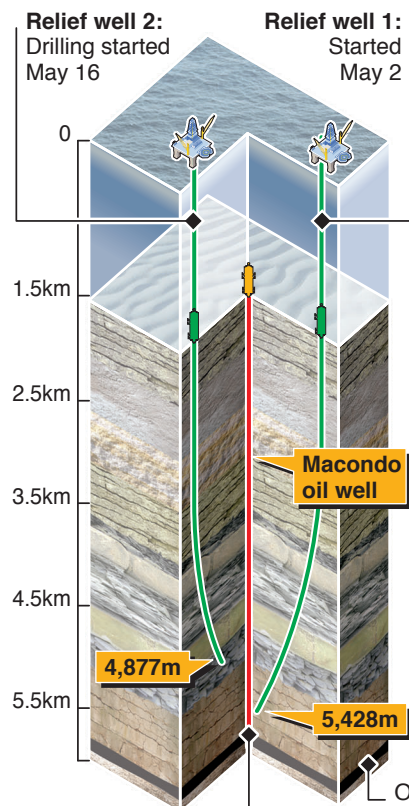


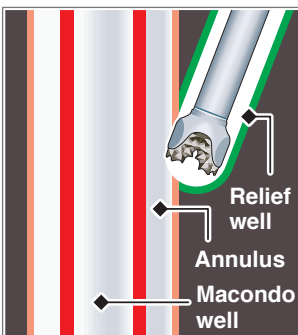
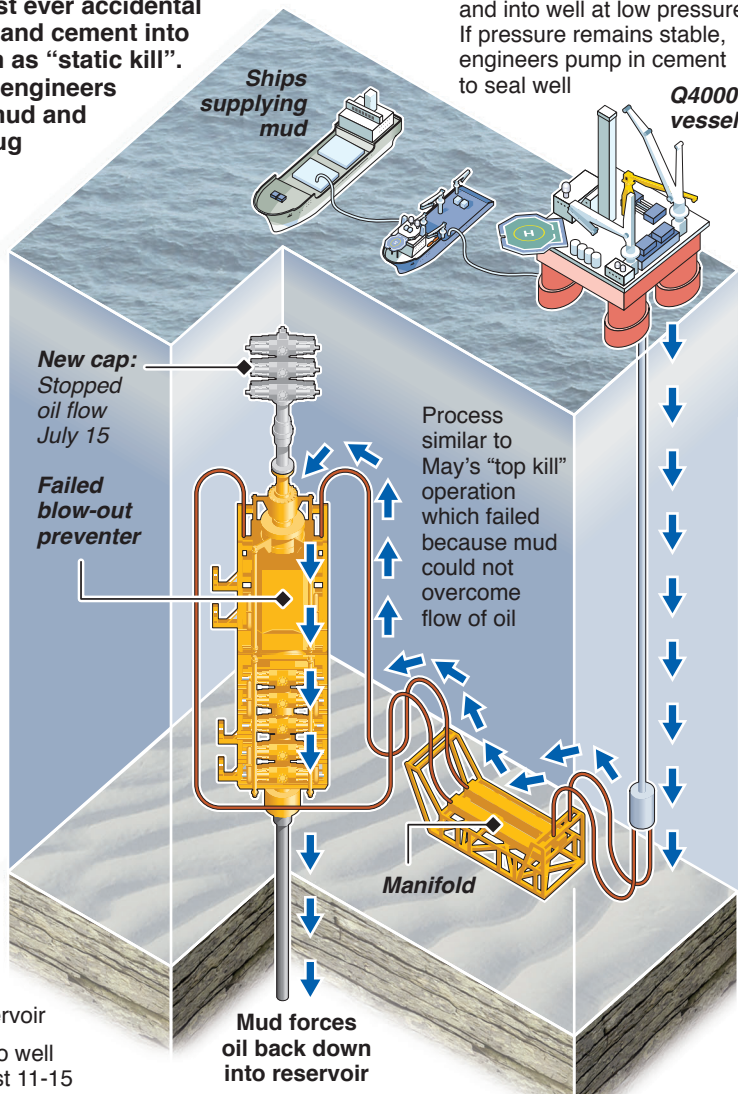
BP gears up to plug Gulf well for good

BP aims to finally stem the world's worst ever accidental oil spill by pumping heavy drilling mud and cement into the Macondo well in a procedure known as "static kill". But as success can not be guaranteed, engineers will still follow it up by pumping more mud and cement via a relief well that has been dug deep into the earth for months

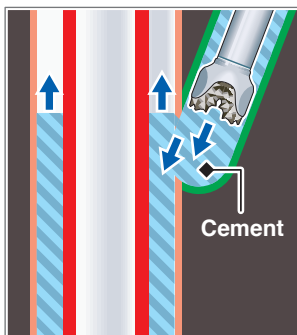
STATIC KILL: Mud pumped through blow-out preventer and into well at low pressure. If pressure remains stable, engineers pump in cement to seal well



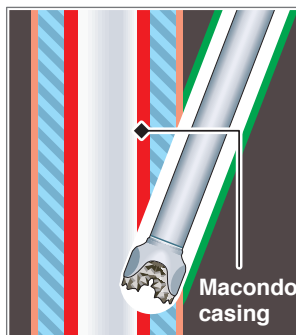
BOTTOM KILL: Relief well will reach Macondo well at depth of 5,486m, some time between August 11-15



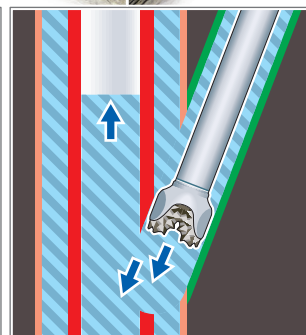
1 Relief well drills into annulus of Macondo well



2 Mud and then cement pumped into annulus



3 Mill-tooth drill cuts into steel casing pipe



4 Mud and cement seal Macondo well permanently