Insertion of Diaryltellurium(II) into N-Halogen Bonds

T. N. SRIVASTAVA, R. C. SRIVASTAVA and MALA SINGH (Miss)

Chemistry Department, Lucknow University, Lucknow 226007, India

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Two recent reports [1, 2] regarding the oxidative addition of  $(SCN)_2$  to  $R_2Te(II)$  [eq. 1, X = Y = SCN] have prompted us to communicate some of our preliminary results on the reaction of diaryltellurium(II) in the sense of eq. 1.

$$R \xrightarrow{R} Te + X - Y \rightarrow R \xrightarrow{R} Te \xrightarrow{X} Te \xrightarrow{X}$$
(1)

R = R' = Ph, p-MeOPh; R = Ph, R' = p-MeOPh

$$X - Y = Br - N \begin{pmatrix} CO - CH_2 \\ I \\ CO - CH_2 \end{pmatrix}, Br - N \begin{pmatrix} CO \\ CO \end{pmatrix}, Br - NHC - C_6H_5$$
$$CI - N \begin{pmatrix} CO \\ CO \end{pmatrix}, O \\ CI - N \begin{pmatrix} CO \\ CO \end{pmatrix}, O \\ N \end{pmatrix} N$$

Dihalogens and alkyl halides have been known to add oxidatively to  $R_2Te(II)$  for a long time [3]. Recently we have observed that interhalogens, cyanogen halides and thiocyanogen also oxidise  $R_2Te$  to  $R_2TeXY$  [4]. We now report that diaryltellurium(II)

TABLE I. Analytical Data of Compounds Obtained by Insertion Reaction (eq. 1)<sup>a</sup>.

Products RR'TeXY		M.P. °C	Yield %	Conductance $\Omega^{-1} cm^2 mol^1$		I.R. Absorption frequencies, $cm^{-1}$	
				CH <sub>3</sub> CN	Acetone	νCO	vN=N(triazole)
R = R'	= p-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>						
Br	-N CO-CH <sub>2</sub> CO-CH <sub>2</sub>	146–148	100	62.5	47.5	1700vs 1770m	-
Br	- N_CO 10	165	98	-	_	1723vs	
C1	- N_CO_O	15556	70	-	-	1722vs	_
Br	– NH COC <sub>6</sub> H5	203-4	80	-	-	1630s	-
Cl		190–92	100	17.2	10.0	_	1580vs 1565sh
R = R'	= C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub>						
Br	- N CO - CH <sub>2</sub> CO - CH <sub>2</sub>	195	100	61.3	46.3	1 700vs 1 7 70m	-
R = Ph	, $\mathbf{R}' = p$ -MeOPh						
Br	$-N \begin{pmatrix} CO-CH_2 \\ I \\ CO-CH_2 \end{pmatrix}$	180-82	75	64.0	45.2	1700vs 1769m	_
C1	$-N \leq N$	126–28	73	15.8	9.5	_	1640s 1595m

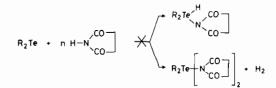
<sup>a</sup> Analytical data of all compounds are in good agreement with the proposed formula. N.M.R. Data of  $p - (CH_3OC_6H_4)_2$  Te  $CO-CH_2$ 

7.66 ppm = d, 4.2-H and 6-H; J = 9 Hz. 6.99 ppm = d, 4.3-H and 5-H; J = 9 Hz; 3.66 ppm = S, 6, OCH<sub>3</sub>; 2.61 ppm = n, 4, CH<sub>2</sub>.

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can readily insert (eq. 1) between N-halogen bonds N-bromobenzamide, N-bromophthalimide, (in N-bromosuccinimide, N-chlorophthalimide and N-chlorobenzotriazole). These reactions provide rare examples of organotellurium amides and incidentally, also represent the first examples of mixed haloamides containing Te-C bonds. The reactions of Ph(p-MeOPh)Te yield unsymmetrical organotellurium compounds which exist as racemic mixtures (attempts are being made to resolve them). Interestingly, insertion is favoured here over competing metal-Ar bond cleavage which takes place readily in the case of Sn-Ar and Pb-Ar bonds [5]. These amides are monomeric in freezing nitrobenzene and nonelectrolytes in acetonitrile.

In an attempt to prepare the mixed hydrideamide or the diamide (eq. 2) succinimide and  $R_2Te$ were stirred (3 hr) together in refluxing benzene. No reaction ensued and the reactants were recovered unchanged:



The Te-N bond in these amides is stable to MeOH.

### Experimental

# Insertion of Bis(p-methoxyphenyl)tellurium(II) N-Bromosuccinimide

To bis(*p*-methoxyphenyl)tellurium(II) (1.23 g, 4 mmol) in benzene (50 ml) was added N-bromosuccinimide (0.72 g, 4 mmol) in the same solvent (10 ml). The mixture was stirred for 3 hr. A white crystalline compound thus separated, which was filtered off, washed with benzene and dried under vacuum (yield 0.90 g, 100%; m.p. 146–48 °C).

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