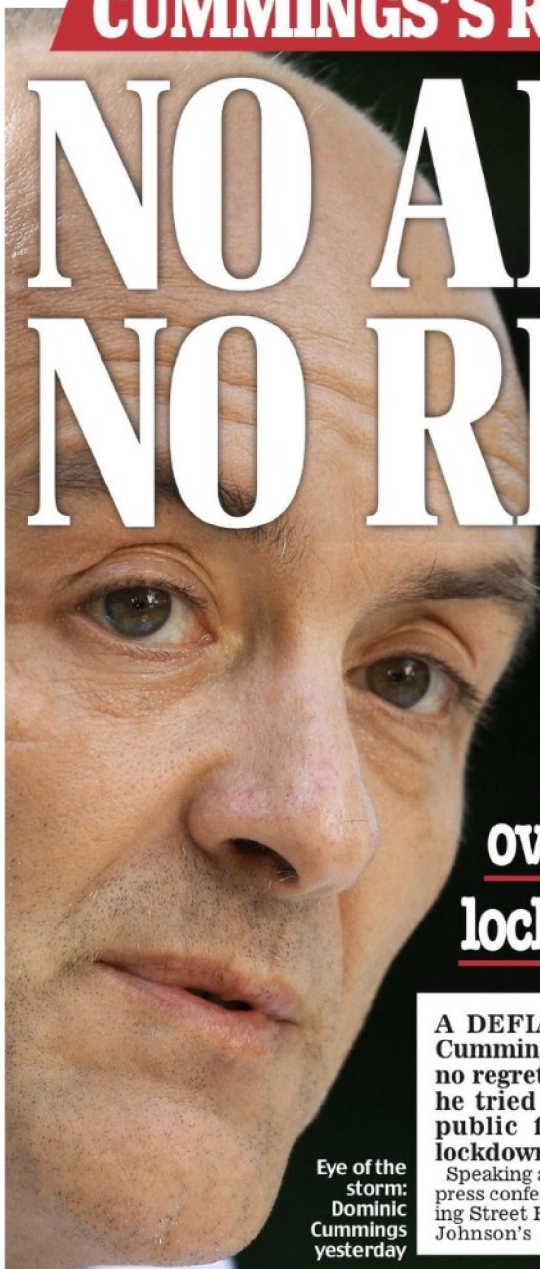




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CUMMINGS'S ROSE GARDEN ROASTING



NO APOLOGY NO REGRETS

In unprecedented 60-minute public interrogation, Boris's defiant svengali refuses to quit over secret trip to Durham during lockdown. So how CAN he survive?

A DEFIANT Dominic Cummings said he had no regrets yesterday as he tried to defuse the public fury over his lockdown-busting trips.

Speaking at an extraordinary press conference in the Downing Street Rose Garden, Boris Johnson's chief aide said he

By **Jason Groves**
Political Editor

had nothing to apologise for and had never even considered resigning over the furore.

Mr Cummings, who swapped his usual scruffy attire for a smart shirt and trousers for the 60-minute interrogation, acknowledged he had made 'mistakes' in the handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

But he insisted his private conduct had obeyed both the letter and the spirit of the lockdown rules, which required people to stay at home in almost all circumstances.

And he blamed media distortions for the controversy engulfing the Government.

He said his decision to drive his wife and young son 260 miles to Durham at the height of the lockdown had been misrepresented

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Eye of the storm: Dominic Cummings yesterday