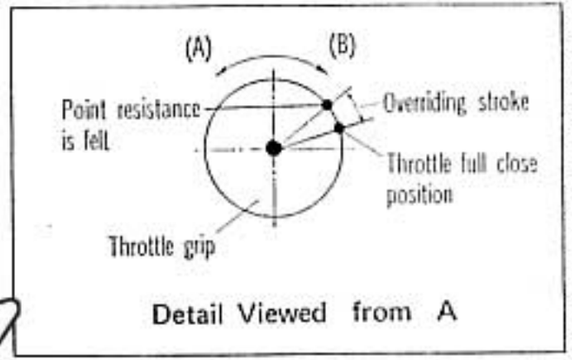
If lever free play is excessive, see page 58 for inspection and servicing information.

THROTTLE GRIP

Throttle control is incorporated in the right handle bar grip ②. Twisting the throttle grip inward Ⓐ opens the throttle and increases the engine speed twisting the grip outward Ⓑ will close the throttle. As the throttle grip is closed all the way, a resistance will be felt. At this point the engine speed should drop to idling (1,000 rpm); if not, twist grip further into the overriding stroke. If the engine does not drop to the idle speed, the throttle control should be adjusted by referring to the section on THROTTLE CABLE and CARBURETOR ADJUSTMENT on page 51.



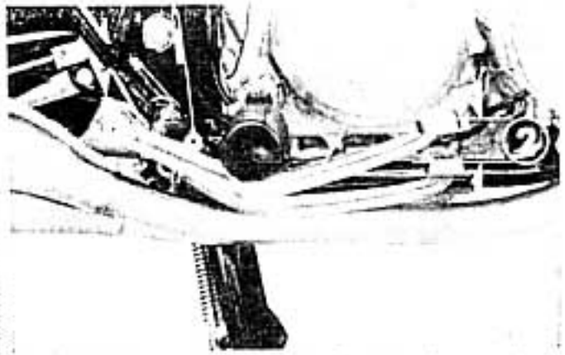
① Front brake lever ② Throttle grip



Detail Viewed from A

REAR BRAKE (CONTROL) PEDAL

The rear brake pedal ① is located at the right foot rest. Application of the rear brake is effected by depressing the pedal with a force proportional to the braking effort required. If pedal free travel is excessive, see page 62 for inspection and servicing. Normal free travel is approximately 1 inch (25 mm).



① Rear brake pedal ② 1 in. (25 mm)