On the 25th anniversary of the classic work, Japan at War: An Oral History, we will have a special talk by the authors, Haruko Taya and Theodore Cook. Path breaking in both the study of war history and oral narrative, this work continues to this day in print and widely read--although it has never been translated in Japanese... The talk will offer a chance for the authors to reflect back on the scholarly and political life of the classic work from its publication until today.

HARUKO TAYA COOK Instructor and Coordinator of the Japanese Language Teaching Program for William Paterson University’ of New Jersey’s Department of Languages and Cultures, and is Fordham Marymount Professor Emerita of History. She has published extensively on war and the common people of Japan and Asia during the 20th Century. An accomplished oral historian, her research now focuses on Japan’s wartime experience and the consequences for individuals of decision-maker’s choices, women and society, and examination of the literary and cultural representation of Japan’s modern wars. She is completing a book on wartime Japan for The New Press.

THEODORE F. COOK is Professor of History and Director of Asian Studies at William Paterson University and has been a Secretary of the Navy Fellow and Visiting Professor of Strategy and Policy at the US Naval War College in Newport and Visiting Professor at the Australian Defense Force Academy in Canberra, where he was a Fulbright Fellow, and a Visiting Research Scholar at the International Research Center for Japanese Studies and Japan’s National Museum of History and Ethnography. He studies the comparative history of war, specializing in the Japanese military and the social transformation of Japan. He has published widely on Japanese military history in English and Japanese.

This event is coordinated by Professor David H. Slater (FLA) for an ICC Research Unit “Digital Social Science and Oral Narrative Research”

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