

Wounded soldier doing well

Glisan family offers good report following attack by insurgents

By Doug Boock

A Galva soldier's family is resting easier after hearing he's doing well following a gunshot wound in Iraq.

Wayne Glisan of Galva, father of Galva National Guard member Derrick Glisan, said Saturday his son's recuperating well after being hit in the leg by a bullet fired by insurgents Jan. 18.

"He's doing good, real good," Wayne Glisan said of Derrick, also of Galva.

Wayne Glisan said he and his wife Cheryl first heard of

their son's injury when they received a phone call from a spokesperson at a Baghdad hospital about 5:30 or 6 p.m. Tuesday.

"They called me very shortly after the incident," Glisan said.

Wayne Glisan conceded the call first caused some alarm.

"Nervous," he said of his response to the call. "Seriously, a call like that makes you nervous. But if it was real serious, you wouldn't get a phone call. They'd come talk to you."

After the spokesperson took a phone to Derrick, the Glisans gave a call back to their son so they could hear first-hand how he was doing.

Derrick Glisan suffered a bullet wound through the right calf, his father said.

"No bone, it was a clean wound. It went all the way



Derrick Glisan

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through," Mr. Glisan said.

Mr. Glisan said his son was hospitalized for 12 or 13 hours before being released back to his unit.

"He's supposed to be on 'light duty' for a couple weeks or so, but he's doing real good," Mr. Glisan said.

Derrick's injury came when he and fellow platoon members were attacked while making rounds, Mr. Glisan said.

"They were on routine patrol when they came under insurgent fire. A couple rounds made it through the engine compartment and one hit Derrick in the leg. From what I understand he was driving the truck," said Mr. Glisan.

Derrick was soon whisked to the hospital. Only other one American was hurt in the incident: A medic from another unit suffered minor injuries.

After learning of Derricks' injury,

Wayne Glisan said his family quickly notified Derrick's children, Alexandria, 6, and Arika, 4.

"We talked to them immediately after we got the call so they wouldn't hear it from someone else," Mr. Glisan explained. "They're doing fine."

Derrick called and talked to his daughters Saturday morning, also reassuring. He also spoke with his parents.

"He sounded real good," Wayne Glisan said. "We feel much better about it now."

The Galva unit is tentatively scheduled to return home in March. Like other Guard families, the Glisans hope that happens, without incident.

"Really, without any more problems," Wayne Glisan said. "We hope none of them (Galva Guard soldiers) have any more problems."