

INTRODUCTION

PSC/IR 265: CIVIL WAR AND INTERNATIONAL SYSTEMS

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AGENDA

1. MOTIVATION
2. MACRO TRENDS IN CIVIL WAR
3. OVERVIEW OF CLASS
4. WHAT IS A CIVIL WAR?
5. GRADING/POLICY

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لا إله إلا الله محمد رسول الله



لَا إِلَهَ إِلَّا اللَّهُ



لبيك يا محمد







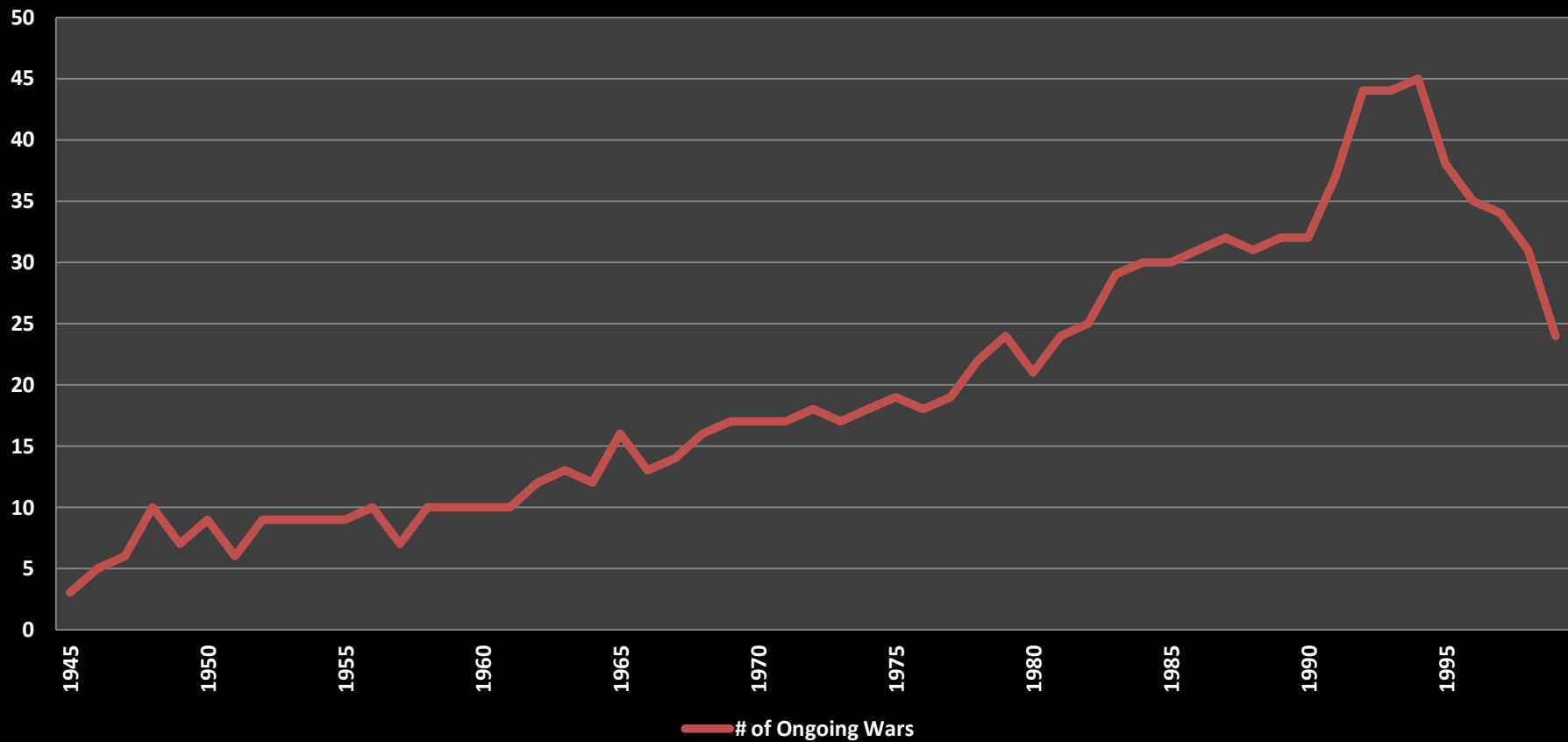
WE DO THIS. A LOT.

AMERICA'S NEXT WAR?

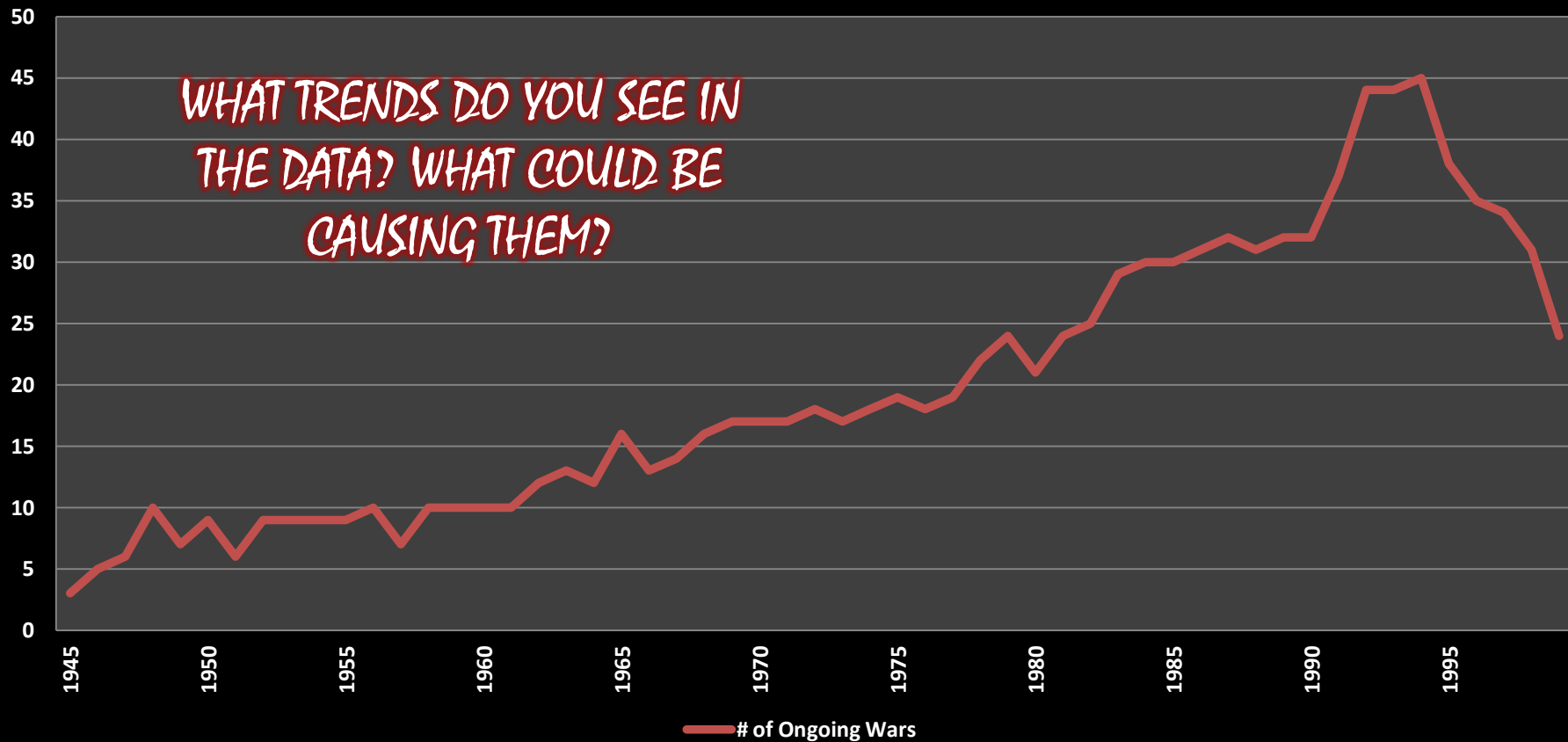


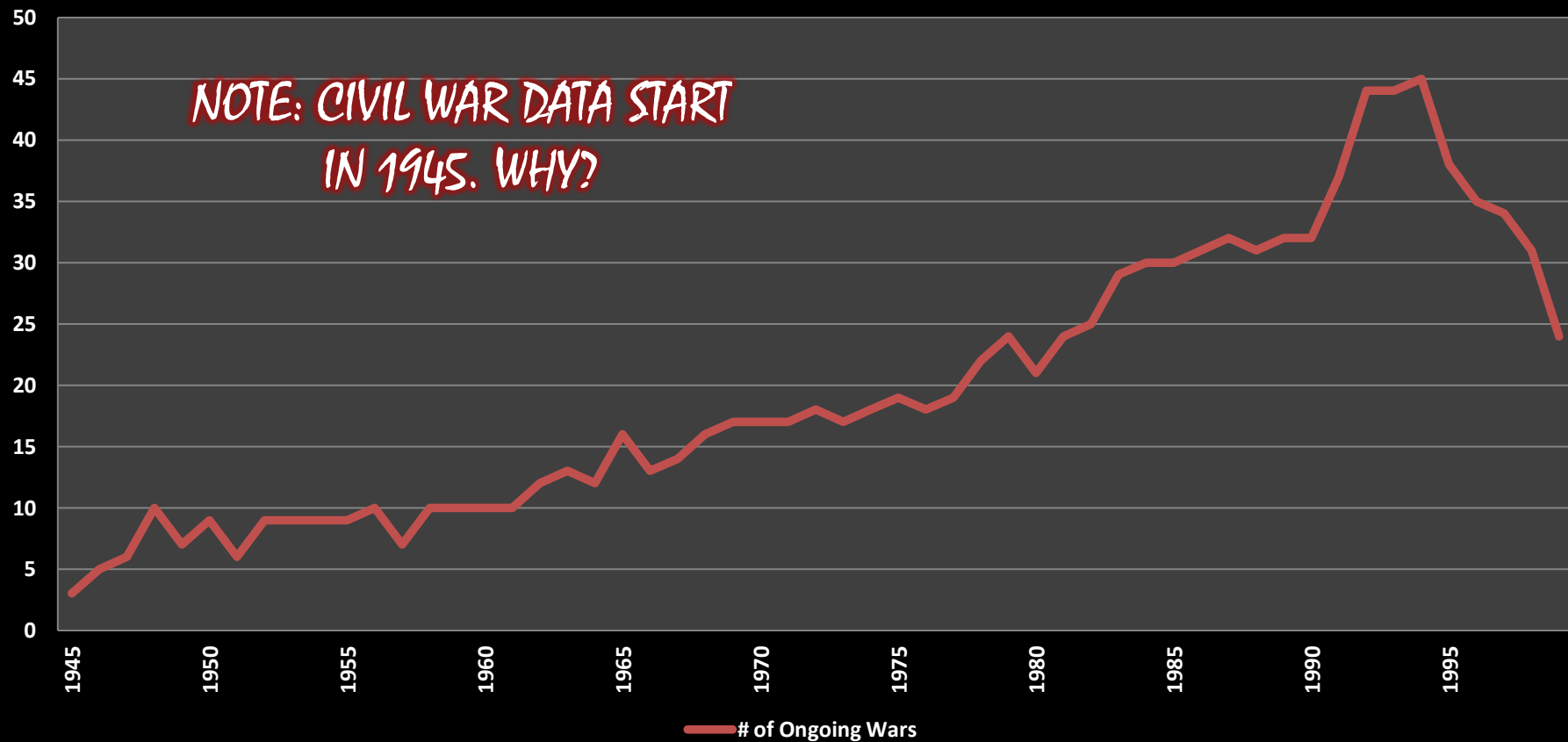
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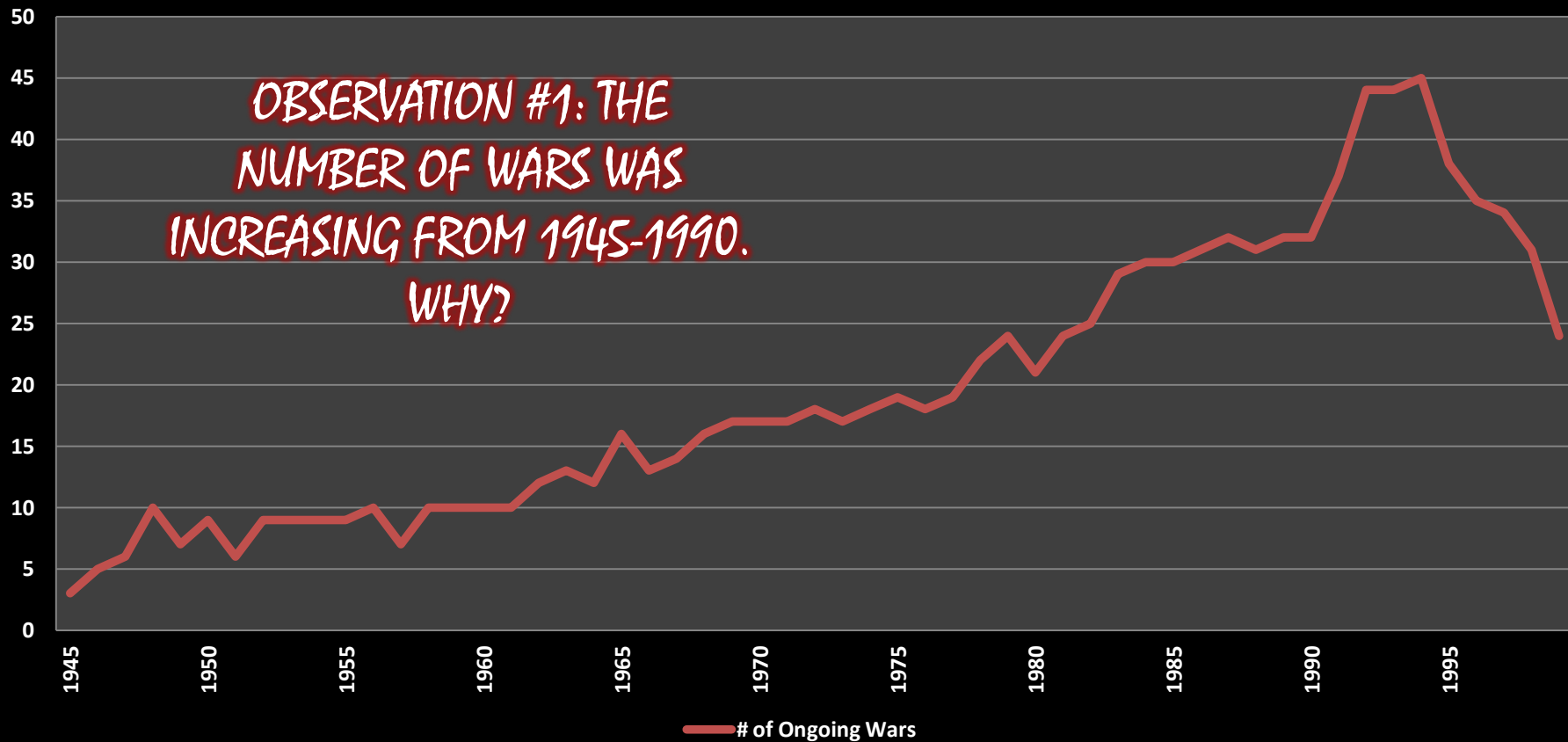


WHAT TRENDS DO YOU SEE IN
THE DATA? WHAT COULD BE
CAUSING THEM?

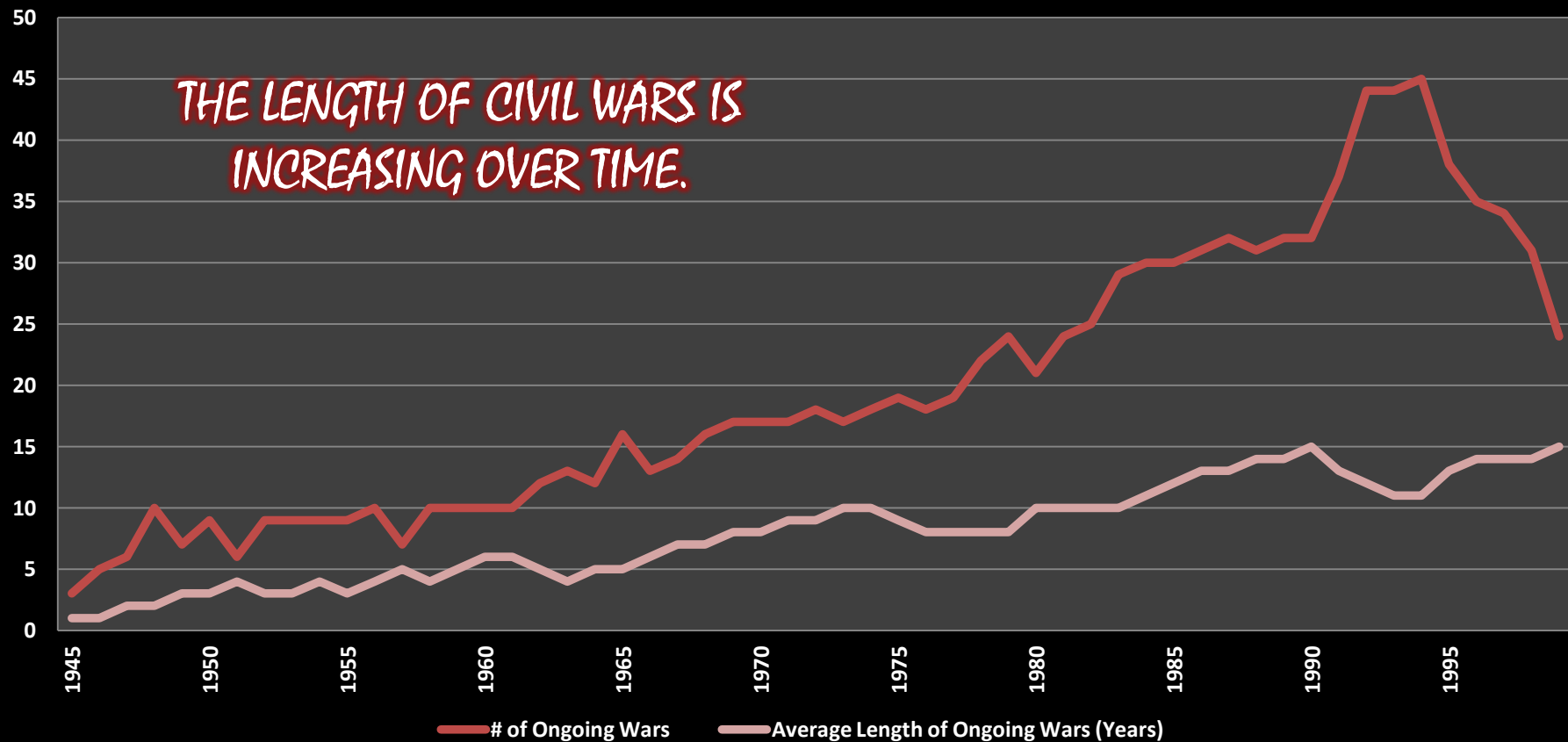




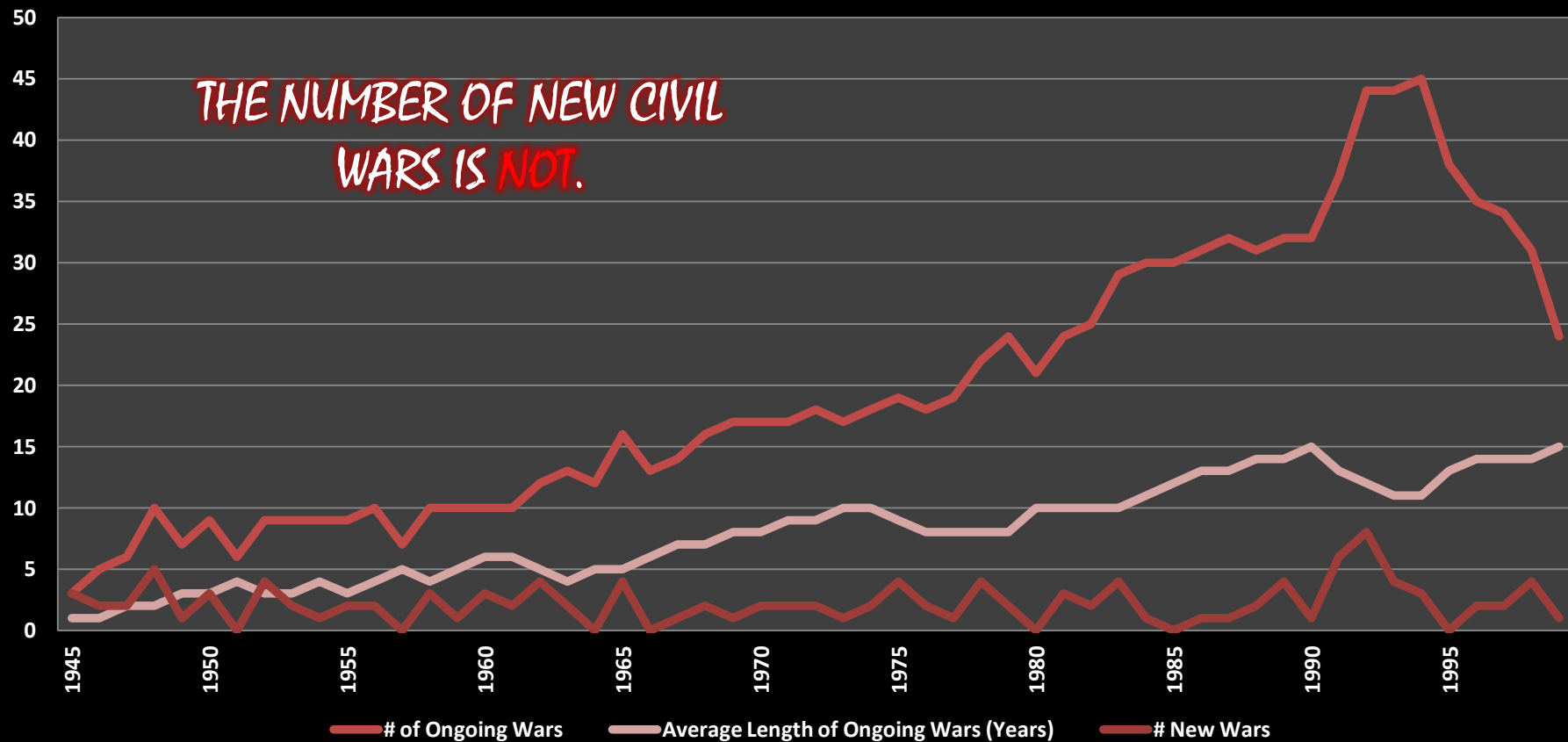
OBSERVATION #1: THE
NUMBER OF WARS WAS
INCREASING FROM 1945-1990.
WHY?

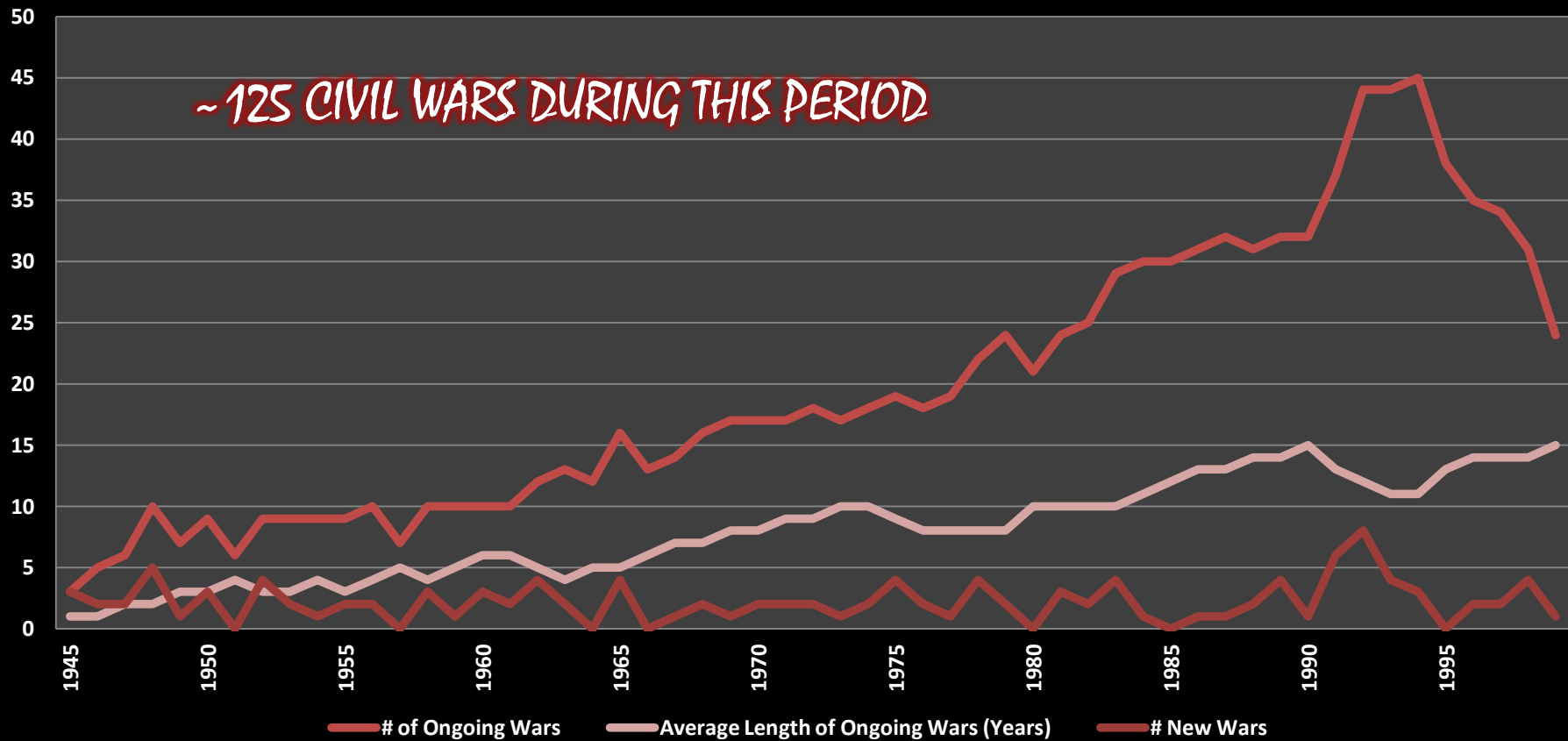


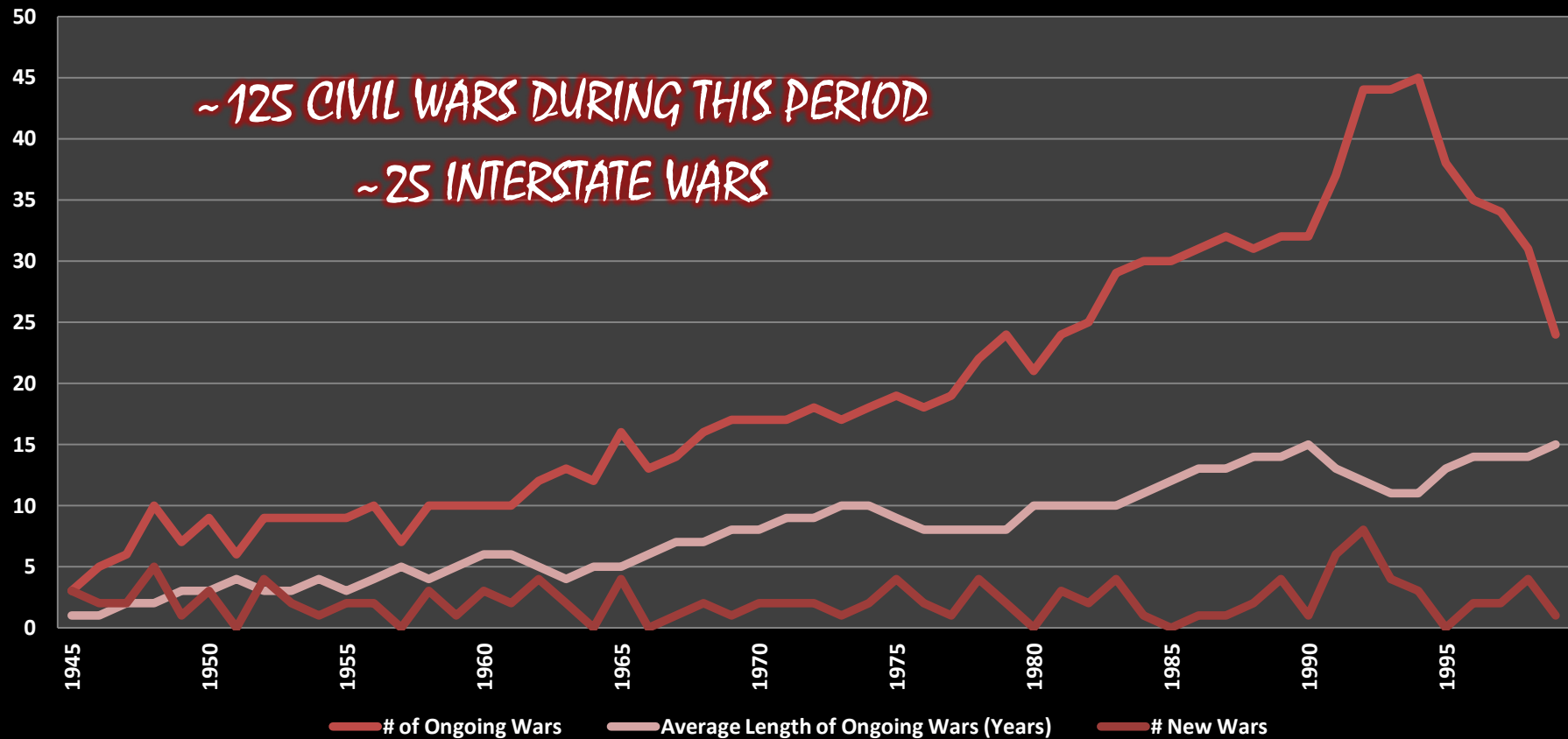
THE LENGTH OF CIVIL WARS IS
INCREASING OVER TIME.



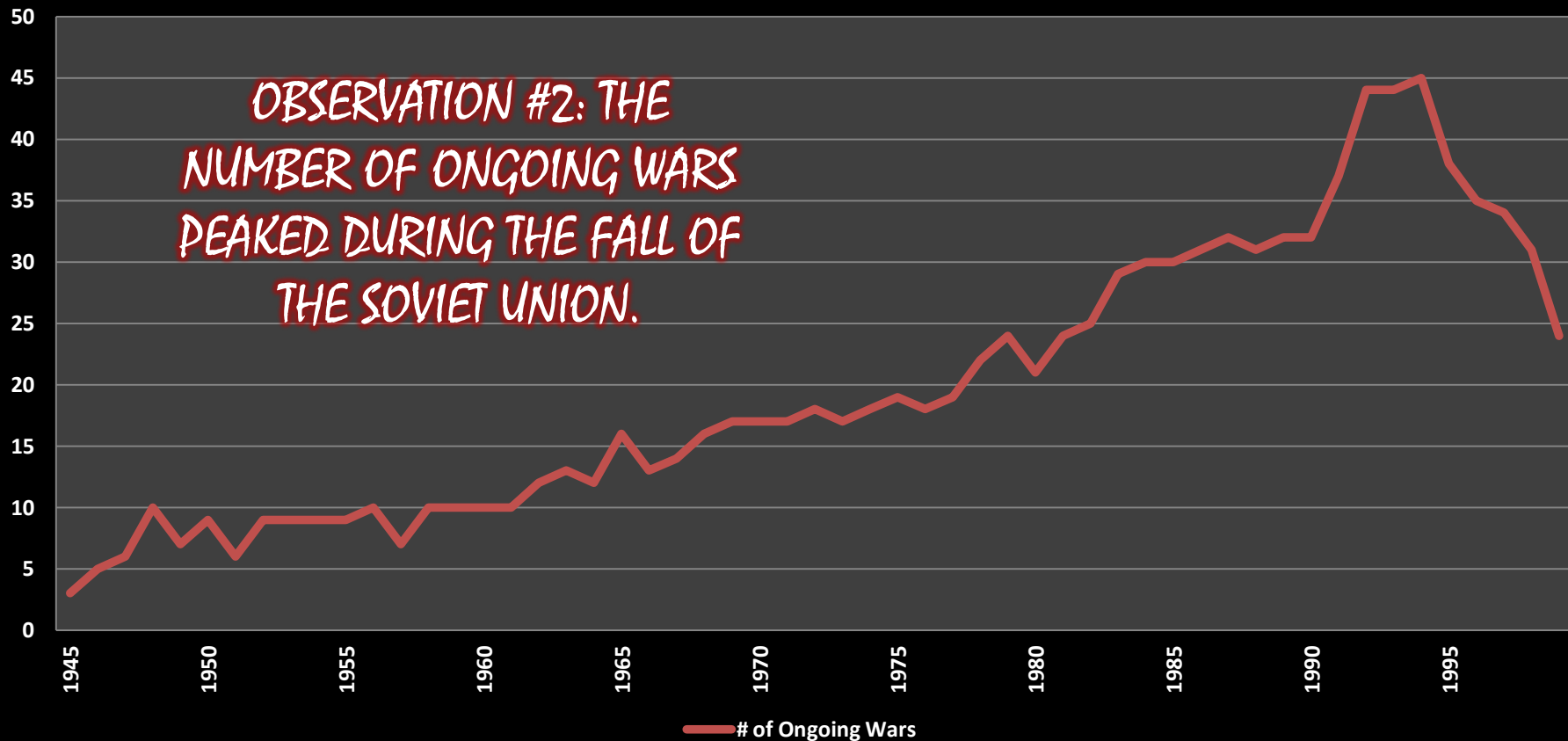
THE NUMBER OF NEW CIVIL
WARS IS NOT.





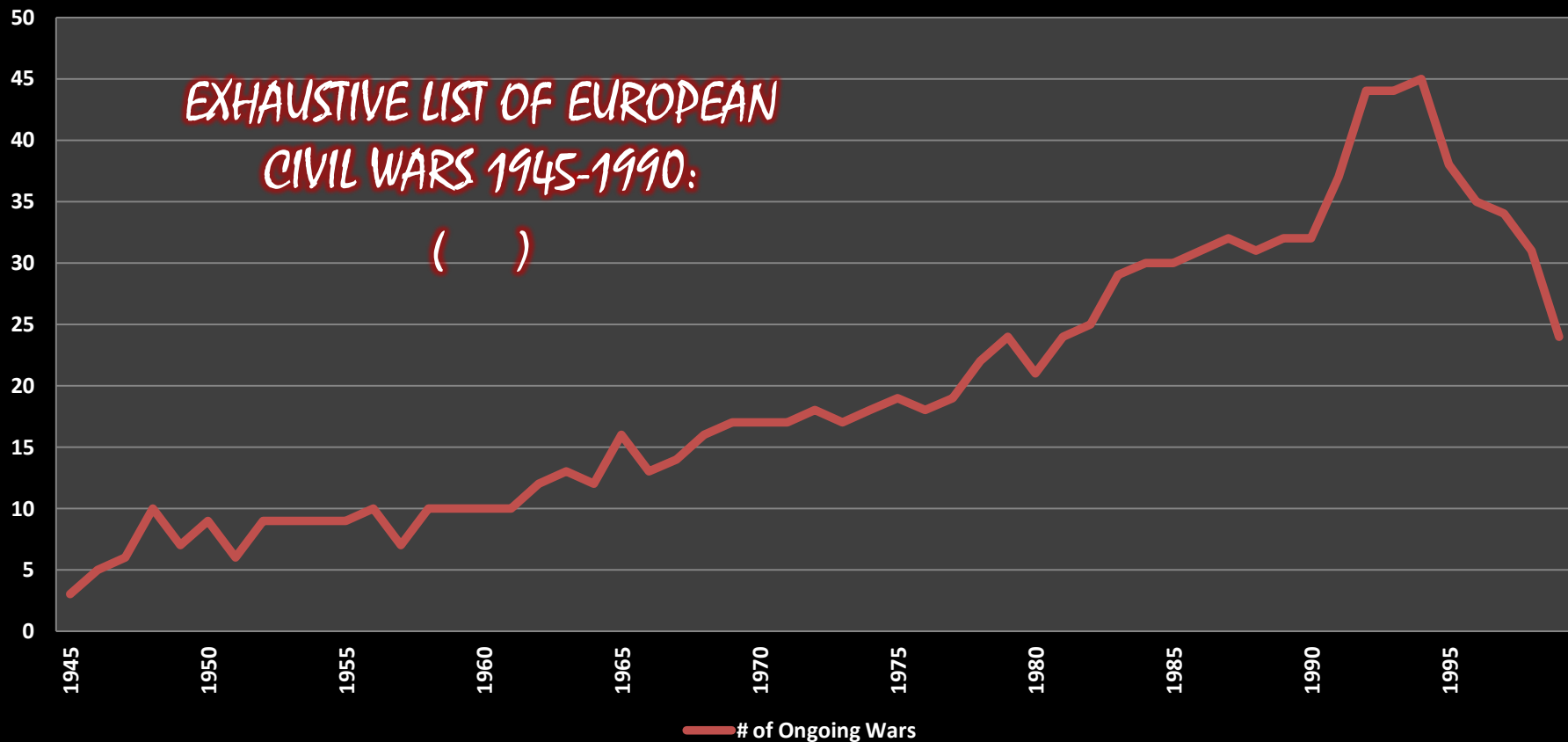


**OBSERVATION #2: THE
NUMBER OF ONGOING WARS
PEAKED DURING THE FALL OF
THE SOVIET UNION.**

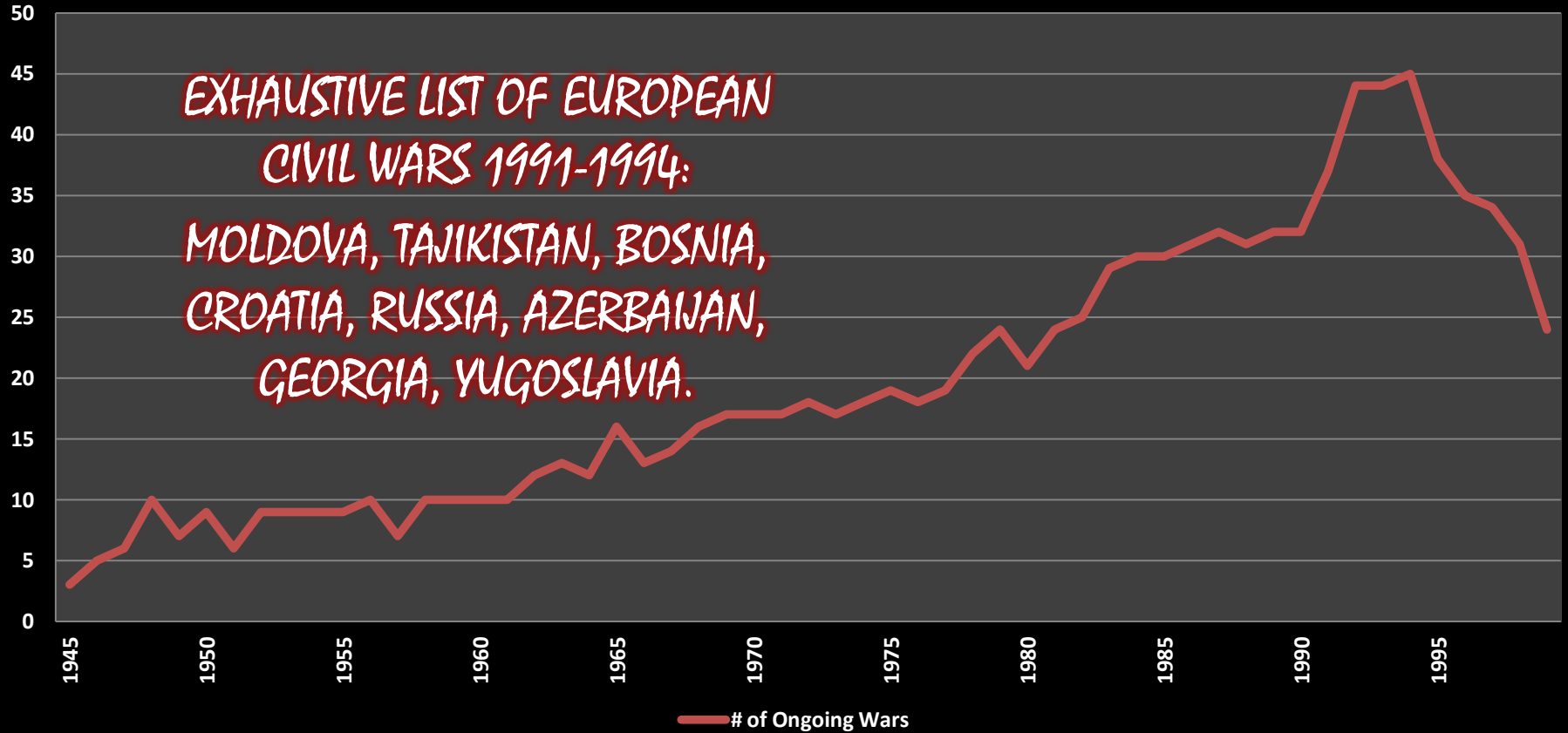


EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF EUROPEAN
CIVIL WARS 1945-1990:

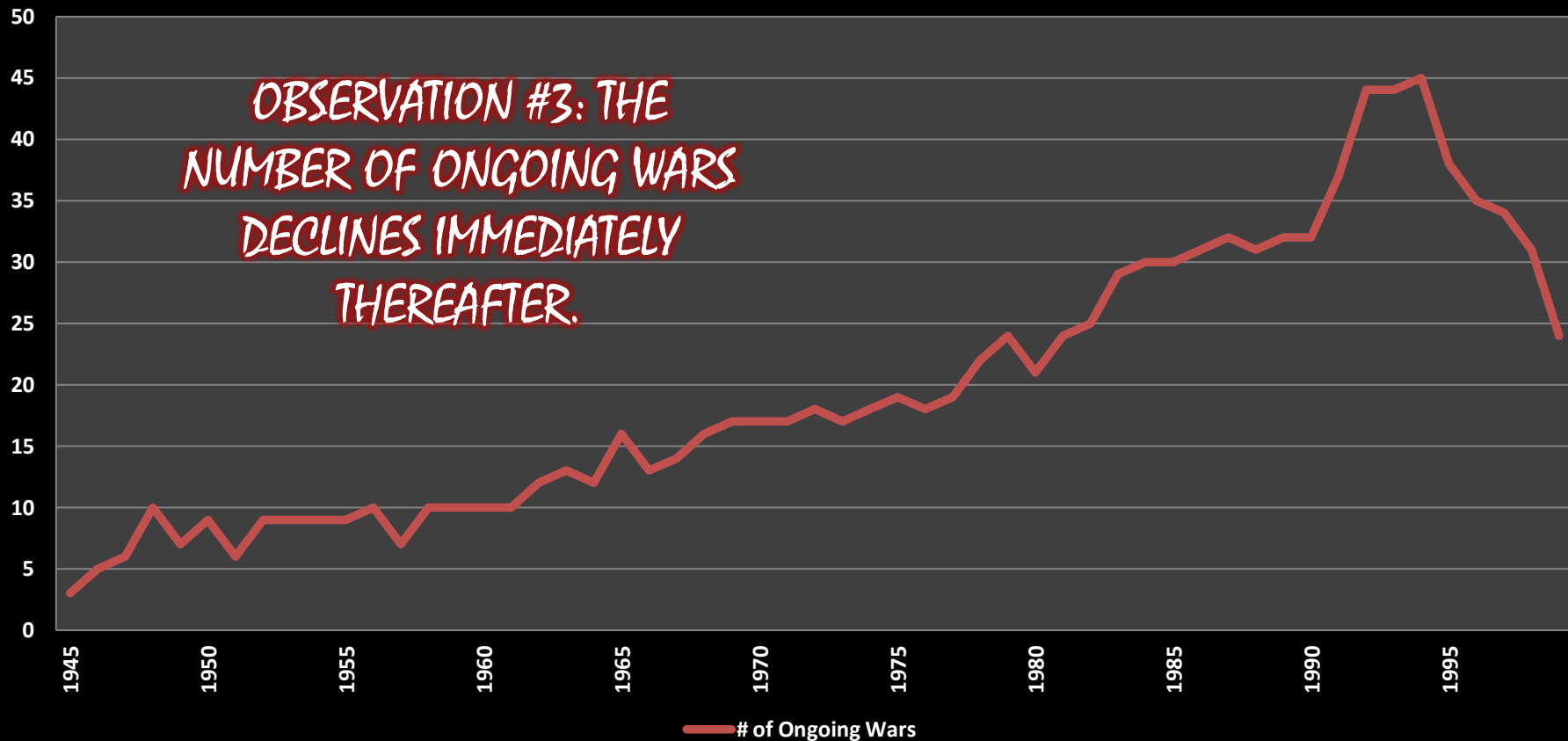
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EXHAUSTIVE LIST OF EUROPEAN
CIVIL WARS 1991-1994:
MOLDOVA, TAJIKISTAN, BOSNIA,
CROATIA, RUSSIA, AZERBAIJAN,
GEORGIA, YUGOSLAVIA.



**OBSERVATION #3: THE
NUMBER OF ONGOING WARS
DECLINES IMMEDIATELY
THEREAFTER.**



QUESTIONS RAISED

- HOW DID SUPERPOWER COMPETITION AFFECT THE OCCURANCE AND DURATION OF CIVIL WAR?
- WHY DID EASTERN EUROPE BECOME A MESS IN 1991?
- HOW HAVE THINGS CHANGED IN THE "AMERICAN" ERA?

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THREE CORE UNITS

- BARGAINING
- COERCION/MEDDLING/INTERVENTION
- TERRORISM/INSURGENCY

BARGAINING

- THE "BACKGROUND" UNIT.
- IF WANT TO MESS WITH SOMEONE ELSE'S BUSINESS, YOU FIRST NEED TO KNOW WHAT GAME THE ARE PLAYING.

COERCION/MEDDLING/INTERVENTION

- DO SANCTIONS WORK?
- DOES THE UNITED NATIONS DO ANYTHING USEFUL?
- IS THERE A "RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT" INNOCENTS?
- CAN INTERVENTION EVEN WORK?

TERRORISM/INSURGENCY

- WHAT IS THE POINT OF TERRORISM?
- IS IT EFFECTIVE?
- HOW DO INSURGENCIES STRATEGIZE?

GENERAL THEMES

- CIVIL WARS ARE NOT FOUGHT IN A VACUUM.
- COMBATANTS MUST ANTICIPATE HOW THIRD PARTIES WILL ACT AND STRATEGIZE ACCORDINGLY.
- STRATEGIES AFFECT INTERNATIONAL OUTCOMES EVEN IF NO CIVIL WARS OCCUR.

STRATEGY VS. WIKIPEDIA SUMMARIES

- WAR IS STRATEGIC.
- IF NOTHING ELSE, YOU WILL LEARN HOW TO THINK STRATEGICALLY IN THIS CLASS.
 - LOTS OF DEMOS! REAL MONEY AT STAKE!
 - I AM NOT GOING TO RECITE WIKIPEDIA TO YOU.

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THE BASICS

- ARMED CONFLICT BETWEEN TWO OR MORE PARTIES WITHIN A STATE.
 - THIS HAS A “I KNOW IT WHEN I SEE IT” FLAVOR.
 - EXACT DETAILS OFTEN DEBATED.

COMMON MEASURES

- ORGANIZED ON BOTH SIDES
- INVOLVES NON-STATE ACTOR
- INVOLVES A GOVERNMENT
- POLITICAL GOALS
- SUFFICIENTLY DEADLY

WHY ORGANIZED?

- MASSACRES AREN'T WARS. THEY ARE MASSACRES.



WHY ORGANIZED?

- TROLLS DON'T CREATE WARS.
THEY TROLL.



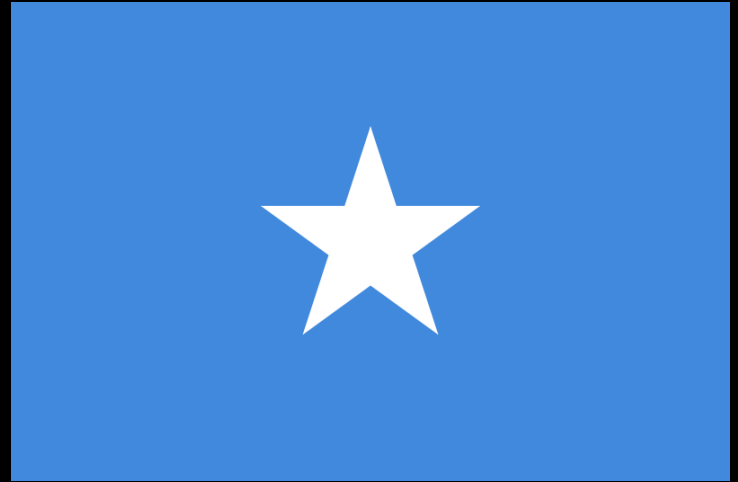
WHY NON-STATE ACTOR?

- IF EVERYONE IS A STATE, IT'S AN INTERSTATE WAR.
 - PUTS THE "CIVIL" IN CIVIL WAR.



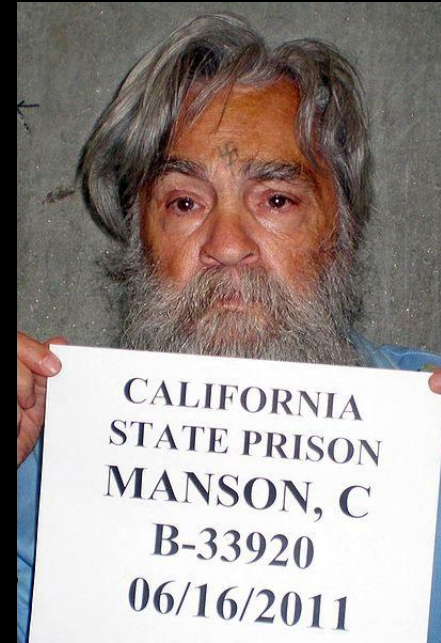
WHY GOVERNMENT?

- FOCUS IS ON POLITICAL GOALS.
- PROBLEMATIC WHEN THERE IS NO GOVERNMENT



WHY POLITICAL GOALS?

- RULES OUT PSYCHOPATHS,
FINANCIALLY MOTIVATED
INDIVIDUALS
 - MEXICAN DRUG WAR FEELS LIKE
A CIVIL WAR, THOUGH



WHY SUFFICIENTLY DEADLY?

- RULES OUT ACCIDENTS,
INACTIVE CONFLICTS,
AND UNKNOWN BATTLES
- COMMON MEASURE:
1000 BATTLE DEATHS, AT
LEAST 100 ON EACH SIDE



TL;DR

- WE ARE FOCUSED ON SITUATIONS WHERE PEOPLE ARE NEGOTIATING OVER BENEFITS WITHIN A STATE.
- GOOD NEWS: LOTS OF RESEARCH DONE ON THIS TYPE OF BARGAINING.

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GRADES

- PROBLEM SET: 10%
- TWO MIDTERMS: 25% EACH
- FINAL: 40%

YES, THIS CLASS HAS A PROBLEM SET

- STRATEGIC THINKING REQUIRES ACTIVE THINKING.
 - ACTIVE THINKING REQUIRES DOING PROBLEMS.
- THIS IS AN UPPER DIVISION POLITICAL SCIENCE CLASS.
 - THUS, YOUR WORK SHOULD AT LEAST RESEMBLE THE WORK OF POLITICAL SCIENTISTS.

YES, THIS CLASS HAS A PROBLEM SET

- I DESIGNED IT TO BE GENTLE.
- IT DECREASES THE AMOUNT OF POINTS ON THE MIDTERMS AND FINAL.
- GROUP WORK IS ENCOURAGED.

**IF YOU START THE PROBLEM SETS
THE DAY BEFORE THEY ARE DUE**



YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A BAD TIME

**IF YOU START THE PROBLEM SETS
THE DAY BEFORE THEY ARE DUE**

ISN'T IN CLASS

WOULDN'T HEED MY WARNING ANYWAY

YOU'RE GONNA HAVE A BAD TIME

EMAILING

- MY EMAIL ADDRESS: WILLIAMSPANIEL@GMAIL.COM
- RESERVE EMAIL FOR SHORT QUESTIONS ONLY.
 - RULE OF THUMB: THREE SENTENCE QUESTION, THREE SENTENCE ANSWER.
 - ANY MORE? GREAT! COME TO OFFICE HOURS.

OFFICE HOURS

- WEDNESDAYS, 2:15-4:15, HARKNESS 109A
— OR BY APPOINTMENT
- I WILL GENERALLY FLOAT AROUND FOR A FEW MINUTES AFTER CLASS.

SYLLABUS