VOICES OF THE STRANGER --

ANNOUNCEMENTS: lots of stuff about AFGHANISTAN....

King Harris -- "Brothers in Arms"

also: "DEAR AMERICA" -- arranged for showing

pick up on Jim Garrett's comments about being in Vietnam...
"same/same"

42,000 Native Americans served in Vietnam between 1964 and 1973...
what percentage of the population, I don't know.
-- high unemployment rates... (in some areas as high as 80%)
and education averaging the 8th grade level MEANT THAT
NATIVE AMERICANS WOULD BE ASSIGNED TO NONTECHNICAL
DUTIES....The vast majority in the infantry...
The vast majority experienced combat...

Obviously, then, casualty rate much higher than for other
populations...

One Native American: BILLY WALKABOUT, a Cherokee,
won a DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CROSS, five SILVER STARS,
five BRONZE STARS...and was wounded on six occasions.

Now...THE REAL WORK ON THIS SUBJECT IS YET TO BE DONE....

e.g. -- Native Americans have ritual ceremonies before
going into battle...and after returning from
battle....
ceremonial dances...
tribal gatherings with the GOURD DANCE...

WELL, the ceremonial dances have been reinstated in some
places....
the GOURD DANCE....too
and healing ceremonies....
called "honoring and purification" ceremonies....

PURPOSE: to make sure an individual is in harmony
with his or her surroundings...

TWO ADDITIONAL POINTS: (1) native American veterans going to
Montana after Vietnam...to learn
to live in harmony with nature
after observing the behavior of
animals...

(2) non-native Americans...learning how to deal with
the war by learning from native Americans....
SWEAT LODGE CEREMONIES....
one of the highlights of the trip to the Soviet
Union: watching Americans from Montana teaching
Soviet veterans the Sweat Lodge ceremony...
found a Turkish Bath...