



Editorial Comment

REMEMBER SHARPEVILLE!

Our people and the entire peace-loving mankind will never forget the shocking events of March 21, 1960. On this day 69 of our unarmed people were gunned down in cold blood and more than 200 others injured by the racist trigger-happy police in Sharpeville and Langa during a peaceful demonstration against the inhuman laws of the Pretoria boers.

During the past twenty years the world has witnessed the deliberate pursuing of genocidal policies over our people by those who rule us against our will. Our leaders Nelson Mandela, Walter Sisulu, Govan Mbeki, Ahmed Kathrada, Dennis Goldberg and other patriots of our country have been arbitrarily sentenced either to life or long term prison sentences. Some of the best sons of our Motherland have been done to death by the Pretoria hangman - Mini, Mkaba, Khayinga and Mahlangu; the Pretoria hangman's noose is presently dangling around the necks of our young fighters for freedom - Johnson Lubisi, Petrus Mashigo and Naphtalie Manana. The enemy has even gone to the extent of committing acts of cowardice against our people in the friendly African states that give us refuge. There are scores of others whose deaths were never reported by the racist murderers. The Pretoria rulers have built more and bigger dungeons where our people are tortured to death or maimed including young children. Those who remain

outside p r i s o n s are systematically decimated through bullets, starvation and deceases.

F O R C E

Our people have not taken this lying on their bellies. Under the leadership of our tried and tested vanguard organisation, the ANC, our people created their own army, Umkhonto we Sizwe, to be their shield and striking force, for their salvation from racist brutality for freedom. Our struggle has surged forward to a stage "where," as our President Oliver Tambo has clearly stated "freedom is truly in sight."

What does Sharpeville mean to us today? Sharpeville has become an insistent call to all who honestly cherish the ideal of a free and democratic South Africa of the Freedom Charter. Sharpeville is a call to all genuine South African patriots to wipe the tears of all our mothers whose husbands, sons and daughters have lost their lives at the hands of the racist oppressor. Sharpeville is a c l a r i o n call to bring an end to our centuries-old bondage. For too long we have been the only ones who have had to bury their dead and pledge to avenge the deaths of our mothers, fathers, sisters & brothers. Now is the time for us to make the enemy pay dearly for all the crimes they have committed against our peaceful people. The enemy must also mourn.

The racist enemy is desperately preparing to drown us in a blood bath, for he sees his days are numbered and the whole world is condemning him. We, the people of South Africa, have nothing to lose but our shackles and a bright future to gain. Our just cause enjoys the support of all the freedom-loving people of the world. The enemy cannot win this war which he has declared on us. History has decided that victory is ours. We must fight back with doubled determination. The catchword is: **The enemy is attacking – let us reply!**

FORWARD TO A PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT!

