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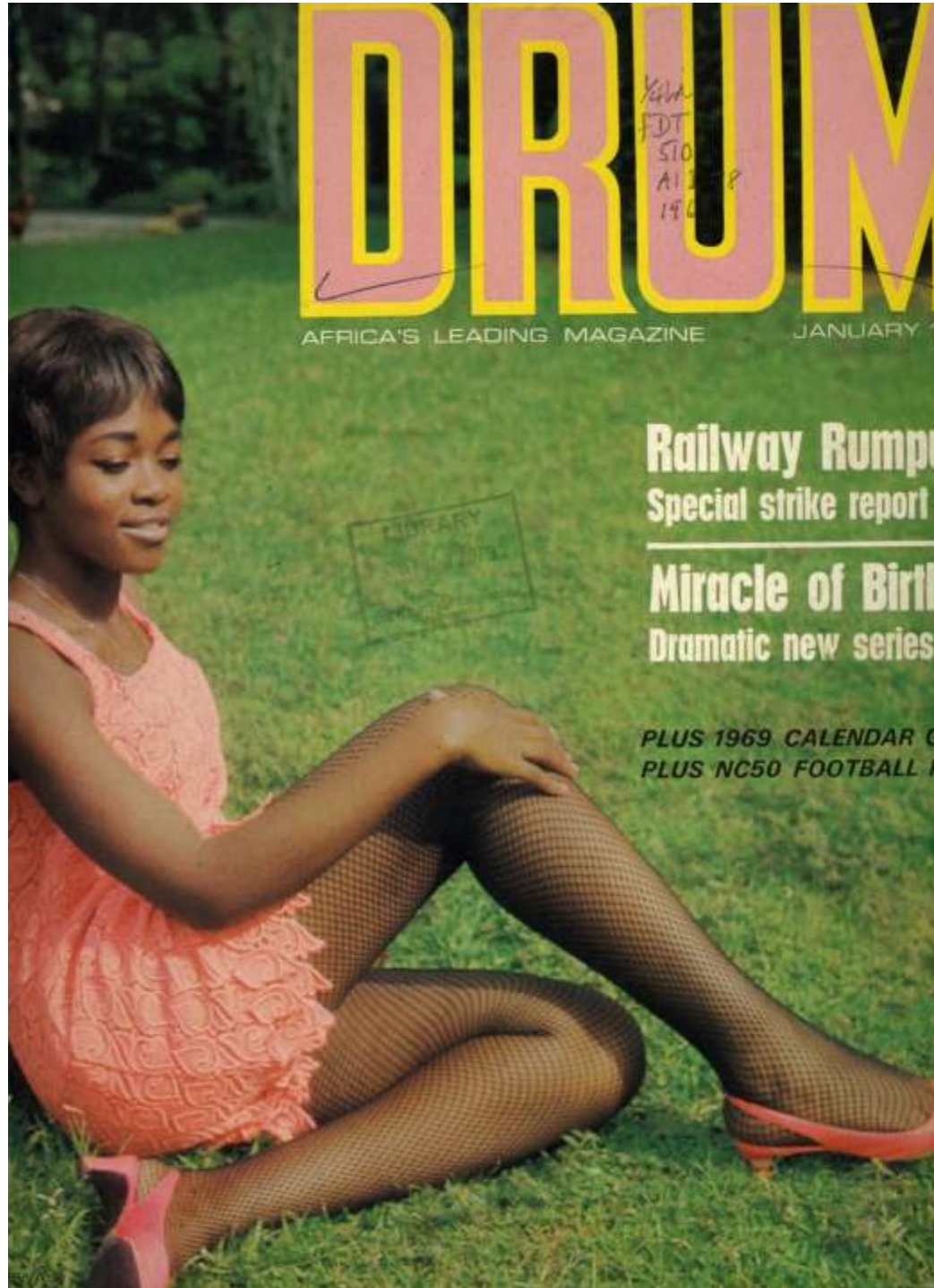
AFRICA'S LEADING MAGAZINE

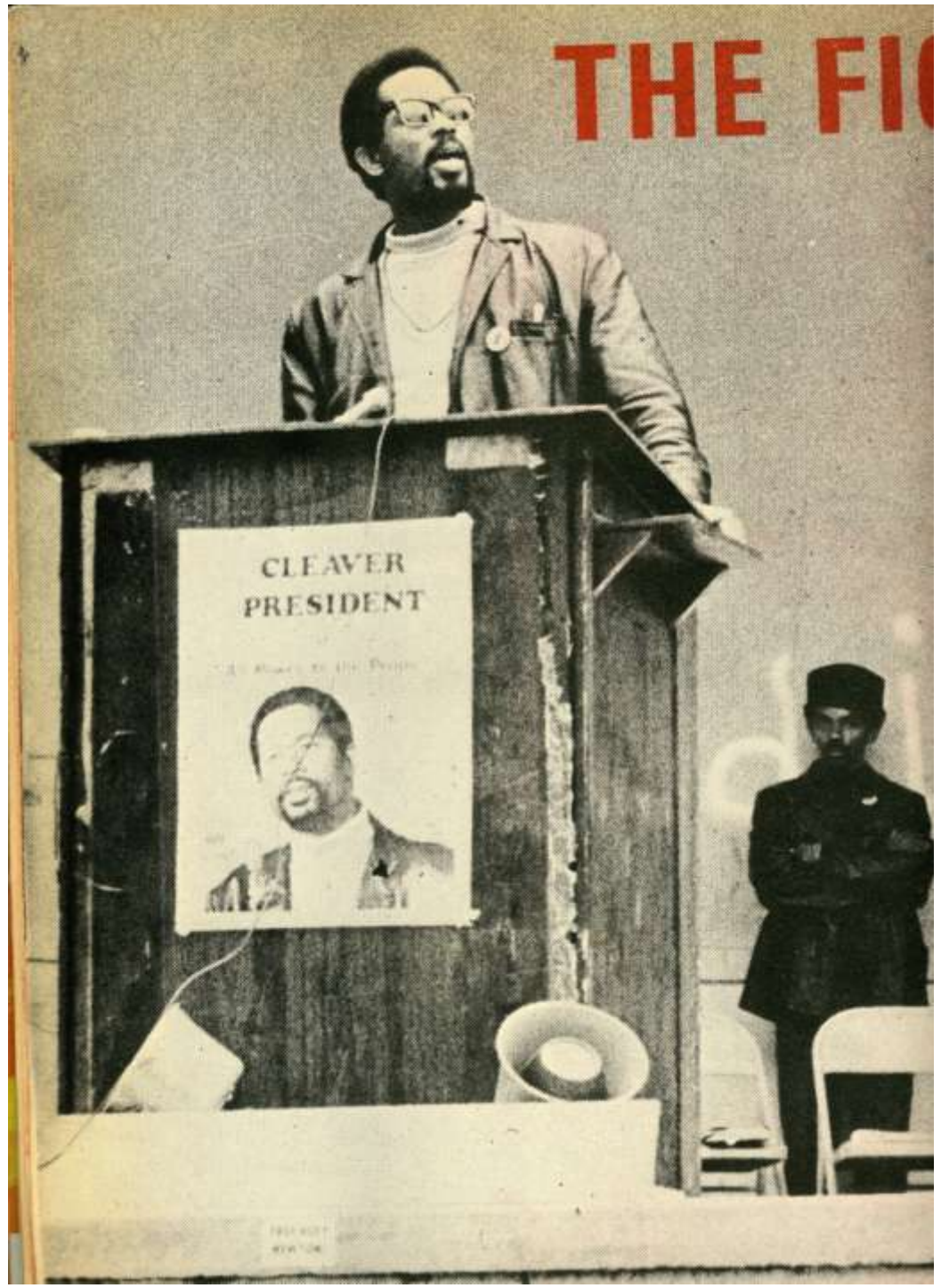
JANUARY 1969

Railway Rumpus
Special strike report

Miracle of Birth
Dramatic new series

PLUS 1969 CALENDAR G
PLUS NC50 FOOTBALL F







America the beautiful

SOMETIMES

OR BLACK POWER



The man on the rostrum is Eldridge Cleaver one of the key men in the Black Panther movement in the United States. Cameron Duodu, who in the past has taken DRUM's readers to many parts of the world, has recently returned from a visit to America. Here is the first of his reports on what he found there—a survey of the reasons that have led to the Fight for Black Power.





America the beautiful . . . but there is tension when civil rights leaders speak to their people.

stally shunning con-
s with whites, irres-
whether the whites
elves unracialist or
don't want to take the
ly insulted.
se, the whites are
ground and accusing
of being "racialists."
can a white man
what he has never
against a people
whom have insulted
a life just because of
ur, and completely
ed with any behavi-
a part? That's where
is at, white baby
hen no offence is
becomes so condi-
pecting offence that
est that offence is
instance, one night
club in Louisville,
my companion and I
I were asked to move
set table because a

larger group had come and our
table could accommodate more
than two. It was a perfectly
logical request, but just because
there were white couples also
sitting at tables similar to ours
and we were the only black
couple there, we both felt that
the manager was being racist.
So I talked sharply to him,
saying he should have shown
us to the right table in the first
instance and not disturb us after
we'd become comfortable. Then,
we left. I'm still unable to cut
through the ambiguity of the
situation. Had he meant to be
rude or was it just a coincidence
that he picked on us?
No; you can't get away from it,
ever. Even on board an aircraft,
from New York city to Louisville,
an air hostess was rude to me,
the only black man on board.
I was squeezed between two
very fat men and the only way in
which I could get up, as I

wanted to wash, was to remove
the plate on which I'd been
served.
I managed this difficult task
and got out of the seat. Then I
took the plate to the air hostess,
on my way to the toilet. When I
extended my arm with the plate
expecting her to take it, she
didn't but let it drop!
Her angry words were, "You
should have waited for me to
come and take it."
My dear Lord! I could have
died with the shock. I really
was most shattered. I shall
never forget the look of sheer
hatred on her face.
In a country which breeds
people like that, acts of kindness
and love stand out miles high.
In Bloomington, Indiana, I
had a couple as friends; they
were both very young and most
intelligent—the girl was a musi-
cian and the young man was
going to Peru or some place

like that to study the lives of the
people. Mr. & Mrs. Oliver Smith.
With them, one was just another
human being; it was the same
feeling I had when I stayed with
an elderly couple, the Grabbes of
Los Angeles, who had actually
taken into their home a young
University of Ghana graduate,
Boateng, who is there to help
high schools with African history.
And in every city, there is a
Committee or Council for Over-
seas Visitors, whose members
vie with each other to entertain
foreign visitors.

Interludes with
them only reinforced
that could racialists
eradicated, America
the most lovely pla-
world.
Right now, though
liness doesn't match
ugliness. Even in
lovely city, San Fran-
made the greatest im-
me was my meet-
15-year-old girl who
ceiving full training as
fighter in the Black
organisation.

NEXT MONTH
Cameron Duodu completes his fasci-
report from America. Why does a 15-
old girl become a Black Panther? And
deeply are Negro students involved in
Black Power scene? Answers in DR