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Caucus goalie KIRK NOTEN
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MOUNTIE DIES IN THAI
DRUG RAID
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Vancouver, B.C., Tuesday, February 21, 1989

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The Province

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RCMP officer killed

By SALIM JIWA
and KEITH MORGAN
Staff Reporters

He scuffed with a drug smuggler in Thailand's notorious Golden Triangle. And now a veteran Vancouver undercover Mountie is dead.

Cpl. Derek Flanagan fell from the back of a truck and hit his head after a scuffle with a suspect during a drug raid in the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai. The Province has learned.

RCMP were flummoxed about the death yesterday. But a top Canadian diplomat confirmed in a telephone interview that the 35-year-old Flanagan died Sunday while on a drug raid.

in Thailand

Gardiner Wilson, Canadian political and economic attaché in Bangkok, told The Province Flanagan was with several Thai cops when they arrested several suspects.

"Cpl. Flanagan was on an investigation with the Thai police when they encountered the bad guys," said Wilson. "He was grappling with one of the people and they tumbled from the vehicle."

Flanagan was rushed to hospital but an official inquiry. "He was involved in an operation fully sanctioned by Thai police," said Wilson. Vancouver RCMP Supt. Jim McIlwenna would only confirm the Mountie's death yesterday. "Senior officials from the Thailand National Police and the RCMP have launched His body will be flown back to B.C. within the next few days."

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