

Fred I

Friday, 22 February 2008

FRED I. The first Crimson Guardsman known as Fred Broca was one of many identical Cobra agents sharing his name. Virtually nothing is known of Fred's past, and it is unknown if the other Freds were patterned after him, or if he, too underwent plastic surgery to give him a new face. Fred, his wife and two children -- Shaun and Heather -- were one of the first undercover Crimson Guard families, living like the average suburban Americans. Fred was sent to Staten Island, where the Brocas moved into a new home just outside the gates of Fort Wadsworth, an Army base Cobra believed to be connected to the Joes. The base was, in fact, the home of The Pit. After weeks of surveillance, Fred was surprised when Destro and Firefly arrived at his house. He joined them in their attempt to find Snake-Eyes at his cabin in the High Sierras. The Cobra agents found the cabin and opened fire as they stormed the cabin. Luckily for Snake-Eyes, Spirit and Airborned were nearby and a fierce battle erupted, leading to the destruction of the cabin. As they fought, Spirit shot Fred, who stumbled off into the snow. Fred's body was found a short time later by the Joes, after the Crimson Guardsman bled to death. Fred's body was laid to rest underneath a waterfall near the site of Snake-Eyes cabin. His gun was laid across his chest, his epitaph carved in the stone behind him: "Here lies Fred. Whatever he did in life, he died well." Not long after his death, the Brocas were surprised to see Fred return home. But despite having Fred's face, they knew it wasn't him. Cobra had simply replaced him to continue the surveillance of Fort Wadsworth. Fred II was in reality a Vietnam veteran named Wade Collins, an old friend of Snake-Eyes, Stalker and Storm Shadow.

(GI 31, 32)