Worksheet 17.2
Gorbachev’s Role in Ending the Cold War

Read this excerpt from Anatoly Chernyaev’s diary (Anatoly Chernyaev was Gorbachev’s chief foreign policy aid from 1986) and answer the questions below.

Questions:
1. What has Gorbachev done that would give rise to the belief that Castro, Ceausescu and Kim II Sung ‘hate our guts’?
2. What does Chernyaev mean when he says ‘this is the end of Yalta…of the Stalinist legacy? (The Stalinist legacy is also discussed on p.196 of your textbook.)
3. Explain in your own words why, according to Chernyaev, Gorbachev is ‘a great leader’.
4. How useful is this diary to a historian studying the end of the Cold War? To help answer this question, you may find it useful to do more research on the role of Anatoly Chernyaev. This website will help you with this.