

Stefan (Racz) Radcliffe born 1918, in Budapest. At the age of 4 he moved with his parents to Romania where his father was posted as the managing director of a tyre factory. Growing up in high society in Bucharest, he counted King Carol and the Hollywood actress Nadia Grey as his close friends, he was extremely well connected. An engineer by profession, he was recruited during WW2 by the British secret service to work behind enemy lines in Romania with success. After the war he continued working for the British and was finally caught by the communists in 1950 . He was imprisoned for 2 ½ years, spending his whole prison term without leaving his cell or seeing daylight. He maintained his sanity, together with his two cellmates (ex government ministers), by devising mind-games. Upon release he was forced to leave Romania and moved to the then Czechoslovakia where he met his wife Suzanna. During his incarceration and whilst in Czechoslovakia, the British government tried to obtain his release from the Communist world and bring him to the UK. In 1963, the British government were holding 2 Russian agents recently captured, they were exchanged for Stefan, his wife and son, arriving in Britain in 1964. He and the family assumed the name given to him by the service. Stefan died in 1988 in Budapest, 66 years and 4 days after being born there and only returning for a holiday once in 1987.