May 13, 1966

1966 "B" RANGE TWIN MODELS

BULLETIN No. 16

SUBJECT: Lucas #446 Head Light Bulb and #49345 Diode Failures

We have had some reports of 12 volt Lucas #446 head light bulb failures. Only a few dealers have sent us sample failed bulbs. Those we have received show no indication of failure caused by an electrical problem. They have broken filaments due to vibration. Some filaments are detached at the weld, or broken between the coil and the support.

"Shorted" Diodes

We have received about 30 failed diodes and we have been replacing these under guarantee. A large shipment of diodes has just been received and we are now filling all back-orders.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Please send us any of the #446 bulbs that have failed. It is not necessary to send engine numbers. Send a claim tag with the failed bulbs. Also advise us if you have found a substitute bulb of another make as a replacement for the Lucas #446 12 volt head light bulb.

If you have experienced a diode failure send it to us IMMEDIATELY along with a claim tag giving engine number, mileage and symptom of failure. This is very important.

Cause of Diode Failure

Over-heating can cause a "shorted" diode. Some early '66 models had the terminal of the red "ground" wire incorrectly located between the hex shaped body of the diode and the front side of the heat sink plate. This could cause a diode failure. We suggest that you move this terminal to the back side of the heat sink between the plate and the lock washer under the 1/4" nut. Do NOT over-tighten this nut!

New Heat Sink Fitted to all Triumph 650cc Twin Models After Engine No. DU30800

We can now supply this new heat sink, part #F7237 F.O.C. and suggest fitting it if you replace a failed diode. It is identified by the bright aluminum color and the "angle" shape. It is designed to give more efficient cooling of the diode and is especially helpful if a machine has a bad battery or if the motorcycle is run with the battery out of the circuit. Such conditions put a heavier load on the diode and we believe the improved heat sink would be beneficial.