It was on March 21, 1960, that Black South Africans peacefully protested the "pass laws", imposed by the white racist minority regime, which strictly control their lives. The 96-page pass book, containing personal statistics and history, must be carried by Black Brothers and Sisters at all times. The fascist police demand inspection at any time, in any place.

Pass laws are a means of harassment and oppression, imposed by a racist regime. Police raids, many like the midnight assassination of Black Panther leader Fred Hampton, are a permanent feature of life for Black South Africans. Brutality against the South African Brothers and Sisters is a normal occurrence, with police invading homes, separating families, and terrorizing whole communities.

Ten years ago the demonstrators at Sharpeville told police they had left their passes at home and they would no longer carry them. Their plan was to overflow the jails and engulf the whole country. The police panicked, and without warning, squads appeared armed with rifles and automatic weapons and opened fire on the crowd. The front ranks of demonstrators were cut down in a slaughter that killed 69 people immediately and injured 257, most of them seriously.

The newspaper ran it this way: "...volley after volley of .303 bullets and sten-gun bursts tore into the crowd...as scores of people fell before the hail of bullets. Bodies lay in grotesque positions on the pavement. Then came ambulances, 11 of them. Two truckloads of bodies were taken to the mortuary.

The South African government unleashed a wave of terror following the massacre. In a single sweep, 21,000 activists and opponents...of apartheid were arrested on contrived charges and detained without trial. Hundreds fled the country. Millions of Africans continue to live under racist oppression.

Ten years later, in Chicago, March 1970..............(over)
WE REMEMBER SHARPEVILLE!

FRI. MARCH 20 8:00 P.M.
AFRO-ARTS THEATRE
3947 S. DREXEL FREE

Hear:

DENNIS BRUTUS

Also:

ENTERTAINMENT: "THE PHARAOHS"

JAMES DAVIS, Advance Guard, The African Nationalist Pioneer Movement

EUGENE PERKINS, Afro-American Poet

PREXY NESBITT, Afro-American, former teacher in Tanzania

Sponsor: Chicago Office of the American Committee on Africa (1514 S. Albany)