

CHASSIS SHEET METAL

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HOOD

The hood, of rigid sheet metal construction, is composed of a single outer panel and a rugged inner panel reinforcement. Further rigidity is obtained by the insertion of reinforcement braces and brackets, strategically located so as not to interfere with adjustment or service repair conditions (Fig. 11-1).

ALIGNMENT

Slotted holes are provided at all hood hinge attaching points for proper adjustment, both vertically and fore and aft.

To lower the rear corners for proper alignment to the cowl vent grille and fenders, and to ensure contact with the hood side wedges, proceed in the following manner:

1. Loosen front and rear ends of hinge mounting bracket to fender.
2. Hold hood open as high as possible and force hinge upward.
3. Tighten fender connections.

NOTE: If this does not correct the condition, lower the entire hinge by loosening the fender attachment bolts and pushing downward.

REMOVAL

1. Open hood.
2. Loosen hood hinge to hood reinforcement attaching bolts.

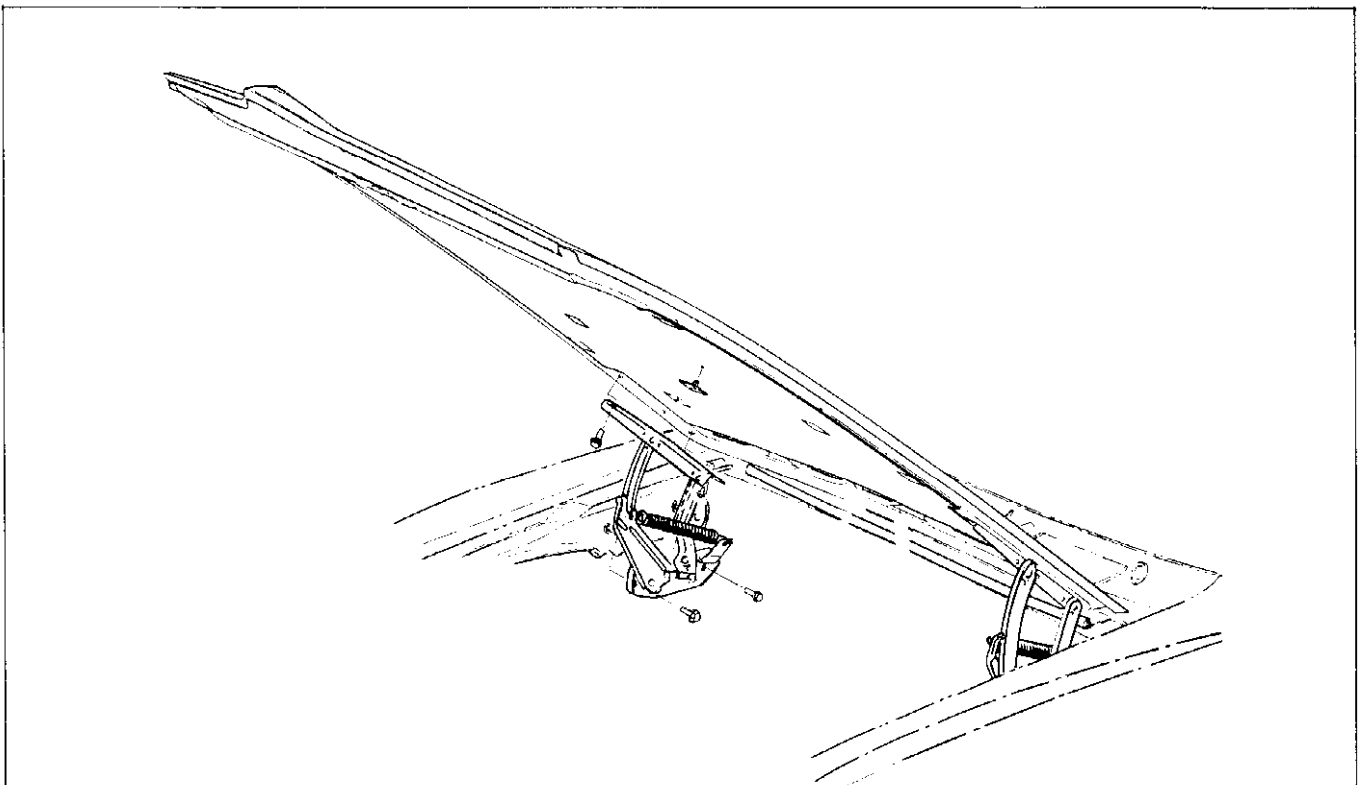


Fig. 11-1 Hood and Hood Hinges

3. With the aid of a helper, hold hood securely and remove attaching bolts.

4. Lift hood assembly from car.

REPLACEMENT

To replace, reverse the above procedure checking hood alignment, one hinge at a time as outlined in steps 1 and 2 under HOOD HINGE REPLACEMENT.

HOOD LATCH

A positive locking hood latch, which incorporates a safety catch with the pilot assembly (Fig. 11-3), is used on all models. The hood latch being fastened

to the vertical center brace of the radiator support locks securely with the latch plate mounted in the hood.

Latch adjustment is not necessary. After proper positioning of the hood bumpers, hood height is automatically controlled by the vertically self-adjusting hood latch. No lateral adjustment of the latch is possible. However, proper hood alignment is essential for ease of latch operation.

To open the hood, pull the release handle under the left portion of the front bumper grille forward. A pop-up spring on the support and baffle provides initial opening of the hood upon release. To fully

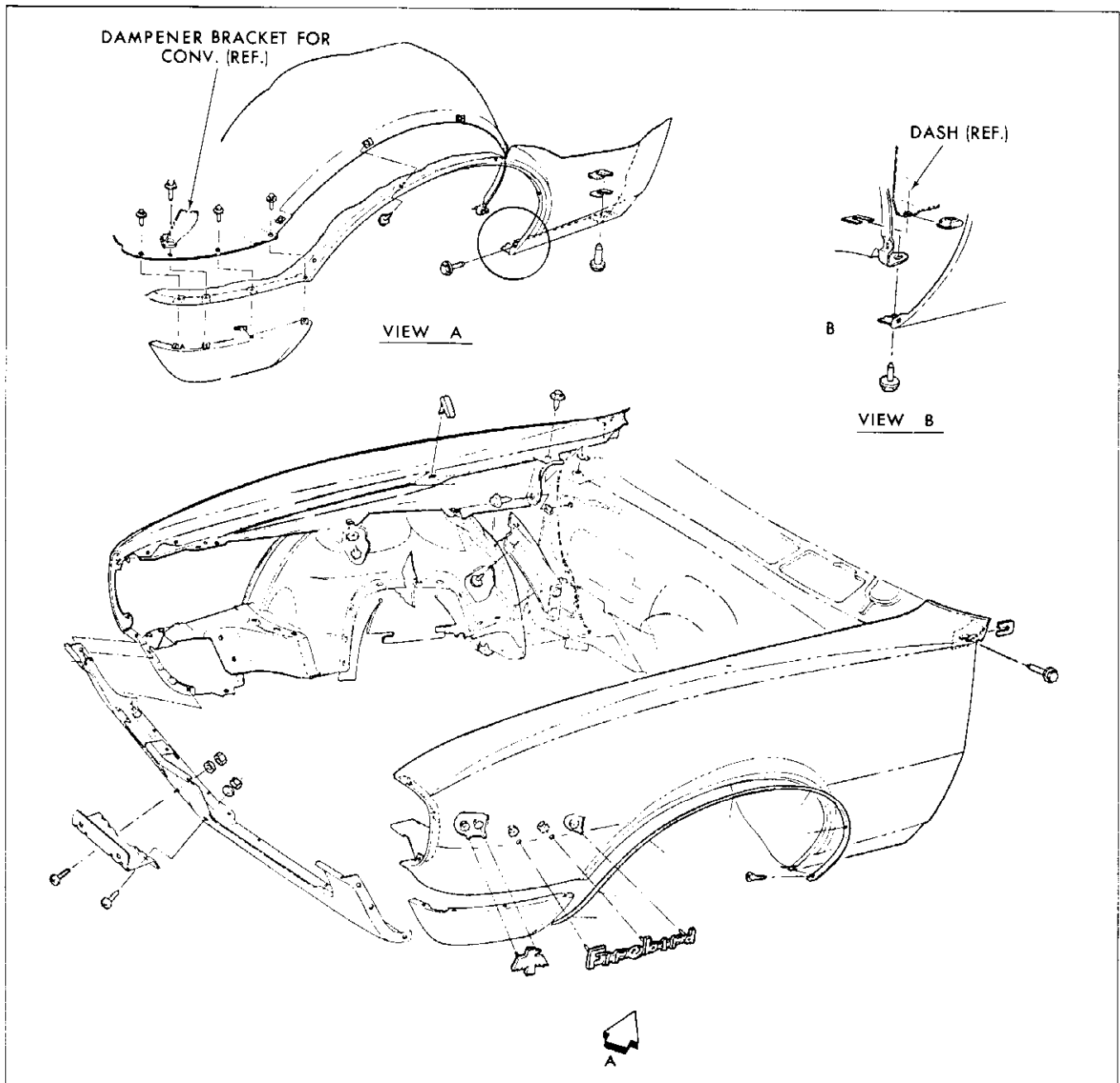


Fig. 11-2 Front Fenders and Skirt

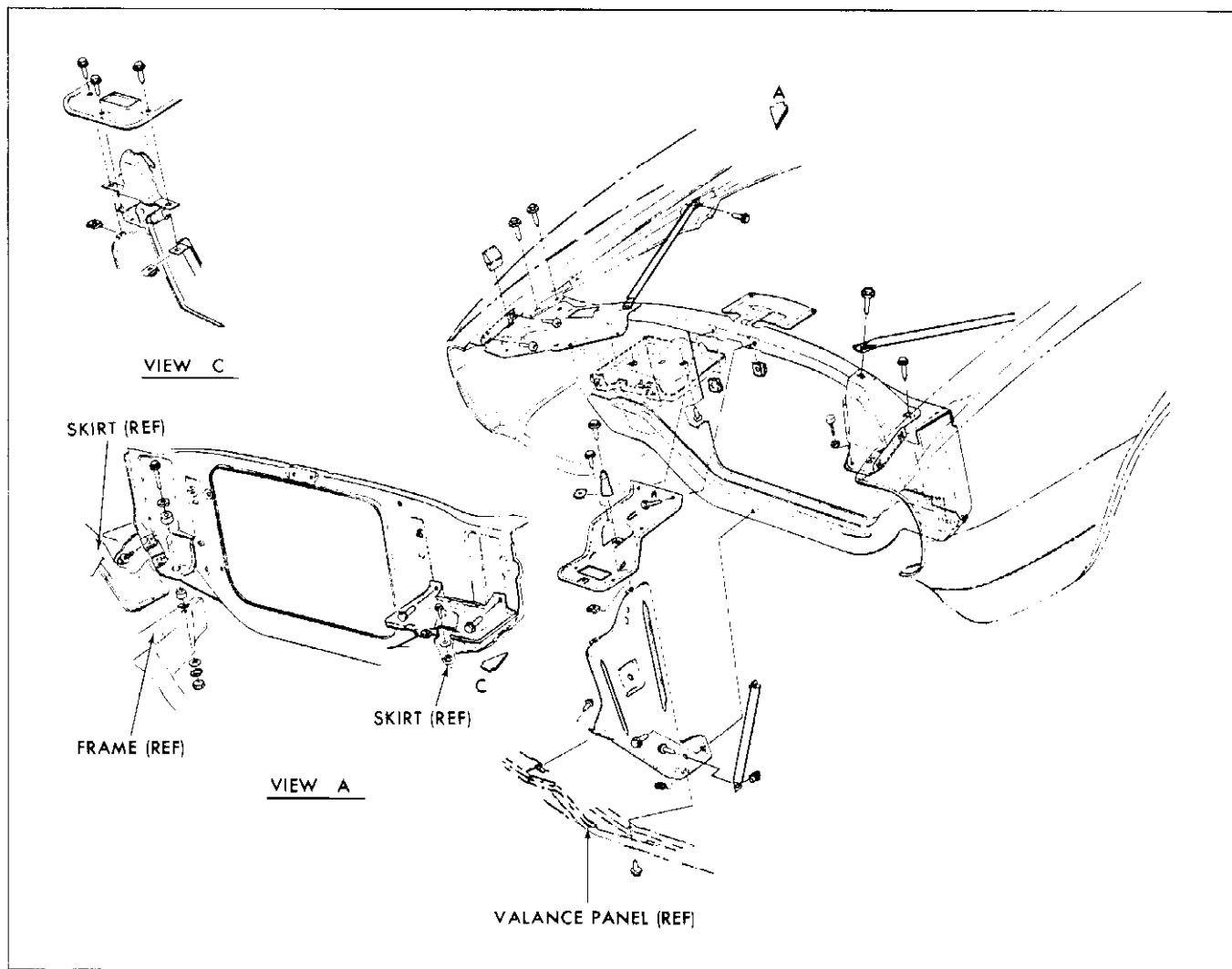


Fig. 11-3 Radiator Support Assembly and Hood Latch

open the hood, pull the release handle past the detent position and lift hood. It may be necessary to push down on the hood in the safety position to allow full release.

HOOD HINGES

The hood opens on hinges mounted to the fender panels (Fig. 11-1). Double assist over center springs (one at each hinge) provide hold-open power. Both spring ends are fastened to the hinge arms.

ADJUSTMENT

Fore and aft as well as vertical adjustment of the hood is provided by slotted holes in the hinge mounting brackets. In addition, shims may be used between the hood and hood hinge.

REMOVAL

1. Open hood.
2. Block hood on side where hinge is to be removed and prop hood open.

3. Remove hinge-to-hood attaching screws and hinge-to-fender attaching screws.

4. Carefully remove hinge.

REPLACEMENT

1. Mount new hinge on fender and tighten attaching screws.
2. Position hinge-to-hood, install attaching screws and tighten snug.

NOTE: When replacing spring, hook rear end of spring on pin first, then stretch and hook at front.

FENDERS

ALIGNMENT

Vertical, fore, aft and lateral adjustment is provided at the rear of fender by enlarged holes at attaching points, and the use of shims at these points (Fig. 11-2).

1. Check the space between the front door to fender rear edge and adjust as necessary to obtain a parallel opening, also adjusting for proper fender to windshield molding and cowl vent grille clearance.

2. Check to ensure that all fender attaching bolts are secure.

3. The front height of entire sheet metal assembly is controlled through the use of spacer between the frame bar and secondary mounting insulator (Fig. 11-3). Special attention is required to ensure that the sheet metal is resting on these mounts and is not being supported by the fender to shroud attachments. For this reason, the fender to shroud attachments should be loosened and readjusted whenever the front mounting is disturbed.

REMOVAL

NOTE: If the same fender is to be replaced, note position, location and number of alignment shims used.

1. Disconnect parking lights and remove valance panel. Also remove lower baffle if so equipped.

2. Remove fender to radiator support attaching screws, brace and gusset, also upper filler panels if so equipped.

NOTE: Pozidrive screws are used to secure the front fender to the radiator support gussets. A No. 4 Pozidrive bit, J 22413, may be required for removal.

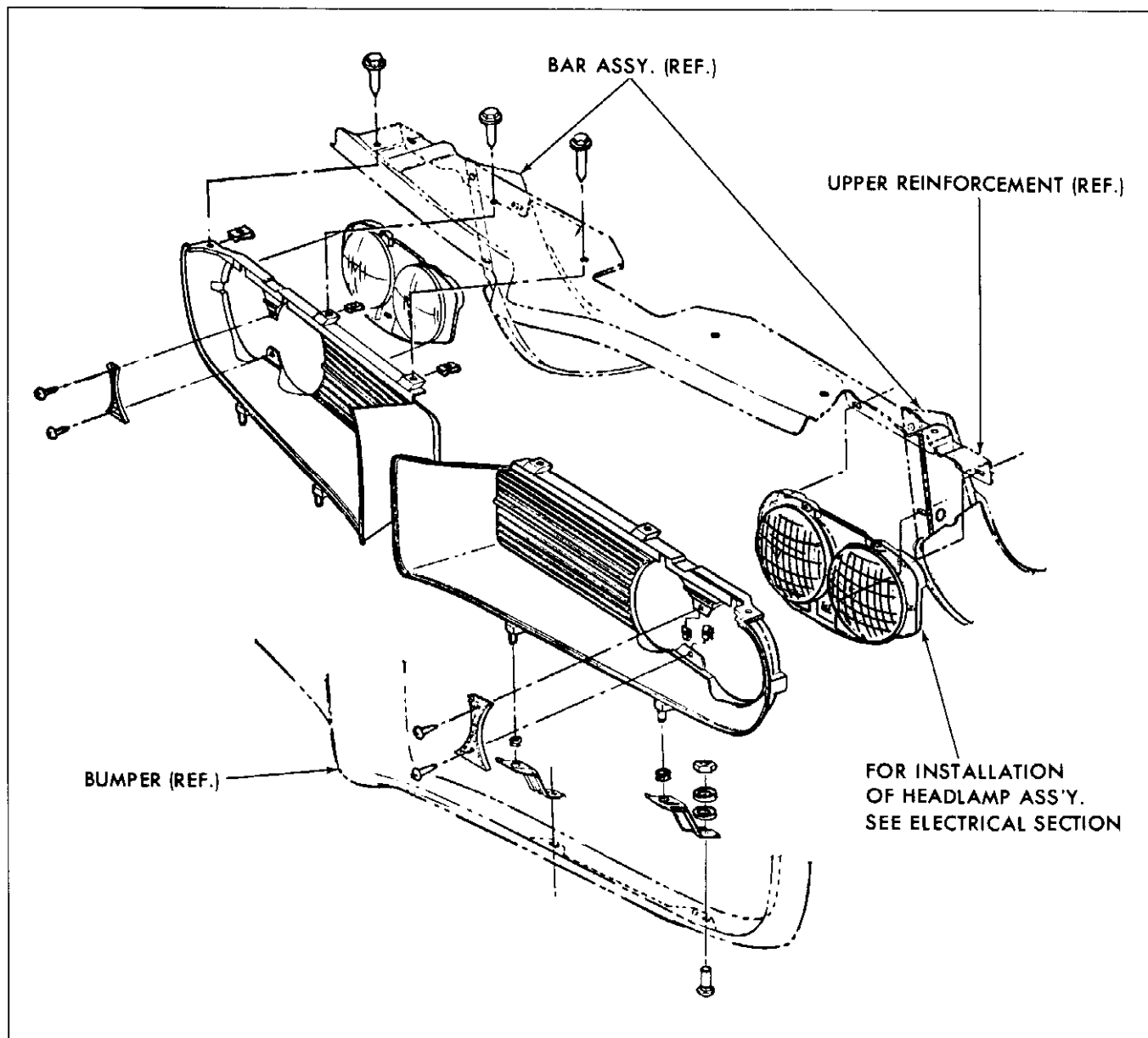


Fig. 11-4 Grille Assembly

3. Remove hood hinge to fender attaching screws.
4. Remove fender to inner skirt attaching screws at wheelhouse. Remove wheel opening molding and front fender lower extension.
5. Remove rocket panel molding.
6. Disconnect fender from cowl at door opening and from rocker panel area.
7. Remove fender.

REPLACEMENT

1. To install, reverse above procedure.
2. Align fender with other sheet metal and body parts.
3. Torque all fender to cowl and rocker panel attaching screws 30 lb. ft., all fender to fender inner skirt and fender to fender extension attaching screws 12 lb. ft. and all fender extension and upper grille panel attaching screws 12 lb. ft.

INNER FENDER SKIRT

REMOVAL

1. Remove front fender (Fig. 11-2).

NOTE: On convertibles, remove vibration damper to skirt mounting bolts.

2. Remove battery and battery tray to skirt attaching screw (right side only).
3. Remove firewall to skirt brace.
4. Disconnect any components attached to skirt such as cruise control, hoses, electrical harnesses, etc.
5. Remove skirt.

REPLACEMENT

1. To replace, reverse above procedure checking fender alignment with other sheet metal and body parts.
2. Torque all fender inner skirt to fender attaching screws 12 lb. ft., and lower fender attaching screws 30 lb. ft.

RADIATOR SUPPORT

1. Remove battery (Fig. 11-3).
2. Remove valance panel.
3. Remove front bumper and grille assembly, see Section 14.

NOTE: On convertible styles remove vibration dampers.

4. Disconnect horns, horn relay, voltage regulator, wiring harness and washer bottle from radiator support.
5. Disconnect battery tray from support.

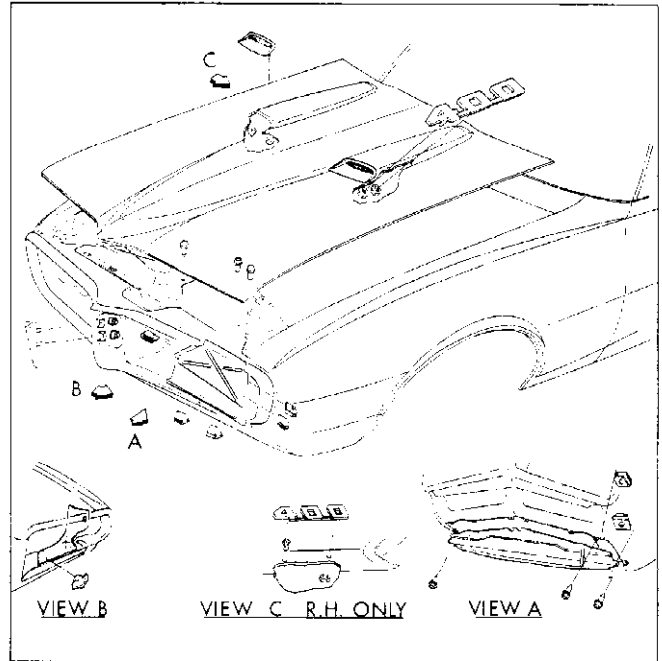


Fig. 11-5 Chassis Sheet Metal - 400 Sport Option

6. Remove shroud and radiator, see Section 6A.
7. Remove radiator support to fender braces.
8. Remove all screws securing radiator support to frame, inner skirts and fenders and loosen all fender attaching bolts at firewall.
9. Remove radiator support from vehicle.

REPLACEMENT

To replace, reverse the above procedure checking all front sheet metal alignment and making sure the original number of front mounting spacers are used.

NOTE: Check headlight aim.

GRILLE

REMOVAL, RT. OR LT.

1. Remove headlights and headlight door.
2. Remove radiator support vertical center brace.
3. Remove grille shell (Fig. 11-4).

REPLACEMENT

To replace, reverse the above procedure.

CHASSIS SHEET METAL -400 SPORT OPTION

The 400 sport option has various front sheet metal differences as pictured in figure 11-5. A distinct hood panel and front bumper emblem are used, as well as several additional radiator support filler panels.