

Long-standing New Zealand revolutionary dies

Alec Ostler, a long-standing revolutionary in New Zealand's Organisation for Marxist Unity and a leading participant for many years in the New Zealand Communist movement, died on Thursday, February 8, 1990.

A message of condolence from the Communist Party of Australia (Marxist-Leninist) was conveyed to his family and comrades.

Alec Ostler was known for his great adherence to Marxist principles.

During his life he did a great deal to develop correct relations between Communist Parties around the Pacific. He paid particular attention to relations between Communists in New Zealand and Australian Communists. He was well known to many Australian Communists as a result of his work.

Alec Ostler conscientiously studied the conditions and history of New Zealand which led him along with other New Zealand Communists to conclude that the essence of their struggle was for national independence for New Zealand from the grip of foreign monopoly capitalism.

For Alec Ostler it was the New Zealand people and their struggles which make history in his country and he emphasised the importance of Communists working in ways which build unbreakable ties with people in struggle. He deeply appreciated the role of young people in the progressive movement and cherished them.

He sought the unity of all who strove to adhere to, understand, grasp and apply Marxism in New Zealand. He said differences over Marxist principle should not get in the way of united action around matters upon which there could be agreement. He sought insight and unity with Communists around the region and around the world.

His contribution to the development of the struggles of the people of New Zealand and to the development of the Communist movement in New Zealand and the region will be missed.

Australian Communists extend sympathy to his comrades and family.

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