

Murder Inc.: Origins in 1920s NYC

Your Name:

1. Which two figures are often credited with leading Murder Inc.?

- ☐ A. Louis "Lepke" Buchalter and Albert "Mad Hatter" Anastasia
 - ☐ B. Abe "Kid Twist" Reles and Harry Maione
 - ☐ C. Charles "Lucky" Luciano and Dutch Schultz
 - ☐ D. Meyer Lansky and Bugsy Siegel
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2. Murder Inc. primarily operated by acting as a law enforcement agency for New York City.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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3. What was the main purpose of Murder Inc. for the National Crime Syndicate?

4. The organization known as Murder Inc. was exposed in 1941 by turncoat member Abe "Kid Twist"

5. From which types of neighborhoods were Murder Inc. members largely recruited?

- ☐ A. Wealthy Italian-American enclaves in Queens
 - ☐ B. Working-class Italian and Jewish neighborhoods in Brooklyn and Manhattan
 - ☐ C. Exclusive, gated communities outside of New York City
 - ☐ D. Affluent suburban areas in Long Island
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6. Murder Inc. exclusively employed Italian-American gangsters for their contract killings.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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7. How did Prohibition contribute to the cooperation between Jewish and Italian gangs in New York?

8. One of the major crimes attributed to Murder Inc. was the assassination of mobster Dutch

9. What was a significant impact of Murder Inc.'s downfall on organized crime?

- ☐ A. It forced crime groups to adopt smarter operations and maintain lower profiles.
 - ☐ B. It caused a major shift towards legitimate business ventures for all mob families.
 - ☐ C. It led to the complete eradication of organized crime in the United States.
 - ☐ D. It resulted in increased inter-gang warfare due to a power vacuum.
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10. The name 'Murder, Inc.' was the official title given to the group by its founders.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
-

11. Briefly describe the role of the Mafia 'Commission' as established by Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky.

12. Murder Inc. operated as the enforcement arm for the National Crime

13. Which location served as a known base of operations for Murder Inc. members?

- ☐ A. A lavish nightclub in Times Square
 - ☐ B. A high-rise office building in Manhattan's financial district
 - ☐ C. Mrs. Rose Gold's candy store in Brooklyn
 - ☐ D. A hidden bunker in upstate New York
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14. Abe "Kid Twist" Reles was known for his loyalty to Murder Inc. until his death.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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15. How did Murder Inc. generally reward its killers for their services?

16. The origins of organized crime in New York saw significant growth in the [blank.....1]s, leading to the formation of groups like Murder Inc.

17. What was the primary method used by Murder Inc. to maintain power over New York City's underworld?

- ☐ A. Extensive gambling operations and money laundering
 - ☐ B. Contract killings, intimidation, and threatening lives for money
 - ☐ C. Political lobbying and electoral fraud
 - ☐ D. Exclusive control over legitimate businesses
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18. The Havana Conference of 1946 aimed to weaken the influence of Luciano and Lansky over the National Crime Syndicate.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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19. Why was the National Crime Syndicate against Dutch Schultz's plan to kill Thomas E. Dewey?

20. Murder Inc. collaborated with local gangsters from Jewish, Irish, and Italian groups for their dirty

21. Which common misconception did the creation of the Mafia 'Commission' help to dispel?

- ☐ A. That Jewish mobs had no representation in organized crime's leadership.
 - ☐ B. That various crime families could not coexist peacefully.
 - ☐ C. That organized crime was solely focused on drug trafficking.
 - ☐ D. That all crime bosses operated independently without oversight.
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22. Murder Inc. primarily focused on eliminating rival gangs rather than targeting informants or those who defied mob rules.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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23. What was a key characteristic of negotiation methods used by Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky?

24. The fall of Murder Inc. led to major [blank.....1] and trials, weakening organized crime in New York City.

25. How did the National Crime Syndicate typically communicate orders to Murder Inc.?

- ☐ A. Through public newspaper advertisements
 - ☐ B. Via direct orders from prominent mobsters like Buchalter and Anastasia
 - ☐ C. Using a complex system of written contracts and legal documents
 - ☐ D. By sending coded messages through legitimate businesses
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26. Murder Inc. killers were always identifiable by a specific uniform or insignia.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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27. Explain how Murder Inc. used local gang members in their operations.

28. The concept of 'Murder, Inc.' endures as the prototype of organized, corporate-style mob in the American underworld.

29. Which of these was NOT a primary objective or operation of Murder Inc.?

- ☐ A. Managing legitimate businesses and public infrastructure.
 - ☐ B. Finishing anyone for the right price, leaving no clues.
 - ☐ C. Controlling crime in New York City.
 - ☐ D. Threatening and ending lives for money.
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30. The operations of Murder Inc. were primarily confined to the five boroughs of New York City and did not extend beyond.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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31. What significant event led to the exposure and eventual dismantling of Murder Inc.?

32. Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky's friendship was rooted in mutual respect and shared [blank.....1] operations during Prohibition.

33. What defined the "power-sharing deals" between Lucky Luciano and Meyer Lansky?

- ☐ A. Open negotiation, profit-sharing, and the creation of organizational bodies like the Commission.
 - ☐ B. Violent takeovers of rival gangs without negotiation.
 - ☐ C. Exclusive control of specific rackets for each ethnicity.
 - ☐ D. Rigid adherence to old-world Mafia traditions.
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34. The trials following the downfall of Murder Inc. specifically focused on minor offenses and petty crimes committed by its members.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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35. What was the significance of Louis "Lepke" Buchalter's capture and trial?

36. The National Crime Syndicate was a multi-ethnic confederation of Italian-American, Jewish, and other organized crime [blank.....1].

37. Which criminal enterprise most significantly drove Jewish and Italian gang cooperation during its height?

- ☐ A. Labor racketeering
 - ☐ B. Narcotics trafficking
 - ☐ C. Illegal gambling rings
 - ☐ D. Prohibition-era bootlegging
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38. Albert "Mad Hatter" Anastasia avoided arrest for a long time due to overwhelming evidence against him.

- ☐ A. True
 - ☐ B. False
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39. How did Meyer Lansky's reputation contribute to his role as a trusted intermediary?

40. Match the key figure with their role or association in the context of Murder Inc. and organized crime:

1. Albert

"Mad
Hatter"

Anastasia

A. Mobster whose murder was
ordered by the Syndicate

2.

Abe

"Kid
Twist"

Reles

B. Early leader of Murder Inc.

3.

Dutch

Schultz

C. Key turncoat informant

4. Louis

"Lepke"

Buchalter

D. Later leader of Murder Inc.
