

Firewall

Friday, 22 February 2008

FIREWALL. The code name used by G.I. Joe team recruit Michelle LaChance. While growing up in Virginia Beach, Virginia, Firewall had a knack for computers, and once hacked into the high school records of an enemy, altering her grades so that she was not in the running for class valedictorian. She was never caught, and liked the rush of being able to ruin an uncaring braggart. She continued hacking into computer systems, eventually chaging credit card numbers and bank accounts of government officials. She stayed undetected for some time, until she hacked her way into U.S. Army computers and discovered the Army's experimental nano-mite program. She was arrested by the Feds, but they realized they could make use of her skills and she began working for the government. Firewall was put on temporary assignment with the G.I. Joe team to help put a stop to Cobra's nano-mites. She and fellow hacker, Daemon, both stayed with the team longer, working with the Joes' resident computer expert, Mainframe. The Joes' drill sergeant, Beach Head began running the programmers through a training program should they ever see combat. Firewall stuck to mostly computer work, while Daemon worked to become a soldier. He and Firewall used their skills to assist in several missions, including the fight to stop terrorist Tyler Wingfield. Daemon and Firewall displayed their immaturity when working together, with a relationship like two squabbling siblings.

On their first field assignment, Firewall and Daemon helped drive the vehicle carrying a group of children who were revealed to be the clones of Serpentor. The Joes' convoy of vehicles was unexpectedly attacked by the forces of the revived Serpentor, known at The Coil. The main vehicle was torn to pieces and Serpentor arrived to liberate his brothers inside. When Daemon tried to stop him, the former Cobra Emperor grabbed him by the throat and snapped his neck, killing him, and as Firewall and Roadblock looked on in shock. The remaining Joes were taken prisoner and held on Cobra Island until an invasion force arrived to battle The Coil. The battle was won, and the Joes headed home, later having a ceremony for their lost teammates, who included Mainframe. Firewall later assisted Barrel Roll remotely when he hacked into Cobra Island's computer system. Some time later, during a battle against Cobra, Hawk was shot in the back by Cobra Commander and paralyzed. In Hawk's absence, the Jugglers began to take control of the team to reign in it, if not disband it altogether. Eventually, the team's roster was cut down to only a dozen Joes including Firewall. That small team defended the new Pit against Cobra's attack, but Firewall and most of those Joes were quickly reassigned to other units. After the remaining Joes stopped a plot by Cobra to unleash the weapon known as the Tempest, and defeated a new threat, the Red Shadows, the military again disbanded the team. One year later, the Joe team was reformed with a smaller roster of active members. Firewall, like most former Joes, is a reserve member of the new team. Much of the Joes' current headquarters, The Rock, was designed by Firewall and the late Mainframe. Firewall was called back to work with the team to assist General Colton in his attempt to hack into encrypted files to find Duke's whereabouts. She was still at The Rock when the team was invaded by the Phoenix Guard, a team of U.S. commandos that turned out to be Cobra agents in disguise. The Joes eventually defeated them, but Firewall was severely injured spent time recovering.

Some time later, Firewall joined an unauthorized mission to capture the drug kingpin known as Headman. Many years earlier, a small team of Joes that included Mainframe had failed to capture Headman. When the surviving members of that team set out to finally get Headman, Firewall came along in her late mentor's place. During the conflict known as World War III, a Cobra attack forced Firewall and other Joes to abandon The Rock and set up a small base of operations in a cabin in Idaho. Eventually, Firewall worked with Sparks and Destro find away to disable Cobra's advanced technology through the satellite network of M.A.R.S. Their efforts helped defeat Cobra and bring the war to an end.

(Glv2 3, 4, 10, 16, 22-26, 29, 37, 38, 40; FL 15, 18; AE 15, 19, 20, 31, 32, 34-36; SM:B)