The Sun news article – Thursday, April 10, 2008 The McCann's Police Statements

LITTLE Madeleine McCann asked why Kate and Gerry had not gone to comfort her

as she cried the night before she vanished, according to reports.

The four-year-old is said to have asked why mum Kate, 39, had left her and her twin siblings, Sean and Amelie, to sob alone in their room the previous night.

The Spanish TV station Telecinco made the claim as it broadcast translated copies of documents it said were the McCanns' police statements.

Crime reporter Nacho Abad, read out in Spanish an excerpt of the statement he said Kate had given Portuguese police.

He said: "While we were having breakfast, Maddie said, 'Mummy, why didn't you come when we were crying last night?'

"Gerry and I spoke for a couple of minutes and agreed to keep a closer watch over the children."

Parents ... Kate and Gerry McCann

On realising Madeleine had gone, the TV station said Kate ran back to the tapas bar where her friends were eating and shouted: "Maddie isn't there. Someone's taken her."

The McCanns' holiday pals are previously reported to have told police Kate screamed: "Madeleine's gone, Madeleine's gone."

The reporter also told how Gerry revealed to police in his statement that workmen had come into their holiday flat to fix a broken window shutter in the main bedroom two days before she went missing.

Today the McCanns' spokesman Clarence Mitchell said the couple were very concerned about the leak.

Speaking as he returned from a trip to Brussels with them to lobby the EU for a missing child alert system, he said: "I am not going to confirm or deny the content of any statements Gerry and Kate have made.

"But we are extremely concerned such material, if it is authentic, has apparently been leaked." The McCanns are thought to have spent several nights eating tapas at a restaurant near their holiday complex while their children slept alone in their apartment.

The station claimed Gerry, who checked on the children at 9pm, told police: "I saw the angle of their door had changed and it was open around 45 degrees.

"I thought perhaps Madeleine had woken up and left the room.

"Out of the corner of my eye I looked in our room and couldn't see her.

"Then I opened the children's door 60 degrees and looked to the left and saw Maddie sleeping with her head on the pillow on the right hand side of the bed.

"She was breathing softly and I thought how beautiful she looked.

"I thought it was quite hot and I didn't need to cover her up."

In another extract, believed to be from Gerry's statement, it stated: "Kate came running to the bar and said, 'Maddie's not there, someone has taken her.

"I couldn't believe it and ran towards the apartment along the same route I always took. I looked everywhere.

"I returned to the children's room and I tried to think what could have happened.

"To my surprise I realised I could lift up the window shutters without effort and almost without making noise.

"When I entered I realised that Maddie's bed was almost intact. The corner of the outside of the sheets was turned a little.

"But the pillow, her cuddle cat and the blanket she had slept with were almost in the same place as I had seen them the last time."

In another part of Kate's statement Telecinco detailed the moment she realised her daughter was missing during her 10pm check on her children.

According to reports, it read: "I saw the door of the children's room wide open and noticed a current of air.

"The same current of air closed the door but the window in the other room that backed onto the patio was closed.

"When I went to look for Madeleine I realised she wasn't there.

"I looked through the apartment and I went back to the children's room and then saw the curtains moving towards me so it became clear the window shutters were wide open.

"I went to the window and opened the curtains to see if she had climbed out but there was no sign of her.

"I don't know if I closed the window at that moment. I ran to the tapas bar and screamed at Gerry, 'Maddie's not there, someone has taken her."

Kate is said to have insisted in her statement none of her children were on any mediation, Telecinco claimed, countering accusations the McCanns strenuously deny that they were giving Madeleine and her siblings sleeping tablets. It also emerged key witness Jane Tanner told Portuguese police in her original statement she thought a man she spotted carrying a child moments after Madeleine disappeared, was the youngster's father.

Tanner, who has been re-interviewed by Portuguese police this week, now believes that man could have been Madeleine McCann's abductor.

Another of the Tapas Nine rushed to the reception desk of the McCanns' holiday complex to alert police, Telecinco reported today.

Londoner Matthew Oldfield, who checked on Madeleine and her siblings between Gerry and Kate, asked Ocean Club workers to give him the emergency police number.

Portuguese police also want the McCanns and their friends to take part in a reconstruction of Madeleine's disappearance soon after the anniversary of her May 3 disappearance.

The McCanns are official police suspects along with Algarve-based British expat Robert Murat.

All three deny any involvement in Madeleine's disappearance