# EXCERPT FROM RECORDED INTERVIEW OF JACK REAKOFF TALKING ABOUT THE

#### **USE OF KINNIKINNICK BERRIES**

#### CONDUCTED BY CAROL SCOTT

#### IN WISEMAN, ALASKA

### **FEBRUARY 2, 1992**

## ORAL HISTORY 95-50-05 PT.4, SIDE A

JACK REAKOFF: Under these medicinal plants, there's this kinnikinnick (Arctostaphylos uvaursi).

CAROL SCOTT: What do you use that for?

JACK REAKOFF: You make it into tea. Do you know what it looks like?

CAROL SCOTT: Is that -- bright green leaves with really tiny red berries? 'Cause I've heard that called grouse whortleberry (this is Vaccinium scoparium, which is is not the same plant as kinnikinnick), and I don't know if that's the same thing.

JACK REAKOFF: Well, they're -- they're kind of -- No, they're kind of a big berry. Uric acid makes a bacterial sign.

**CAROL SCOTT: Really?** 

JACK REAKOFF: Hm-mm. According to what I read about it. The Eskimos, old lady Jones, she

used to (inaudible) -- But, it's --

CAROL SCOTT: Cool.