

Alpine

Tuesday, 19 February 2008

ALPINE. The codename used by U.S. Army Sergeant Albert M. Pine. Alpine was born in Minidoka, Idaho. As an accountant for a large publishing firm, Alpine took up mountain climbing prior to his enlistment and assignment to the G.I. Joe team in 1986. Prior to joining the Joe team, Alpine graduated Ranger School at Fort Benning. Alpine often uses humor to lighten people's mood, but is a serious soldier when he has to be.

On Alpine's first mission as a member of G.I. Joe he was part of a team sent to Cobra Island to rescue Ripcord, a Joe who had parachuted onto the island days before. The operation also doubled as a recon mission. On that mission, Alpine showed his climbing skill when he and the other Joes scaled the volcano on the island. Shortly after that mission, Alpine was part of the Joes' invasion of the Cobra-controlled town of Springfield. After returning from Springfield, Alpine and several other Joes attempted to re-capture Zartan, a Cobra agent who had escaped G.I. Joe headquarters with the help of his siblings and the Dreadnoks. The team was caught off guard by the Thunder Machine, the Dreadnoks' assault vehicle, and Zartan escaped.

Alpine was part of a mission to find a World War II German bomber discovered imbedded in a glacier in Greenland. The plane carried a lethal gas and it was Alpine and Airtight's job to board the plane and neutralize the gas. The mission was successful despite interference from Cobra and the precarious position of the plane. On that mission, Alpine used his knowledge of the German language to read the plane's flight logs. After the Joe team disbanded in 1994, Alpine returned to accounting. He turned down an offer to return to the reinstated Joe team in 2001, but later changed his mind after stumbling into a fight against a secret Cobra cell while taking time off with a number of other Joes. Back on the team, he took part in the battle against the revived Serpentor's forces, and later headed into Tibet as backup for a team investigating a hidden Red Ninja retreat where Cobra Commander and Storm Shadow had been hiding. After the Joe team 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. Alpine, like most former Joes, is a reserve member of the new team. During the conflict known as World War III, Alpine was stationed in the former Soviet nation of Georgia.

(GI 45, 46, 49-51; OB 1; SM 2, 25; YB 2; Glv2 2, 14, 15, 24, 27, 28, 33; BF TPB; AE 31; Figures: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)