

Merkel warns against 'simple answers' after G7

By DAVID RISING and GEIR MOULSON
Associated Press

BERLIN — Chancellor Angela Merkel cautioned Monday against seeking "simple answers" to complex global issues, a day after suggesting that Europe's relationship with the U.S. had shifted significantly following NATO and G-7 meetings with President Donald Trump that produced disappointing results.

The comments at an election rally Sunday in Bavaria, where Merkel stressed that "we Europeans must really take our destiny into our own hands," were widely seen as acknowledgement from Europe's most powerful leader of the changing dynamic of trans-Atlantic ties.

Her foreign minister, a political rival, upped the rhetoric Monday by declaring that with Trump's policies, "the West has become smaller."

Merkel's remarks came after a Group of Seven summit at which the Europeans couldn't reach an agreement with Trump on climate change.



AP Photo/Andrew Medichini

Leaders of the G7, from left, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, U.S. President Donald Trump, Italian Prime Minister Paolo Gentiloni, French President Emmanuel Macron, Japan's Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and British Prime Minister Theresa May pose during a group photo for the G7 summit in the Ancient Theatre of Taormina in Taormina, Italy, Friday.

"The times in which we can fully count on others are somewhat over, as I have experienced in the past few days," she said. "And so all I can say is that we Europeans must really take our destiny into our own hands."

Merkel also emphasized the continued need for friendly relations with the U.S. and others. Her

spokesman Steffen Seibert, said Monday the chancellor is "a convinced trans-Atlanticist."

U.S.-German relations "are a strong pillar of our foreign and security policy, and Germany will continue working to strengthen these relations," Seibert said. "Precisely because they are so important, it's right to

name differences honestly."

Where Europe's relationship with the U.S. during the Cold War and in its immediate aftermath had a strong emotional component, Merkel's comments suggest she now sees them as more "pragmatic and transactional," said Sylke Tempel, an expert with the German Council on Foreign

Relations. "She feels there is a turning point — trans-Atlantic relations won't be the relations we've seen over the last decades," Tempel said. "Trump accelerates it, but it was to be expected."

She also noted that Merkel is seeking a fourth term as chancellor in September, and does not want to be seen as being too close to an American president who is widely disliked in Europe.

"You don't want to be sitting too comfortably in Trump's boat, or in Trump's boat at all, because Trump's not liked here," she said.

During a speech Monday in Berlin, Merkel did not specifically mention Trump but quoted a 1963 speech by former President John F. Kennedy in Frankfurt, where he told the audience "those who look only to the past or the present are certain to miss the future."

"With change comes insecurity, skepticism ... and, not infrequently, the glorification of the supposedly good old days," Merkel said. "Particularly in view of the complexity of global contexts, a wish for simple answers spreads. But anyone

who puts on national blinkers and has no view of the world around him will ultimately get lost."

Her main challenger in September, the Social Democrats' candidate Martin Schulz, doubled down on Merkel's Sunday comments, saying the summits made it clear that Trump was a president "who wants to humiliate others, who presents himself like an authoritarian ruler."

"Europe is the answer, and stronger cooperation between the European countries at all levels is the answer to Donald Trump," Schulz said on ARD public television. "And above all else, we must not submit to Trump's arms-race logic."

And Vice Chancellor and Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel, also a Social Democrat, said Monday that if the Trump administration "finds pushing through national interests more important than an international order... then I say that the West has become smaller — it has at least become weaker."

He added, however, that he hopes "we can win back the United States one day, because there are also large parts of American society that we must not forget."

Relative 'devastated' after shooting kills 8 in Mississippi

Associated Press

BROOKHAVEN, Miss. — Head in hands, his voice strained, Vincent Mitchell sat outside his little yellow home and tried to make sense of how a family dispute led to a rampage that killed eight people, including the deputy who tried to keep them safe.

"I'm devastated. It don't seem like it's real," Mitchell said shortly after the arrest of his stepson-in-law, Willie Corey Godbolt. "Him and my stepdaughter, they've been going back and forth for a couple of years with that domestic violence."

Godbolt showed up at Mitchell's home in the southern Mississippi town of Bogue Chitto shortly before midnight Saturday to demand that his estranged wife give up their two children. She and the kids had been staying with them for about three weeks, Mitchell told The Associated Press.

"He'd come to get his kids. The deputy was called," and asked him to leave, and it seemed like Godbolt would comply at first, Mitchell said.

"He acted like, motioned like, he was fixing to go. Then he reached in his back pocket and grabbed a gun," Mitchell said. "He just started shooting everything."

Mitchell said he escaped along with Godbolt's wife, but Mitchell's wife, her sister and one of the wife's daughters were killed. Also slain was Deputy William Durr, a two-year sheriff's department veteran and former police officer in nearby Brookhaven, where authorities said Godbolt fled and killed four more people at two other homes.

Authorities on Monday said Godbolt was related to or acquainted with all the victims except Durr. The Mississippi Bureau of Investigation identified them as: Barbara Mitchell, 55; Brenda May, 53; Tocarra May, 35; a child who was not identified; a 17-year-old boy who was not identified; Ferral Borage, 45; and Shelia Borage, 46.

Police have not said exactly how Godbolt knew them. A member of Godbolt's church previously told the AP that everyone but the deputy was related to Godbolt by blood or marriage.

Mississippi Bureau of Investigation spokesman Warren Strain said prosecutors plan to charge Godbolt, 35, with one count of capital murder and seven counts of first degree murder, but authorities haven't discussed a motive. Strain said those charges could change as the investigation continues.

Godbolt was still hospitalized Monday at the University of Mississippi Medical Center in Jackson. Police have said Godbolt is being treated for a gunshot wound.

Godbolt himself shed some light on what happened,



AP Photo/Rogelio V. Solis

Christianna May-Kelly, center, is supported by family members as she cries after answering reporters questions outside her parents' home in Brookhaven, Miss., Sunday. May-Kelly said her parents were among the people gunned down during a shooting in rural Mississippi Saturday night.



Therese Apel/The Clarion-Ledger via AP

Officers arrest suspect Willie Corey Godbolt on Sunday, May 28, 2017, following several fatal shootings Saturday in Lincoln County, Miss., officials said.

Slain deputy had worked in ministry before law enforcement

BROOKHAVEN (AP) — A Mississippi deputy killed in a shooting rampage had worked in Christian ministry before going into law enforcement, and liked doing puppet shows to deliver uplifting messages to children.

William Durr, 36, was responding to a domestic-violence call late Saturday when he was shot.

The Lincoln County Sheriff's Department has about 75 employees and is like a close-knit family, said Zach Harveston, who has worked as a dispatcher there for two years. Harveston said he was shaken by Durr's death.

"He loved to lead children to the good Lord," Harveston said. "He was just a natural-born servant of the good Lord here at the

department and even in the church he served in."

Durr was married and had an 11-year-old son. His mother spoke briefly with the AP on Monday, saying that the family is still in distress.

"He was a good Christian man," Debbie Durr said at her rural home near Brookhaven. "He was a youth minister and a pastor before going into law enforcement."

Off duty, Durr also was a ventriloquist who took his puppets to schools and churches. Two weeks ago, Durr entertained preschoolers at Brookhaven Academy, a Christian school in town. The message he shared was that — like fireflies — people can use their inner light to help those around them.

in an interview he gave to *The Clarion-Ledger* as he sat with his hands cuffed behind his back on the side of a road in Brookhaven, about 70 miles south of Jackson.

"I was having a conversation with her stepdaddy and her mama and her, my wife, about me taking my children home," he said. "Somebody called the officer, people that didn't even live at the house.

That's what they do. They intervene."

"They cost him his life," he said, apparently referring to Durr. "I'm sorry."

"My pain wasn't designed for him. He was just there," Godbolt said. "I ain't fit to live, not after what I done."

Godbolt was hospitalized in good condition with a gunshot wound, though it wasn't clear who shot him.

Police seek clues in bomber's suitcase

LONDON (AP) — Police in Manchester, England issued a picture of the arena suicide bomber holding a blue suitcase and asked anyone who might have seen him with it before the attack to call a confidential hotline.

Counter-terrorism squads are trying to re-create Salman Abedi's movements in the days before he detonated a bomb at an Ariana Grande concert in Manchester, killing 22 people. Police believe Abedi had the wheeled suitcase with him at two locations in Manchester.

The suitcase was not used in the attack, which was carried out when Abedi detonated an improvised bomb minutes after the concert ended, Greater Manchester Police Detective Chief Superintendent Russ Jackson said.

Jackson tried to reassure nervous residents of Manchester that the bag does not pose a risk to public safety. But if any members of the public find it, they should not approach it, but call police immediately, he said.

"We have no reason to believe the case and its contents contain anything



Greater Manchester Police via AP

This is a handout photo taken on Monday, May 22, from CCTV in an unknown location of the city centre in Manchester, England.

dangerous, but would ask people to be cautious," Jackson said.

He said Abedi may have had the blue suitcase with him when he visited the Wilmslow Road area and the Manchester city center in the days before the blast.

"Did you see Abedi with this suitcase between the 18 and 22 May 2017? Where did you see him with it during that time?" Jackson said.

The bombing investigation expanded early Monday when police arrested a

23-year-old man on the south coast of England, hundreds of miles south of Manchester.

Greater Manchester Police said the man was arrested in Shoreham-by-Sea on suspicion of terrorism offenses and an address there was being searched.

The arrest means that 14 men are now in custody in Britain for suspected roles in Britain's worst attack in a decade.

The suspects have not been identified or charged. All are being held on suspicion of violating the Terrorism Act.

Police and security services have said very little about the network believed to be behind Abedi, a Manchester native whose parents had moved to Britain from Libya. Abedi's elder brother Ismail is among the suspects being held in Britain, and a younger brother and Abedi's father have been detained in Libya.

Britain's intelligence services have launched an inquiry into how warnings about the 22-year-old Abedi's radical views were handled amid indications that vital warning signs were missed.

Little Darlings!

This special section will be filled with photos of and messages for adorable little darlings from Umatilla County. Families will want to keep this special keepsake for their child and family for years to come.



Olivia,
I loved you from the very start.
You stole my breath, embraced my heart.
Our life together has just begun.
You're part of me, my little one.
Love, Mom

Your Name: _____

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Child's Name: _____

Message: _____

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DEADLINES:
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Little Darlings

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