

Senator attacks 'Black Panthers'

CANBERRA. (AUP). — Aboriginal Senator Neville Bonner (Liberal, Qld.) yesterday made a stinging attack against young Aboriginal militants.

Senator Bonner, Australia's first Aboriginal parliamentarian, said the young militants "dare to be our spokesmen."

"You also dare to say you desire to learn the Aboriginal culture yet band into tribal councils and the Black Panther Party," he said.

"In the ways of our people the elders spoke and still speak—and you listen.

"I ask of the guilty—are you psuedo Aborigines?"

But in the same address, Senator Bonner welcomed the emergence of the black movement in Australia.

"Welcome onto the stage of Australia Black Power of 1972, bar those who preach violence," he said.

But he criticised the Government for "listening to these of my race who

scream and rant the loudest."

"These are not necessarily the true voice of the Aborigine," he said.

But Black Power leader, Mr. Michael Anderson, the "high commissioner at the Aboriginal embassy" on the lawns opposite Parliament House, shrugged off Senator Bonner's rebuke.

Mr. Anderson, who was present when Senator Bonner made his comments at the Canberra College of Advanced Education, said it was ridiculous for the Senator to suggest that Aboriginal elders didn't want young Aborigines to speak for them.

Elders in NSW had told young Aborigines to "go ahead" and press for land and civil rights because they had the education needed to win them.