

Madeleine's Father Loses Her Pics

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LONDON: Cherished photographs of a 4-year-old British girl who vanished from a hotel room in Portugal's Algarve region were snatched by a pickpocket in London, a British newspaper reported on Wednesday.

Gerry McCann, father of Madeleine McCann, who went missing from the resort town of Praia da Luz on May 3, had his wallet stolen during a brief visit to the British capital Tuesday, London's Evening Standard said.

McCann's wallet was stolen close to Tony Blair's Downing Street office after he arrived in London to interview candidates to head a campaign aimed at finding his daughter, the newspaper reported. "It contained precious photographs which have now been lost forever," the newspaper quoted McCann's mother-in-law Susan Healey.

London police said they had no record of the theft being reported to officers. Clarence Mitchell, a spokesman for the family, said McCann had attended a meeting at London's foreign office on Tuesday, but could not immediately confirm details of the theft.

Her parents have been criticised for leaving their children alone while they ate at a nearby restaurant despite the availability of a babysitting service and a creche.

There has also been criticism of the parents in the Portuguese media.

The Diario de Noticias insisted that the McCanns were suspects and claimed that on the night Madeleine disappeared they had not checked on her, contrary to what they told police. The Daily Telegraph has reported, "Portugal has been stung by suggestions that the investigation has been handled ineptly.

Source: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/europe/Madeleines-father-loses-her-pics/articleshow/2137465.cms?>