

U.S. Official Says Hayward On Way Out

BY TAMARA LUSH AND HARRY WEBER
Associated Press Writers

NEW ORLEANS — It looks like Tony Hayward will finally get his life back after all. The gaffe-prone Brit is on his way out as CEO of oil giant BP, according to a senior U.S. government official. An announcement could come by sundown Monday about the fate of the man who enraged scores of frustrated Gulf residents by infamously declaring "I'd like my life back," in May.

The senior U.S. official, who spoke on condition of anonymity because an announcement had not been made, was briefed on the decision by a senior BP official late last week.

The 53-year-old Hayward was BP's most visible figure for weeks after the April 20 oil rig explosion that killed 11 workers and set off the massive spill in the Gulf of Mexico. But he faded from the scene after several tone-deaf comments made people even angrier at the company than they had been.

He minimized the environmental effects of the spill, questioned the existence of oil plumes identified by scientists, and enraged members of Congress when he said he was out of the loop on decisions at the well before the explosion. Another goof: In mid-June, as live video showed oil gushing into

the Gulf, Hayward went home to England — and attended a yacht race.

"He seems like a pretty self-absorbed person, so I'm not surprised to hear he would walk away in the middle of all this," said Gulf resident Patrick Shay, 43, who sat on a porch swing at his cottage in Grand Isle on Sunday. His front yard is filled with small, white crosses, each bearing the name of sea life or ways of life the oil spill has killed. "If anything it will help. They need to get him out of the way and get this cleaned up."

It's unclear who will replace Hayward or when it will happen, but one of the most likely successors is BP Managing Director Bob Dudley, who is overseeing the British company's spill response and would be BP's first American CEO. He took the lead on oil spill duties after Hayward was pilloried for the yacht episode.

A change in leadership will not change the mammoth tasks ahead of BP, from stopping the offshore oil gusher for good, to cleaning up the millions of gallons that have already leaked, to paying billions in claims — all while defending its stock price and repairing its battered reputation.

A temporary plug has stopped oil from gushing for more than a week now, but before that the busted well had spewed anywhere from 94 million to 184 million gallons

into the Gulf.

Plaquemines Parish President Billy Nungesser said Hayward's departure will be good for BP's image.

"I just hope they replace him with somebody who understands the situation, someone who will come down here and see what's happening on a regular basis, someone who will communicate with us," he said. "From the beginning it was obvious this guy was not the leader needed in this crisis."

But other Gulf residents shrugged upon hearing the news. The oil, they said, has already done its damage.

"It doesn't matter," said Chris Foss, a 39-year-old boat captain from Port Sulphur. "Whatever happens with the corporate dudes is irrelevant. The only thing that matters is what they are going to do about this mess."

David Duet, 62, of LaRose, La., filled his ice chest at the grocery store in Grand Isle, where he brings his camper every weekend despite the oil.

"I don't think he's directly responsible for the spill, but he still had to answer for it," said Duet, who worked on oil rigs for more than 22 years. "I can understand the time it took to cap it. I know how hard things are out there."

Arizona Officials Misidentify Crash Victims

PHOENIX (AP) — Family and friends spent the past week standing vigil outside a Phoenix hospital room, praying Marlena Cantu would recover from severe injuries suffered in an Arizona traffic crash.

But their world was turned upside down when they learned authorities made a mistake — and the badly bruised, swollen-faced woman in the hospital wasn't the 21-year-old.

Cantu had actually died in the crash, and her friend — 19-year-old Abby Guerra — was the one in critical condition with a brain injury, broken back, collapsed lung and other injuries.

Guerra's family had spent the past week planning her funeral, and teammates from Guerra's University of Evansville soccer team in Indiana planned to fly to Phoenix to attend it. They rushed to her bedside Saturday

after learning of the mix-up.

"It's a miracle but ... you feel angry because we mourned all week," Dorenda Cisneros, Guerra's aunt, told KPHO-TV in Phoenix on Sunday.

Cisneros said trying to come to terms with the news of Guerra's death was like a bad dream, and the family is hopeful someone will be held accountable for the mistake.

"You just don't want this to ever happen to somebody else, you know? To point fingers and this and that doesn't do any good," she said. "We just want ... some changes to be made so families don't have to go through this."

The Arizona Department of Public Safety said in an e-mail to The Associated Press on Sunday that a spokesman wouldn't be available to discuss the identification mistake until Monday.

NATION/WORLD DIGEST

Taliban Says They've Captured U.S. Sailor

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP) — The Taliban claimed Sunday that they killed a U.S. sailor and kidnapped another as NATO forces ramped up a massive search for the servicemen, who went missing two days earlier in an area held by the militants.

The coalition force set up checkpoints and distributed fliers with the sailors' pictures and are offering thousands of dollars in rewards for their return. There were conflicting reports about whether the body of one of the two had been recovered.

U.S. and NATO officials confirmed that two American Navy personnel went missing Friday in the eastern province of Logar, after an armored sport utility vehicle was seen driving into a Taliban-held area. NATO officials were unable to say what they were doing in such a dangerous part of eastern Afghanistan.

Taliban spokesman Zabiullah Mujahid also said the pair drove into an area under insurgent control, prompting a brief firefight in which one American was killed and the other was captured. He said both were taken to a "safe area" and "are in the hands of the Taliban."

The sailors' heavily reinforced white Land Cruiser has been recovered, according to a security official in Logar who spoke on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to disclose the information.

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Chavez Threatens To Suspend Oil Sales

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — President Hugo Chavez threatened on Sunday to cut off oil sales to the United States if Venezuela is attacked by its U.S.-allied neighbor Colombia in a dispute over allegations Venezuela gives haven to Colombian rebels.

Chavez made his warning in an outdoor speech to thousands of supporters, saying: "If there is any armed aggression against Venezuela from Colombian territory or anywhere else supported by the Yankee empire, we ... would suspend shipments of oil to the United States"

"We wouldn't send another drop of oil to its refineries, not a single drop more!" Chavez shouted, adding that the United States is "the big one to blame for all the tension in this part of the world."

If actually carried out, such a threat would be a titanic economic blow for Chavez's government, which depends heavily on oil sales. The U.S. is the top buyer of oil from Venezuela, which is the United States' fifth biggest foreign supplier.

But Colombia has not threatened military action, and it's likely Chavez made the warning in part to put Washington and Bogota on notice that he will not stand for a more aggressive international campaign to denounce allegations that leftist Colombian rebels are finding refuge in Venezuela.

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Shortcuts: Sharp Answers to Couponers' FAQs

Q: "This week the deodorant that my husband uses is on sale for \$1.99. I have two manufacturer coupons for \$1 off a purchase of two deodorants. Can I use both of those coupons when purchasing?"

A: No, you cannot. While it might seem like you should be able to use two of these coupons on two items, a coupon for \$1 off two items actually functions as two 50-cent coupons to the register. Because manufacturer coupons are "limit one per item purchased," this coupon does indeed apply to both items. When the register scans that coupon, it will take a 50-cent deduction from each item. At that point, the register will not accept a second manufacturer coupon on the same item. This would violate the "one per purchase" terms of the coupon. If the clerk scans a second coupon, the register will beep to reject it.

Q: "I went online to search for coupons for coffee and ended up at a website that wanted all kinds of personal information, including my birth date, and required multiple surveys. Before I even finished filling out the forms, someone called me asking about something I did not even sign up for. Perhaps you should warn readers that this is a major marketing ploy to get our personal information and track our shopping so they can barrage us with advertising."

A: There are many sites on the web that offer printable coupons - some legitimate, some not. Probably the worst way to look for printable coupons is with an Internet search engine. It's easy to end up on a spam site like the one you described, which is designed to harvest and sell your personal information. Worse, you may fill out all of those forms and discover there was no coupon to print at all.

The best and safest way to find printable coupons online? Stick to major, well-known coupon sites and manufacturer websites. The three most reputable coupon sites are Coupons.com, SmartSource.com and RedPlum.com. They are free and require no personal information.

Each site offers new printable coupons every week, and most of these offers have a print limit of two coupons per computer. Remember to go back to the link after you've printed your first coupon and print another. (When we're stocking up during a good sale, it's always beneficial to have multiples of the same coupon!) Many well-known product manufacturers offer coupons on all three of these sites.

Manufacturer websites are also great places to find coupons. Always visit a manufacturer's site by typing its address into your browser (i.e. www.Pillsbury.com) so that you're certain you're on a legitimate website for printing coupons.

Some manufacturers' websites require you to register before printing coupons, but it's typically not the kind of invasive registration that you experienced. I usually use a different email account, rather than my regular e-mail address, to register for coupons. Set up a free email with Yahoo or a similar service and use that for coupon-related email. And remember, never disclose any personal information you're not comfortable giving out.

Q: "How many printable coupons do you print, Jill? It seems like every week there are hundreds of new ones."

A: Oh, there are! And because many of the coupons are often offered repeatedly, I don't waste time or paper printing coupons I won't use. I typically only print the coupons I'll actually use for this week's shopping trip.

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Jill Cataldo, a coupon workshop instructor, writer and mother of three, never passes up a good deal. Learn more about couponing at her website, www.supercouponing.com. E-mail your own couponing victories and questions to jill@ctwfeatures.com.

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