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## *608 American Copters Hit In Laos Drive*

SAIGON — (AP) — Lt. Gen. Hoang Xuan Lam, commander of the South Vietnamese drive into Laos, told a South Vietnamese senate committee that 608 American helicopters were hit by enemy ground fire during the campaign in addition to 104 that were destroyed.

Lam's report to the Senate Defense Committee Friday was quoted today in Public Opinion, a Saigon newspaper owned by the chairman of the committee, Sen. Ton That Dinh.

The U.S. Command has reported 103 helicopters lost in support of the South Vietnamese campaign but does not release figures on choppers shot down and recovered or damaged and flown back to base.

Lam also said six Vietnamese helicopters were shot down — four more than officially acknowledged — and 14 others were hit.