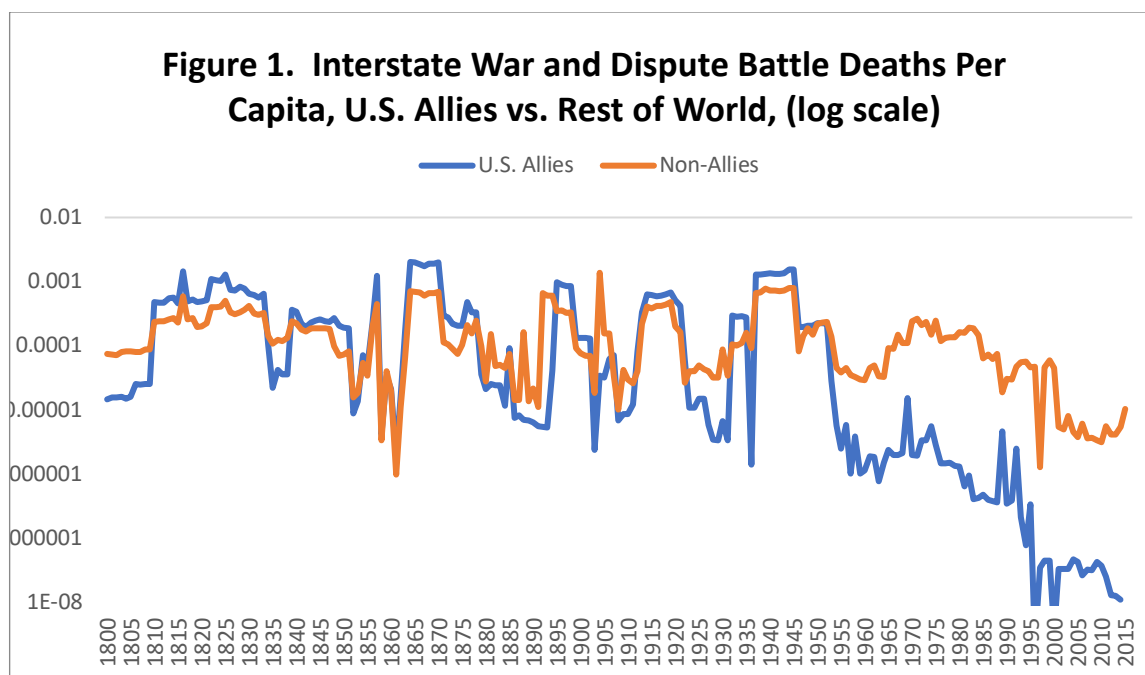


The following two figures suggest that U.S. alliances dramatically reduced the prevalence of war. Figure 1 sorts countries into two groups—countries that eventually became U.S. allies and those that never became U.S. allies. The United States started extending security guarantees to other countries after 1948. Figure 1 shows that the countries that received these security guarantees subsequently experienced far fewer war deaths per capita (a common measure of exposure to armed conflict) than non-U.S. allies. Figure 1 also shows that in the pre-1948 era, before the United States started extending security guarantees, that the countries that eventually became U.S. allies were just as war-prone as those that never became U.S. allies, a fact that suggests that the United States actively pacified belligerent states and did not simply ally with countries that were already peaceful.

Figure 2 focuses solely on U.S. allies and shows that when these countries received a security guarantee from the United States (year “0”), they immediately experienced a significant and sustained drop in war deaths per capita.

Data for both figures comes from Michael Beckley, “Pax Americana: The Rise of the United States and the Decline of War.” Working Paper, Tufts University, December 2018. The data was compiled from the Correlates of War, Peace Research Institute Oslo (PRIO), Uppsala Conflict Data Program, and Michael Clodfelter’s statistical reference Warfare and Armed Conflicts.



**Figure 2. Interstate War and Dispute Battle Deaths Per Capita Before and After Becoming a U.S. Ally**

