

Name _____



Agents Of Influence

Directions: Read the information below about two powerful intelligence agencies during the Cold War: the CIA and the KGB. Then, write a **short comparison** paragraph explaining how these two groups were similar and how they differed in purpose, methods, and global impact. Use key details and your own words.

The CIA (Central Intelligence Agency)

Formed in 1947, the CIA became the United States' main organization for gathering and analyzing foreign intelligence. Its mission was to **protect U.S. interests, stop the spread of communism, and support allies around the world**. The agency used covert operations such as spy networks, propaganda, and secret missions to influence global events. It played a key role in events like the **Cuban Missile Crisis** and the **Bay of Pigs Invasion**, often working behind the scenes to shape political outcomes in favor of democracy.

The KGB (Committee for State Security)

The KGB, created in 1954, served as the **Soviet Union's secret police and intelligence agency**. It worked to **defend communism, uncover Western plots, and suppress opposition** both inside and outside the USSR. KGB agents were trained in surveillance, counterintelligence, and political manipulation. They spied on foreign governments, monitored Soviet citizens, and influenced revolutionary movements in countries sympathetic to communism.

In the space below, write your comparison paragraph. Be sure to include: at least one **similarity** between the CIA and KGB and at least two **differences** in their goals, methods, or impacts.
