

Prisoner-Made 'Tank' Smashes

RAIFORD (Fla.) — (AP) — Two prison inmates crashed through heavy wire gates in a homemade tank and escaped, Supt. Lawrence Dugger said today.

He said Rex Gyger, 26,

and Wallace McDonald, 43, manufactured the tank in the Raiford State Prison furniture factory.

Dugger said they wrapped a forklift truck with two layers of 10-gauge sheet metal around the sides, four layers on top

and cut a slit in front to see through.

Dugger said the escape vehicle was made Saturday afternoon when no one was working and "they broke into the furniture factory."

At dusk, Gyger and McDonald fired up their

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tank and rolled toward the vehicle gate.

Tower guards opened fire as they crashed through two heavy metal wire gates, but, Dugger said, "The bullets didn't penetrate the steel."

He said Gyger and

McDonald jumped out of the armored vehicle and fled into nearby woods.

Dugger said he had issued instructions that from now on forklifts will be parked outside the prison fence at night and on weekends.