

Story ideas?

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Section C

BP gets \$1B settlement from Gulf partner

By JANE WARDELL

AP Business Writer

LONDON — BP said Friday that one of its minority partners in the blown-out Gulf of Mexico well agreed to cover about \$1.1 billion in costs. That's raising hopes the oil giant can get money from other companies involved and reduce its bill for the disaster.

BP said that MOEX Offshore 2007 LLC, which had a 10 percent interest in the Macondo well, agreed to recognize findings by the U.S. Presidential Commission that the accident resulted from "oversights and outright mistakes by multiple parties and a number of causes."

As a minority partner, MOEX was obligated to pay a percentage of the cleanup costs. But it had refused to pay BP on the grounds that the incident was the result of BP's negligence. MOEX's about-face is important because it's the first time another company has agreed that BP wasn't solely responsible for the disaster.

MOEX, a unit of Japanese trading house Mitsui & Co., agreed to pay \$1.065 billion to settle all claims between the companies.

Super 8 gives rooms to active military

By TONY BRITT

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Active duty military personnel will be the guests of honor at Super 8 motels this summer as the result of a promotion aimed at honoring service men and women.

American Motel Management, the company managing the Super 8 in Lake City, has launched a promotion in which the company will donate 100 room nights to active duty military personnel — at an estimated value of more than \$6,000. The campaign started May 11 and will run through July 1.

About 10 years ago, the company's owners had a Best Western Motel in Hendersonville, N. C., and put a sign on their property advertising a huge party when Osama bin Laden was captured.

In light of the recent events, since the owners now have 10 motels in the American Motel Network, they decided to host active military with complimentary rooms to thank them for what they do to keep our country safe.

Suzanne Moses, general manager of the local Super 8, at 3954 SW State Road 47, said she hopes all the rooms are given at the local hotel.

"The owner has put



JASON MATTHEW WALKER/Lake City Reporter

The staff of the Super 8 Motel, located at 3954 SW State Road 47 in Lake City, will continue to offer complimentary rooms to active duty military personnel until June 30. Pictured are housekeepers Kim McBroom (from left), Crystal Debrule, maintenance worker Paul Debrule, front desk associate Amber Tompkins, general manager Suzanne Moses, maintenance engineer John Lawrence, and housekeepers Patricia Cook, Angel Thurston and Rachael Bolser. "We are honoring our military heroes," Moses said. "It's a good opportunity to thank the people in service. It's a nice thing to give to somebody who deserves it."

up 100 rooms as part of this campaign and I want them all in Lake City," she said. "Business has been slow and this has been a positive promotion to keep staff busy and working. It's an opportunity for them (employees) to get involved in community

service, too."

American Motel Management properties offers a 20 percent military/government discount at all times. The company has a total of 10 lodging properties throughout the Southeast in Mississippi, Florida, North Carolina, Louisiana and Tennessee.

Moses said she's proud the company is hosting

this promotion and she also spoke of its importance.

"For us, this is to keep our employees working, to thank the military and to generally provide some community service and (military) people that are traveling a place to stay," she said, noting a complimentary room for people in the military allows them to spend their money on other

things as they make trips.

"It allows them to spend their money in Lake City."

Moses said active duty military personnel need only show their active military identification to participate in the campaign.

With the upcoming Memorial Day holiday, Moses suggested travelers call ahead to set a reservation.

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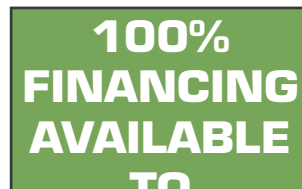
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