kept in mind that this type of research and development is significantly less expensive and requires a less skilled workforce than, say, acquiring a nuclear warfare capability.

It is far more likely that would-be proliferators would try to purchase key equipment. Large-scale peptide synthesizers, chemical reagents for synthesis, and chromatographic equipment for purification can all be purchased from a variety of commercial sources. It is also possible to purchase kilogram quantities of biologically active peptides which could be diverted to purposes prohibited by the Biological and Toxin Weapons Convention.

4.3 Novel Toxins and Bioregulators as Incapacitating Agents: The Evolution of a Novel Category of Agents

The idea of incapacitating weapons is an old one. However, with the increased knowledge and use of bioregulators, the whole concept of incapacitating weapons will have to be reexamined.

For the purpose of analysis, one must distinguish between lethal and incapacitating weapons. The United States and the Soviet Union, for example, have stockpiles of lethal chemical agents. As for incapacitating weapons, publicly-available documents indicate that the US Army had strict criteria which put these types of potential weapons in a special category. They ruled out the use of lethal agents at sub-lethal doses. Substances that cause permanent