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Spy Ethel Rosenberg's brother

NEW YORK (AP) — Nearly 50 years after convicted Soviet spy Ethel Rosenberg was executed, her brother admits he lied under oath to save himself and says he's unconcerned that his perjury may have sent her to the electric chair, along with her husband.

"As a spy who turned his family in ... I don't care," David Greenglass says in a television interview being broadcast Wednesday. "I sleep very well."

The admission may shed new light on the case, one of the most infamous events of the Cold War. Julius and Ethel Rosenberg were executed in Sing Sing prison in June 1953, two years after a sensational trial on charges of conspiring to steal U.S. atomic secrets for the Soviet Union.

They were the only people ever executed in the United States for Cold War espionage, and their conviction helped give fuel to Sen. Joseph McCarthy's communist-

hunting crusade.

Mr. Greenglass, now 79, makes the disclosure of false testimony in "The Brother," a new book by veteran *New York Times* editor Sam Roberts, and in a taped interview being broadcast on CBS's "60 Minutes II."

Mr. Greenglass, Ethel's younger brother, admits in the book that he, too, was a spy who gave the Soviets information about atomic research and a detonator invented by another scientist.

When the Rosenbergs came to trial, Mr. Greenglass was also under indictment and worried that he and his wife, Ruth, would be convicted. He says Roy Cohn, an assistant prosecutor and later an aide to McCarthy, encouraged him to lie.

In court, Mr. Greenglass delivered what would be the most incriminating testimony against Ethel Rosenberg — that she transcribed his spy notes destined for

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admits lying under oath

Moscow on a portable Remington typewriter. Mr. Greenglass' wife supported his testimony.

But now, Mr. Greenglass tells author Mr. Roberts that he based his account entirely on his wife's recollection, not on his own. In the TV interview, he says, "I don't know who typed it, frankly, and to this day I can't remember that the typing took place. I had no memory of that at all — none whatsoever."

Mr. Roberts writes in his book, "Handwritten or typed, the notes contained little or nothing that was new. But from the prosecution's perspective, the Remington was as good as a smoking gun in Ethel Rosenberg's hands."

In the TV interview, Mr. Greenglass is asked why the Rosenbergs went to their deaths rather than admit espionage.

"One word — stupidity," Mr. Greenglass replies.

Asked whether that makes Ethel responsible for her own death, he says, "Yeah."

Mr. Greenglass admits he is sometimes haunted by the Rosenberg case, but adds, "My wife says, 'Look, we're still alive.'"

Should he ever encounter the pair's two sons, Mr. Greenglass says, he would tell them he was "sorry that your parents are dead," but would not apologize for his part in their execution.

"I had no idea they would give them the death sentence," he tells "60 Minutes II."

In the book, subtitled "The Untold Story of Atomic Spy David Greenglass and How He Sent His Sister Ethel Rosenberg to the Electric Chair," Mr. Greenglass admits to further perjury in court and before a congressional committee — all aimed at gaining leniency for himself and keeping his wife out of prison.