

Series 3: 1971/72

Monday, 08 December 2008

Two comics were added and the rest were kept the same. The new comics have a thicker matte cover stock as opposed to the older slicker cover stock. Like the Series 2 additions, the numbers 13 and 14 do not appear on the cover but are from the list printed inside.

1. Adventure Team Headquarters (1972-74):

From all over the globe, AT members arrive for the opening of the new G.I. Joe Headquarters. Located in the jungle, the building features lots of advanced technology. The Joes are taking a tour when a message comes in - an AT member's plane has crashed in headhunter territory! Two Joes suit up and head out in the ATV. They save the pilot, but are surrounded by hostile natives. The AT helicopter is sent out, which frightens the natives into running away. Highlight: Tech-heavy headquarters is clearly ahead of its time; story conveys a feeling of wonder about this simple vinyl playset. Starring: Air Adventurer in Desert Explorer jacket and tan pants; black Adventurer in OD fatigues; Talking Commander in dark green fatigues; see Adventurer in light green uniform, Air Adventurer (injured pilot). Supporting characters: Land Adventurer in orange jumpsuit; Sea Adventurer in orange jumpsuit; Land Adventurer in blue four pocket fatigue jacket and blue pants (Air Force dress?); Talking Commander in light green fatigues.

2. Secret of the Stolen Idol (a mistake...should have read "Search for the Stolen Idol"; 1971-75):

In the deep jungle, an idol is stolen. The monks send a morse code signal to G.I. Joe, who gets it on a massive Signal Flasher conveniently strapped to his back at that very moment. There are priceless sacred jewels hidden in a secret compartment of the idol, so Joe must find it and bring it back. The rescue helicopter is parachuted from the sky. Joe assembles it quickly and takes to the skies, tracking the bad guys down after a lengthy search. In the mountains, the men mysteriously drop the idol and flee. What could have panicked them? Joe lands the chopper to find out why. It's a deadly cobra! Joe gets back in the chopper and manages to snare the idol with the winch. Highlight: The rescue copter is send down to Joe in a small bundle, which he puts together (no mention of decals). Inconsistency: In the comic, the idol is tiny, but the one included in the set is huge. Starring: Talking Commander.