

## Cases of Historical Interest In the Southern District of New York

### **United States v. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg** Judge Irving Kaufman

Julius Rosenberg and his wife Ethel were charged with having conspired between 1944 and 1950 to violate the Espionage Act by communicating national defense secrets to the Soviet Union. After a jury trial before Judge Irving Kaufman, the two were convicted and sentenced to death. The convictions were affirmed. Both were executed on June 19, 1953.

195 F.2d 583 (2d Cir. 1952) (affirming conviction)  
109 F.Supp. 108 (S.D.N.Y. 1953), aff'd, 204 F.2d 688  
(2d Cir. 1953) (motion to reduce sentence).  
<http://law2.umkc.edu/faculty/projects/ftrials/rosenb/rosenb.htm>

Note: Judge Kaufman's judgment and sentence of Julius Rosenberg is below.



**225<sup>th</sup>** Anniversary  
1789-2014

JBK:rs

*approved  
by [unclear]  
U.S. Attorney  
4/5/51*

**M'FILMED**

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

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 :  
 UNITED STATES OF AMERICA :  
 : No. C134/245  
 :  
 -v- : JUDGMENT AND SENTENCE  
 :  
 JULIUS ROSENBERG :  
 :  
 ----- -x

On this 5th day of April, 1951 came the attorney for the government and the defendant appeared in person and by counsel,

IT IS ADJUDGED that the defendant has been convicted upon his plea of not guilty and a verdict of guilty of the offense of conspiracy, with intent and reason to believe that it would be used to the advantage of a foreign nation, to wit, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to communicate, deliver and transmit to a foreign government, to wit, Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and representatives and agents thereof, directly and indirectly, documents, writings, sketches, notes and information relating to the National Defense of the United States, while the United States of America was then and there at war. Title 50, Section 34, United States Code, as charged. And the Court having asked the defendant whether he has anything to say why judgment should not be pronounced, and no sufficient cause to the contrary being shown or appearing to the Court,

IT IS ADJUDGED that the defendant is guilty as charged and convicted.

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the said defendant, JULIUS ROSENBERG, for the crime by him committed and upon the verdict of the jury in this cause, during the week

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commencing May 21, 1951 be by the United States Marshal for the Southern District of New York executed until dead, and the said punishment of death shall be inflicted in the manner and form as provided by the statutes of the United States of America, and in conformity and in compliance with the manner prescribed by the laws of the State of New York.

IT IS ORDERED AND ADJUDGED that the defendant, JULIUS ROSENBERG, be and he hereby is committed to the custody of the Attorney General or his authorized representative for appropriate detention pending execution of the sentence by the United States Marshal in accordance with the provisions of Section 3566, Title 18, United States Code.

IT IS ORDERED that the Clerk deliver a certified copy of this judgment and commitment to the United States Marshal or other qualified officer and that the copy serve as the commitment of the defendant.

*George R. Kaufman*  
United States District Judge