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Memoirs, Representations, and History: Browning and Tec Lectures #1 [poster]

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October 17, 7:00 pm:

**Resistance as a Response to German Oppression: A Comparative Approach**

**Nechama Tec**, Professor Emerita of Sociology, University of Stamford, Connecticut, will discuss her current research project, a comparative examination of Jewish and non-Jewish resistance groups under German occupation. She will describe how this project grew out of her Holocaust research and teaching. The focus of this presentation will be on pervasive views about Jewish resistance and why the validity of these views can be determined only through systematic comparative research of Jewish and non-Jewish resistance groups, their differences and similarities, and the conditions under which they emerge.

**Jewish Survival Through Work and Bribery: The Case of the Starachowice Factory Slave Labor Camps**

**Christopher R. Browning**, Frank Porter Graham Professor of History, University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, will examine the survival strategies of the Jews in the region of Wierzbnik-Starachowice who bribed German officials to create factory jobs in the Starachowice steel and munitions plants, then bribed German officials again to obtain the individual work cards for themselves and their families that spared them from deportation to Treblinka. Work and bribery were thus essential means of survival for those who were incarcerated in the Starachowice factory slave labor camps between October 1942 and July 1944.

October 18, 7:00 pm:

**Public Discussion Forum with Holocaust Scholars**

**Nechama Tec and Christopher Browning**

Using their current projects on Jewish and non-Jewish resistance and on the Starachowice Slave Labor Camps, the two Scholars will describe how their disciplines of sociology and history inform their research. They will also discuss the problems they have confronted in using oral testimony and written records to understand the Holocaust, as well as their collaborative efforts on a new book in which they use a series of letters to shed light on both the victims and the perpetrators of the Holocaust.