

# COULSON COP QUIZ

By JAMES LYONS, Political Correspondent

DAVID Cameron's spin chief faces a grilling by police over new claims about phone-hacking at the New of the World, a Scotland Yard commander said yesterday.

Downing Street communications director Andy Coulson has denied knowing staff at the paper accessed phone messages illegally when he was its editor.

But former reporter Sean Hoare insisted that Mr Coulson knew about the eavesdropping technique.

Metropolitan Police Assistant Commissioner John Yates said officers would speak to Mr Hoare "in the near future" and that he expected them to interview the journalist's old boss.

Mr Yates said: "At some stage I think we will be seeing Mr Coulson. We will meet Mr Hoare first and take stock after that."

Mr Yates defended a previous investigation into phone-hacking at the Sunday paper - after which its former royal editor Clive Goodman was jailed in 2007 along with private investigator Glenn Mulcaire for phone-hacking.

Mr Coulson said at the time he knew nothing about the practice but quit as editor, claiming "ultimate responsibility" and went to work for Tory leader Mr Cameron.

The spin chief has insisted he is happy to talk to police as pressure for a fresh inquiry has mounted.

MPs announced a fresh inquiry into Commons phone-tapping - after a probe earlier this year found no evidence that Mr Coulson knew the technique was being used.



GRILLING Coulson

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VISA

# PAKISTAN FLOOD DISASTER

BY TOM PARRY IN SUJAWAL, PAKISTAN t.parry@mirror.co.uk

**CROUCHING** on the rooftop that has become his home, flood victim Mohammad Hanif pleads for help.

The father-of-two clambered from a second-floor window on to the rickety panels as a 12ft wall of water surged through the Pakistani city of Sujawal. But now his supplies have run out.

He yells from his precarious perch: "We sent our wives and children away as soon as we realised we would probably be flooded."

"There have been lots of rumours of looting so were worried that we might lose everything if we left our house alone. That's why I've stayed. There are gangs of robbers going around in boats."

"Men like me are sitting guard. I have a few blankets and sleep on the roof at night. It's been like that for 10 days."

"I've got no way of finding out what has happened to my family. The army are here but they take no notice. We are being left behind."

## HAVOC

This is abandoned Sujawal, a city without hope. One it was home to 300,000 people - the same size as Hull or Coventry.

Today a tiny fraction of its inhabitants remain to eke out a precarious existence.

It is two weeks since they were woken in the middle of the night by the rush of water surging through the streets.

As the torrent submerged the city, most fled for their lives in just the clothes they were wearing. The once-bustling hub at the mouth of the Indus River turned into a ghost town overnight.

Sujawal's devastation is a perfect illustration of what has happened across

Pakistan since the worst monsoons in living memory first wreaked havoc in the north.

Nearly 20million people - a third of the population of Britain - have been evacuated in the biggest mass exodus in history.

With the help of the army and a local fisherman, the Mirror entered forgotten Sujawal.

We arrive in the city two hours north of Karachi in an army truck. It is the only vehicle that can get through. Along the road are the toppled buses and cars whose drivers tried and failed to escape by road.

Disease-ridden stagnant water stretches as far as the eye can see. Only the tops of houses and the minarets of mosques can be seen breaking the surface.

A group of men on an island of road halfway down the once-bustling main street tell us they too remained to protect their properties.

## CANOE

When the Indus - more than 10 times its normal size - swallowed the city, they climbed up and sat guard in the hope of keeping what little they have left.

Boatman Ali Hamed, 50, steers us around the eerily deserted streets in his tiny canoe.

He uses a saucepan lid tied to a stick as an oar.

We pass the telephone exchange and a maternity clinic, both destroyed by the floods.

They were inundated when dykes alongside nearby canals were breached in late August. From far off, figures can be seen on the upper floor of Sujawal's biggest school. As we float across the games field towards it, scores of people emerge from the classrooms.

They were in hoping the water wouldn't reach the second floor, Ali tells us.

Three boys swim across to greet us. They are brothers Mirhassan, 11, Aziz, 12, and Moor, 15.

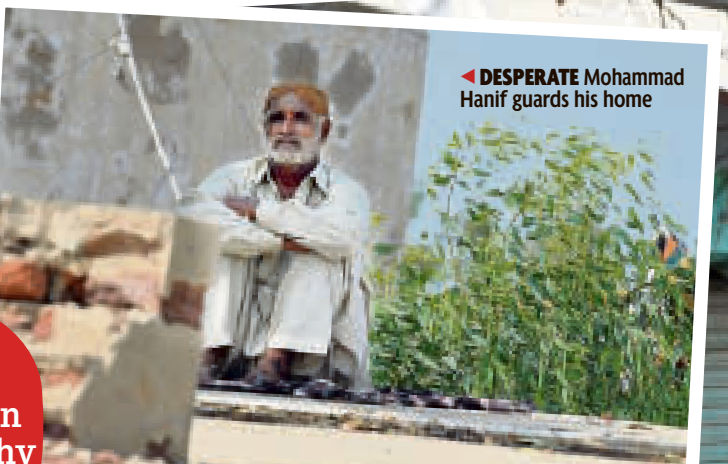
Aziz says: "There are about a hundred people in every classroom. We are in a room with our family and other people from our village."

"We had to get here quickly because the water was travelling so fast."

"Our parents couldn't carry much. Since then we've only had a few biscuits and some bread to



HOPELESS A laden donkey cart can't get through flood

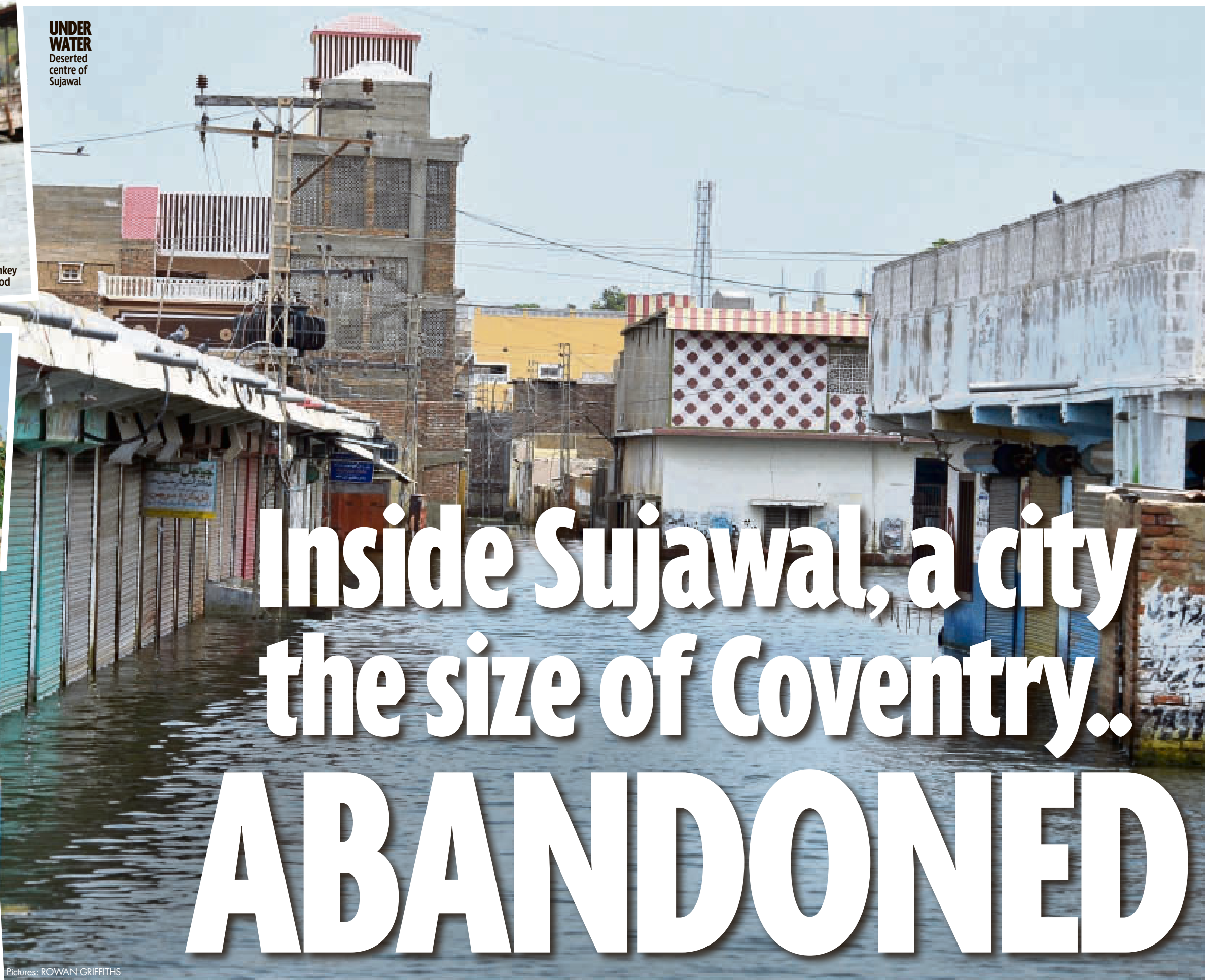


DESPERATE Mohammad Hanif guards his home



HAVOC Mirror's Parry surveys the forgotten city

UNDER WATER Deserted centre of Sujawal



# Inside Sujawal, a city the size of Coventry.. ABANDONED

Pictures: ROWAN GRIFFITHS

eat. I'm terrified about being stuck here much longer. It's not a nice place to be at night."

A skeletal dog walks back and forth along the school boundary wall, obviously afraid to fall into the murky water.

Occasionally trucks overloaded with supplies try to get through. One old man wades to the edge of town with his sodden possessions piled on a creaking donkey cart before giving up when the water gets too deep.

We watch a truck sagging with urgently needed bottled water get halfway across a fast-flowing torrent before it comes to a standstill.

Raza Mohammad, leading the makeshift relief drive, explains: "Our money comes from a wealthy man in Karachi. He told us to keep driving as far

## RUIN

When a major dam was washed away in August, half of the flood waters followed the Indus' natural course instead of into the Arabian Sea, leaving a trail of destruction.

On Monday local authorities evacuated towns six hours north of Sujawal as the water flowed into the country's largest lake.

If the lake banks burst it could spell ruin for

millions more who have so far escaped Pakistan's worst natural disaster. The official death toll of 1,600 is expected to rise dramatically.

Aid agencies believe the biggest threat to those who remain in the stranded villages is from diseases such as cholera, dysentery, diarrhoea and typhoid.

These people have no choice but to drink the muddy flood water. Although there are sufficient supplies in the country, getting them to those most in need is proving challenging.

Action Aid worker Zakaria Nutkani, who accompanied the Mirror to Sujawal, says: "The people urgently need fresh supplies of medicine and clean water. We must

get it out at once to those who need it most. The scale of this disaster is unimaginable until you see it up close.

"I think it will take years and years before places like Sujawal make steps towards recovery."

"For now all we can do is try to save as many lives as possible."

"The waters will start to recede in some places soon. But the problem is that in a lot of places there's nowhere for it to drain to."

"That's where diseases will spread like wildfire, which is why we have to act quickly."

TO give money to Action Aid visit www.actionaid.org.uk or telephone 01460 238023.

The scale of this disaster is unimaginable until you get to see it close up ACTION AID WORKER



CONCERN Jolie in Pakistan yesterday

## ANGE AID TRIP

ANGELINA Jolie is spending two days in northern Pakistan to highlight the plight of flood victims.

The Oscar-winning star hopes her visit, starting yesterday, will convince foreign governments and rich donors to open their wallets.

Wearing a long black robe and a black headscarf adorned with a thin red stripe, Angelina, 35, toured a refugee camp at Jaloza, in the Swat Valley.

She said: "I am very moved by them and I hope that I am able to, today and tomorrow, be able to do something to help bring attention to the situation for all of the people in need in Pakistan."