



Charles Bronson was the founder of the Sacramento Chapter of the Black Panther Party for Self Defense. Charles opened the office of the BPP in the Oak Park section of Sacramento. The office, under the leadership of Charles, established itself in the community and started a number of programs to educate and organize the people. The Free Breakfast for School children program was started in 1969, feeding hundreds of youth before school. The office started a Liberation School for youth teaching African/American History and other courses.

Charles' leadership skills were demonstrated as the Sacramento office membership grew to over 50 Panthers and numerous community workers and supporters. Charles recruited members from the BSU's at City and State colleges in Sacramento. As the office grew, police harassment of Party members also increased. Members were harassed on sight. In June 1969, the Pigs of the City and State police raided the office after assaulting the community at McClatchy Park a half a block from the office.

The Central Committee of the BPP liked Charles' skills and moved him to Central Headquarters. From there he was sent to Washington DC to open up the DC office of the BPP. After establishing that office and a number of programs, Charles returned to California in 1972 to work as an assistant to Bobby Seale, traveling with and aiding Bobby on a daily basis.

Charles was well loved by comrades. His ability to make you laugh was easy for him. He had a great heart and worked hard. He was a fine example of a Panther.

Photos

Charles with Eldridge Cleaver in 1968 in Sacramento

Front cover to the Panther paper showing Charles after Police attack on office in June 1969

Charles on the Phone 1998

Clark Bailey and Margo Rose (Charles wife and Party member) Charles @ the opening of the movie " Huey" in 1999