

## Updraft

Tuesday, 26 February 2008

UPDRAFT. The code name used by U.S. Army Captain Matthew W. Smithers. Born in Bismark, North Dakota, Updraft grew up to be a skilled helicopter pilot and eventually led the American team to victory in the World Helicopter Championships two years in a row. After joining the Army, Updraft became a special instructor at the Flight Warrant Officer School at Fort Rucker. While at Fort Rucker, he was chosen for the G.I. Joe team to fly the new advanced Retaliator attack helicopter, which he was an integral part in the design and engineering of. Updraft served on a small number of missions with the Joes before the team was shut down in 1994. He was later called back to work with the Joes in their battle against the forces of a revived Serpentor on Cobra Island.

(GI 130; Glv2 24; Figure: 1)