

Mehran Karimi Nasseri

Mehran Karimi Nasseri (Persian: مهران کریمی ناصری pronounced [mehˈɾɒn kæɾiˈmi nɒseˈɾi]; born 1946), also known as **Sir Alfred Mehran**,^[1] is an Iranian refugee who lived in the departure lounge of Terminal One in Charles de Gaulle Airport from 26 August 1988 until July 2006, when he was hospitalized. His autobiography was published as a book, *The Terminal Man*, in 2004. Nasseri's story inspired the 2004 film *The Terminal*.

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مهران کریمی ناصری



Nasseri in 2005

Born	1946 (age 74–75) <div>Masjed Soleiman, Iran</div>
Citizenship	<div><div>Iranian (1946–1977)</div><div>Stateless (1977–present)</div></div>

Early life

Nasseri was born in the Anglo-Persian Oil Company settlement located in Masjed Soleiman, Iran. His father was an Iranian doctor working for the company. Nasseri stated that his mother was a nurse from Scotland working in the same place.^[2] He arrived in the United Kingdom in September 1973, to take a three-year course in Yugoslav studies at the University of Bradford.

Life in Terminal 1

Nasseri alleges that he was expelled from Iran in 1977 for protests against the Shah and after a long battle, involving applications in several countries, was awarded refugee status by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in Belgium. This allegedly permitted residence in many other European countries. However, this claim has been disputed, with investigations showing that Nasseri was never expelled from Iran.^[2]

Having one British parent, he decided in 1986 to settle in the UK, but en route there in 1988, his papers were lost when his briefcase was allegedly stolen.^[3] (Others indicate that Nasseri actually mailed his documents to Brussels while onboard a ferry to Britain, lying about them being stolen.)^[4] Despite this setback, he boarded the plane for London but was promptly returned to France when he failed to present a passport to British immigration officials. He was initially arrested by the French, but then released as his entry to the airport was legal and he had no country of origin to be returned to; thus began his residence