

## REACTION OF CARBOXAMIDE WITH $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -ISONITRILE COMPLEX; FORMATION OF A NEW CHELATED COPPER(I) COMPLEX

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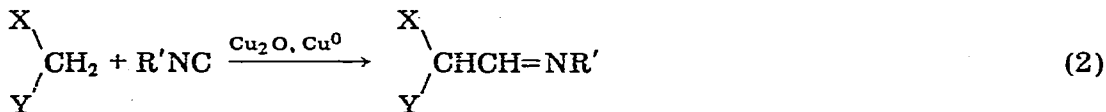
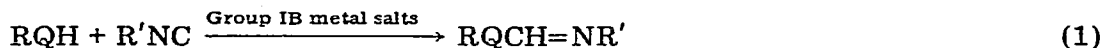
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### Summary

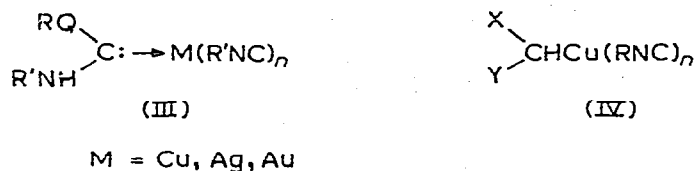
Reaction of carboxamides with  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  in the presence of *t*-butyl isocyanide gave new chelated copper(I) complexes, which probably are formed by the insertion of *t*-butyl isocyanide into the copper-nitrogen bond of copper(I) amide isonitrile complexes, which were initially produced from the carboxamides and  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex. The same chelated copper(I) complexes were prepared more readily by the reaction of the corresponding *N*-trimethylsilyl-carboxamides with  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex. Reactions of the copper(I) complexes thus obtained with alkylating agents, such as alkyl halides, alkyl tosylates and triethylxonium tetrafluoroborate, also were described.

In our continuing studies on Group IB metal-catalyzed insertions of isonitrile, it has been found that (i) isonitrile insertions into the heteroatom-hydrogen bonds of amines, alcohols and thiols are catalyzed by copper, silver and gold salts such as the chlorides and cyanides (eq. 1) [1], and (ii) isonitrile insertions into the carbon-hydrogen bonds of the so-called active methylene compounds are catalyzed by  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  and metallic copper (eq. 2) [2].

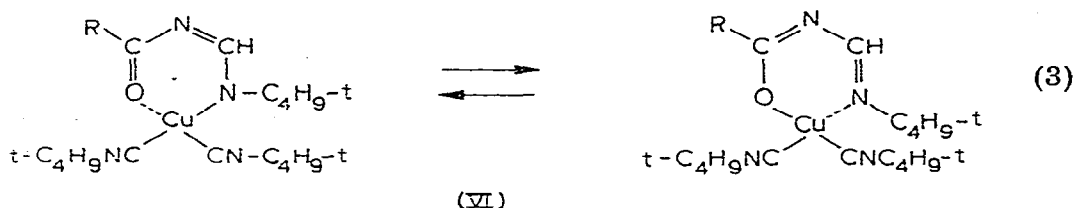
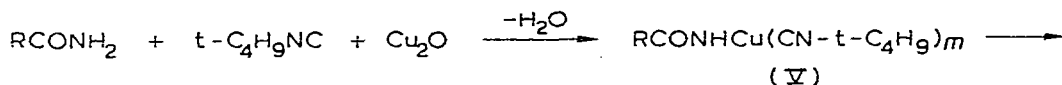


The intermediacy of carbene-coordinated metal complexes (III) recently has

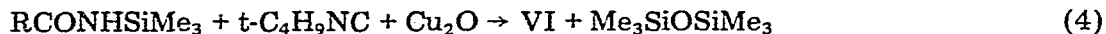
been established by Balch et al. for the first type of isonitrile insertions of eq. 1 [3]. In the case of the second type of isonitrile insertion, on the other hand, an organocopper(I) isonitrile complex intermediate (IV) was isolated, which subsequently underwent isonitrile insertion into its copper-carbon bond [4].



Herein, we wish to report a reaction of the  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex with carboxamides to produce new chelated copper(I) complexes (VI), which are assumed to be formed by isonitrile insertion into the copper-nitrogen bond of copper(I) amide-isonitrile complexes (V) initially produced from carboxamides and  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex.



In addition, the same chelated copper(I) complexes (VI) were produced more readily by the reaction of the corresponding *N*-trimethylsilylcarboxamides with the  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex.



The reactions of these copper(I) complexes (VI) with alkylating agents are also described here.

## Results and discussion

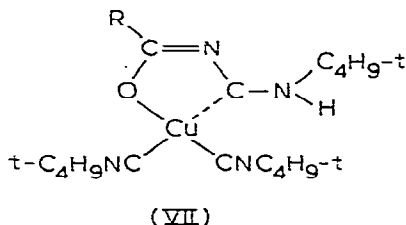
### Reactions of carboxamides with $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex

Formamide was treated with  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  and *t*-butyl isocyanide in refluxing benzene under nitrogen, and the water produced was continuously removed by azeotropic distillation. A white, solid copper(I) complex (VIa,  $\text{R} = \text{H}$ ) was obtained from the reaction mixture. In a similar way, the corresponding copper(I) complexes (VIb,  $\text{R} = \text{CH}_3$  and VIc,  $\text{R} = \text{C}_6\text{H}_5$ ) were prepared from acetamide

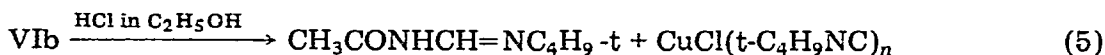
and benzamide, respectively. All these copper(I) complexes (VI) are gradually decomposed in air, but are stable under nitrogen.

The copper(I) complexes (VI) also were prepared by the reaction of the  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex with *N*-trimethylsilylcarboxamides. The latter are easily prepared by treating carboxamides with trimethylchlorosilane in the presence of base [5]. The latter method (eq. 4) for the preparation of copper(I) complexes (VI) has some advantages over the former one, i.e., the reaction time is remarkably shortened, and the formation of water, which may cause a partial decomposition of copper(I) complexes (VI) is avoided. In the latter case, hexamethyldisiloxane was produced instead of water as a by-product. Results are shown in Table 1.

The structure of copper(I) complexes (VI) has been established by elemental analysis, IR, NMR, molecular weight determination as well as chemical transformations. The IR spectrum of VIb shows a sharp absorption band at  $2150\text{ cm}^{-1}$  due to the  $\text{N}\equiv\text{C}$  bond of the coordinated isocyanide, and strong bands at  $1630$  and  $1590\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , which are assignable to the  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  and  $\text{C}=\text{N}$  double bonds of the ligand. The remarkable shift of the  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  absorption band is taken to indicate a chelated structure for copper(I) complex (VIb), which is analogous to that for copper(I) acetylacetonate ( $\nu = 1610$  and  $1525\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) [4] and the copper(II) complex of  $\beta$ -amino- $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated ketone ( $\nu$   $1584$  and  $1530\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) [6]. The NMR spectrum of VIb is in accord with the proposed structure. A sharp one-proton singlet at  $\tau$   $0.74$  ppm, which is not exchangeable with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ , is ascribed to the methine proton of the  $\text{N}=\text{CH}-\text{N}$  group. The NMR spectrum, as well as the absence of absorption bands in the NH region ( $3000\sim 3700\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ), excludes the alternate structure VII containing a coordinating carbene ligand for the present chelated copper(I) complex \*. Some platinum complexes having structures similar to VII have been reported [7].



Treatment of VIb with dry HCl in ethanol afforded *N*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl) acetamide and the  $\text{CuCl}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex.



The formation of the chelated copper(I) complex (VI) may be explained as shown in Scheme 1, which involves isonitrile insertion into the copper-nitrogen bond of copper(I) amide-isonitrile complex (V) initially produced by the reaction of  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex with carboxamide or *N*-trimethylsilyl-

\* The possibility of structure VII was suggested by a referee.

TABLE I  
REACTION OF CARBOXAMIDE WITH  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$  AND *t*-BUTYL ISOCYANIDE

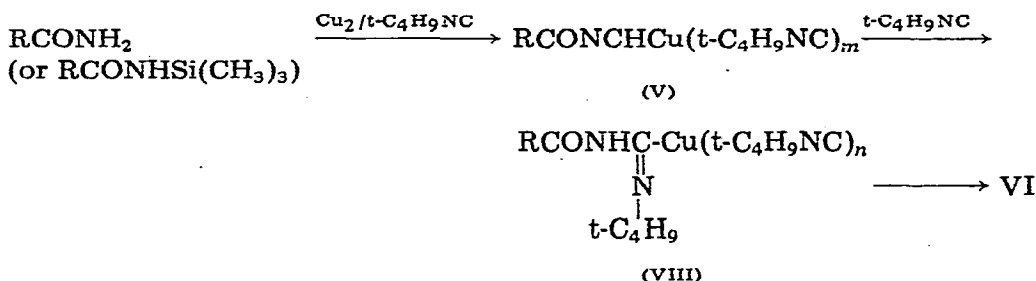
Carboxamide	Method <sup>a</sup>	Reaction time (h)	Copper(I) complex VI	Yield (%)
$\text{HCONH}_2$	A	4	VIa	70
$\text{CH}_3\text{CONH}_2$	A	5	VIb	83
	B	3	VIb	90
$\text{PhCONH}_2$	A	15	VIc	80
	B	9	VIc	83

<sup>a</sup> Method A: Reaction of carboxamide with  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}/t\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{NC}$ ;

Method B: Reaction of *N*-trimethylsilylcarboxamide with  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}/t\text{-C}_4\text{H}_9\text{NC}$ .

carboxamide, and the subsequent rapid migration of the copper moiety from carbon to the adjacent nitrogen atom (VIII  $\rightarrow$  VI).

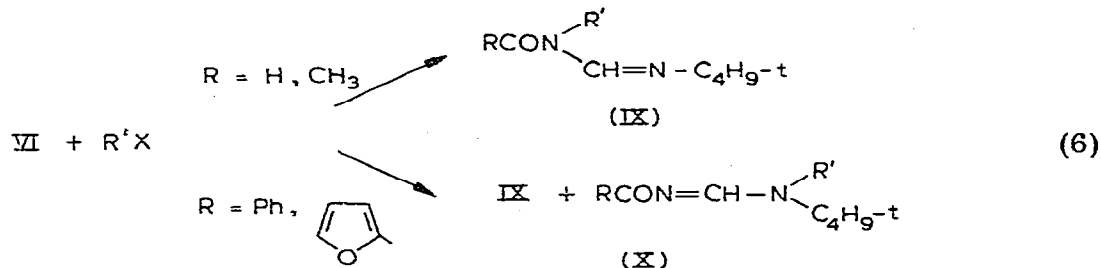
SCHEME 1



In some cases, intermediate V was trapped by reaction with an alkyl halide. For instance, the reaction mixture of acetamide and the  $\text{Cu}_2\text{O}$ -*t*-butyl isocyanide complex was treated with *n*-octyl bromide to afford *N*-*n*-octylacetamide in 33% yield, together with *N*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)-*N*-*n*-octylacetamide (IXb-5).

*Alkylation of copper(I) complexes (VI)*

Alkylation of copper(I) complexes (VI) was performed by stirring a benzene solution of VI with alkylating agents, such as alkyl halide, alkyl tosylate and triethylxonium tetrafluoroborate, at room temperature with or without a small amount of *t*-butyl isocyanide \*. Copper(I) complexes (VIa and VIb : R = alkyl) derived from aliphatic amides were treated with alkylating agents to furnish *N*-alkyl-*N'*-(*t*-butyliminoformyl)amides (IX) in moderate yields.



\* The presence of a small amount of *t*-butyl isocyanide remarkably accelerated alkylation of copper(I) complex VII.

TABLE 2  
ALKYLATIONS OF COPPER(I) COMPLEXES (VI)

Copper(I) complex (VI)	Alkylating agents (R'X)	Product (yield, %)	
		RCON(R')CH=NC <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> -t (IX)	RCON=CHN(R')(C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> -t) (X)
VIa	MeOTs	IXa-1: R = H, R' = CH <sub>3</sub> (50)	
VIa	n-PrBr	IXa-2: R = H, R' = n-Pr (67)	
VIIb	CH <sub>3</sub> I	IXb-1: R = CH <sub>3</sub> , R' = CH <sub>3</sub> (52)	
VIIb	(C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> OBF <sub>4</sub>	IXb-2: R = CH <sub>3</sub> , R' = C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> (42)	
VIIb	n-PrBr	IXb-3: R = CH <sub>3</sub> , R' = n-Pr (87)	
VIIb	n-BuBr	IXb-4: R = CH <sub>3</sub> , R' = n-Bu (80)	
VIIb	n-OctBr	IXb-5: R = CH <sub>3</sub> , R' = n-Oct (60)	
VIIc	MeOTs	IXc-1: R = Ph, R' = CH <sub>3</sub> (9)	Xc-1: R = Ph, R' = CH <sub>3</sub> (83)
VIIc	n-PrBr	IXc-2: R = Ph, R' = n-Pr (20)	Xc-2: R = Ph, R' = n-Pr (76)
VIIc	n-BuBr	IXc-3: R = Ph, R' = n-Bu (13)	Xc-3: R = Ph, R' = n-Bu (70)
VId <sup>a</sup>	n-PrBr	IXd-1: R = C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> O, R' = n-Pr (34)	Xd-1: R = C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>9</sub> O, R' = n-Pr (55)

<sup>a</sup> VId: R = cyclo-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>O. Complex VId was prepared by the reaction of 2-furoic acid amide with Cu<sub>2</sub>O-t-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NC complex and was used without purification.

Reaction of copper(I) complex (VIIb) with trimethylchlorosilane, however, gave *N*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)acetamide in a moderate yield instead of the expected product *N*-trimethylsilyl-*N'*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)acetamide. It is likely that *N*-trimethylsilyl-*N'*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)acetamide was formed first and then was hydrolyzed rapidly by the moisture in the air to give *N*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)acetamide.

The alkylation of copper(I) complex VIIc (R = aryl) derived from an aromatic carboxylic amide, on the other hand, afforded two isomeric alkylated products (IX and X) with X predominating. The products IX and X were identified by elemental analyses, IR and NMR spectra, and their hydrolysis products\*.

Results of alkylation of VI are summarized in Table 2.

Attempts to trap the copper(I) complexes (VI) with other electrophiles such as  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl and nitrile compounds were not successful.

## Experimental

### Reagents

*t*-Butyl isocyanide was prepared by Ugi's procedure [8]. 2-Furamide was prepared by ammonolysis of 2-furoic acid [9]. *N*-Trimethylsilylacetamide and *N*-trimethylsilylbenzamide were prepared by a reported method [5]. Cu<sub>2</sub>O was a commercial reagent and was dried in vacuum prior to use. All other reagents and solvents were commercial reagents and were purified by conventional methods and distilled under nitrogen.

### Reaction of acetamide with Cu<sub>2</sub>O and *t*-butyl isocyanide

A mixture of 1.77 g (30 mmol) of acetamide, 2.43 g (17 mmol) of Cu<sub>2</sub>O and

\* Alkaline hydrolysis of IX gave RCONHR' and *t*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>NHCHO, while alkaline hydrolysis of X gave RCONH<sub>2</sub> and (*t*-C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>)(R')NCHO.

13.2 ml (120 mmol) of *t*-butyl isocyanide in 30 ml of benzene was refluxed for 5 h under a nitrogen atmosphere, removing the water produced by azeotropic distillation. The mixture was filtered and the filtrate was evaporated. The residual white solid was recrystallized from benzene/hexane (1/2) to give 7.17 g (83%) of copper(I) complex VIb, which gradually decomposed on exposure to air. The structure of VIb was convincingly confirmed by elemental analysis, IR and NMR spectra, and a chemical transformation.

VIb: Anal. Found: C, 54.84; H, 8.08; N, 15.50.  $C_{17}H_{31}N_4OCu$  calcd.: C, 55.04; H, 8.42; N, 15.10%. IR (KBr disk) 2150, 1630, 1590, 1362, 1295  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $C_6D_6$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 0.74 (s, 1H), 7.52 (s, 3H), 8.22 (s, 18H), 8.55 (s, 9H).

Copper(I) complex VIb (1.85 g, 5 mmol) was added to one equivalent of dry HCl in ethanol (5 ml) at room temperature and stirred for 30 min. Ten ml of ether were added to the reaction mixture. Filtration was followed on distillation of the filtrate to give *N*-(*N'*-*t*-butyliminoformyl)acetamide (b.p. 115°C/1 mmHg) in 43% yield [Anal. Found: C, 59.01; H, 9.67; N, 19.98.  $C_7H_{14}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 59.12; H, 9.92; N, 19.70%. IR (neat): 1690, 1650  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CCl_4$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.05 (s, 1H), 1.75 (s, 1H), 7.80 (s, 3H), 8.65 (s, 9H)]. Mass spectrum: *m/e* 142 ( $M^+$ ).

Copper(I) complex VIa was prepared in similar fashion by the reaction of formamide with  $Cu_2O$  and *t*-butyl isocyanide.

VIa: Anal. Found: C, 53.88; H, 8.33; N, 15.92.  $C_{16}H_{29}N_4OCu$  calcd.: C, 53.83; H, 8.19; N, 15.70%. IR (KBr disk): 2150, 1595, 1270, 1200  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $C_6D_6$  with TMS);  $\tau$  (ppm) 0.70 (s, 1H), 1.70 (s, 1H), 8.50 (s, 9H), 8.90 (s, 18H).

#### *Reaction of benzamide with $Cu_2O$ and t-butyl isocyanide*

A mixture of 3.63 g (30 mmol) of benzamide, 2.43 g (17 mmol) of  $Cu_2O$  and 13.2 ml (120 mmol) of *t*-butyl isocyanide in 30 ml of benzene was refluxed vigorously for 15 h, removing the water produced by azeotropic distillation. The reaction mixture was filtered and the filtrate was distilled in vacuo to remove benzene. The residual white solid was recrystallized from benzene to afford copper(I) complex VIc in 80% yield.

VIc: Anal. Found: C, 60.42; H, 7.55; N, 12.90.  $C_{22}H_{33}N_4OCu$  calcd.: C, 61.01; H, 7.68; N, 12.94%. IR (KBr disk): 2150, 1640, 1590, 1550, 1200  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CD_3CN$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.22 (s, 1H), 1.70~1.95 (m, 2H), 2.43~2.80 (m, 3H), 1.48 (s, 18H), 1.30 (s, 9H).

#### *Reaction of N-trimethylsilylbenzamide with $Cu_2O$ and t-butyl isocyanide*

A mixture of 5.79 g (30 mmol) of *N*-trimethylsilylbenzamide, 2.43 g (17 mmol) of  $Cu_2O$  and 13.2 ml (120 mmol) of *t*-butyl isocyanide was refluxed for 9 h under nitrogen. After insoluble materials were removed by filtration, and excess *t*-butyl isocyanide was distilled in vacuo, the residual white solid was recrystallized from benzene to give an 83% yield of copper(I) complex VIc.

Similarly, copper(I) complex VIb was prepared by the reaction of *N*-trimethylsilylacetamide with  $Cu_2O$  and *t*-butyl isocyanide.

#### *General procedure for alkylation of copper(I) complexes VIa and VIb*

The general procedure for alkylation of copper(I) complex VIa or VIb is

exemplified by the reaction of VIb with n-propyl bromide. A mixture of 1.1 g (3 mmol) of VIb, 0.36 ml (4 mmol) of n-propyl bromide and 66  $\mu$ l (0.6 mmol) of t-butyl isocyanide in 5 ml of benzene was stirred at room temperature for 4 h under nitrogen. As the reaction proceeded, copper(I) bromide—t-butyl isocyanide complex was gradually precipitated. The reaction mixture was triturated with ether and filtered to remove the copper(I) bromide—t-butyl isocyanide complex. The filtrate was concentrated and distilled to give crude *N*-propyl-*N*-(*N'*-t-butyliminoformyl)acetamide (IXb-3, b.p. 95–110°C/2 mmHg) in 83% yield. An analytically pure sample of IXb-3 was obtained by preparative GLC.

IXb-3: Anal. Found: C, 65.08; H, 10.68; N, 15.11%.  $C_{10}H_{20}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 65.17; H, 10.94; N, 15.20%. IR (neat): 1630  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.70 (br, 1H), 6.30 (t, 2H), 7.81 (s, 3H), 8.3–8.9 (m, 2H), 8.75 (s, 9H), 9.2 (t, 3H).

Other combinations of copper(I) complexes VIa and VIb and alkylating agents such as alkyl halide, alkyl tosylate and triethyloxonium tetrafluoroborate were carried out according to the procedure mentioned above.

IXa-1: Anal. Found: C, 58.97; H, 9.80; N, 19.52.  $C_7H_{14}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 59.12; H, 9.92; N, 19.70%. IR (neat): 1710, 1650  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.40 (s, 1H), 2.10 (s, 1H), 6.83 (s, 3H), 9.10 (s, 9H).

IXa-2: Anal. Found: C, 63.31; H, 10.43; N, 16.18.  $C_9H_{18}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 63.49; H, 10.66; N, 16.46%. IR (neat): 1710, 1650  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CCl_4$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.44 (s, 1H), 2.07 (s, 1H), 6.32 (t, 2H), 8.2–8.7 (m, 2H), 8.81 (s, 9H), 9.12 (t, 3H).

IXb-1: Anal. Found: C, 61.38; H, 10.11; N, 17.69.  $C_8H_{16}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 61.50; H, 10.32; N, 17.93%. IR (neat): 1635  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 2.2–2.7 (br, 1H), 6.85 (s, 3H), 7.80 (s, 3H), 8.80 (s, 9H).

IXb-2: Anal. Found: C, 63.58; H, 10.52; N, 16.68.  $C_9H_{18}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 63.49; H, 10.66; N, 16.46%. IR (neat): 1630  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CCl_4$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.80 (br, 1H), 6.24 (q, 2H), 7.82 (s, 3H), 8.81 (s, 9H), 8.93 (t, 3H).

IXb-4: Anal. Found: C, 66.68; H, 11.30; N, 14.28.  $C_{11}H_{22}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 66.62; H, 11.18; N, 14.13%. IR (neat): 1680, 1640  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.65 (br, 1H), 6.30 (t, 2H), 7.82 (s, 3H), 8.25–9.00 (m, 4H), 8.80 (s, 9H), 9.19 (t, 3H).

IXb-5: Anal. Found: C, 70.79; H, 11.64; N, 10.71.  $C_{15}H_{30}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 70.81; H, 11.89; N, 11.01%. IR (neat): 1630  $cm^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.80 (br, 1H), 6.31 (t, 2H), 7.72 (s, 3H), 8.00–9.30 (m, 15H), 8.72 (s, 9H).

#### *General procedure for alkylation of copper(I) complexes VIc and VI d*

The general procedure for alkylation of copper(I) complex VIc or VI d is exemplified by the reaction of VIc with n-propyl bromide. A mixture of 1.3 g (3 mmol) of VIc, 0.36 ml (4 mmol) of n-propyl bromide and 66  $\mu$ l (0.6 mmol) of t-butyl isocyanide in 5 ml of benzene was stirred at room temperature for 4 h under nitrogen. As the reaction proceeded, copper(I) bromide—t-butyl isocyanide complex was gradually precipitated. The reaction mixture was triturated with ether and filtered. The filtrate was concentrated and distilled to afford *N*-propyl-*N*-(*N'*-t-butyliminoformyl)benzamide (IXc-2, 20% yield, b.p. 120°C/0.6 mmHg) and *N*-(t-butyl-n-propylaminomethylidene)benzamide (Xc-2, 76%

yield, b.p. 200°C/0.6 mmHg). Analytically pure samples of IXc-2 and Xc-2 were obtained by preparative GLC.

IXc-2: Anal. Found: C, 73.01; H, 8.90; N, 11.19.  $C_{15}H_{22}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 73.13; H, 9.00; N, 11.37%. IR (neat):  $1640\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CCl_4$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 2.18 (s, 1H), 2.67 (s, 5H), 6.14 (t, 2H), 8.20–8.80 (m, 2H), 8.94 (s, 9H), 9.15 (t, 3H).

Xc-2: Anal. Found: C, 73.00; H, 8.77; N, 11.51.  $C_{15}H_{22}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 73.13; H, 9.00; N, 11.37%. IR (neat):  $1620, 1560\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.16 (s, 1H), 1.62–2.10 (m, 2H), 2.45–2.90 (m, 3H), 6.30–6.70 (m, 2H), 8.10–8.80 (m, 2H), 8.60 (s, 9H), 9.12 (t, 3H).

Other combinations of copper(I) complex VIc or VI d and alkylating agents were carried out according to the procedure mentioned above.

IXc-1: Anal. Found: C, 71.33; H, 8.12; N, 12.59.  $C_{13}H_{18}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 71.52; H, 8.31; N, 12.83%. IR (neat):  $1635\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 2.20 (s, 1H), 2.65 (s, 5H), 6.80 (s, 3H), 8.92 (s, 9H).

Xc-1: Anal. Found: C, 71.40; H, 8.11; N, 12.55.  $C_{13}H_{18}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 71.52; H, 8.31; N, 12.83%. IR (neat):  $1638, 1560\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.15 (s, 1H), 1.60–2.00 (m, 2H), 2.45–2.90 (m, 3H), 6.82 (s, 3H), 8.55 (s, 9H).

IXc-3: Anal. Found: C, 73.58; H, 9.01; N, 10.55.  $C_{16}H_{24}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 73.80; H, 9.29; N, 10.76%. IR (neat):  $1640\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 2.20 (s, 1H), 2.72 (s, 5H), 6.14 (t, 2H), 8.20–8.90 (m, 4H), 8.91 (s, 9H), 9.15 (s, 3H).

Xc-3: Anal. Found: C, 73.85; H, 9.23; N, 10.79.  $C_{16}H_{24}N_2O$  calcd.: C, 73.80; H, 9.29; N, 10.76%. IR (neat):  $1640, 1560\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CCl_4$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.16 (s, 1H), 1.60–2.00 (m, 2H), 2.43–2.92 (m, 3H), 6.30–6.70 (m, 2H), 8.10–8.80 (m, 4H), 8.62 (s, 9H), 9.12 (t, 3H).

IXd-1: Anal. Found: C, 66.18; H, 8.68; N, 11.98.  $C_{13}H_{20}N_2O_2$  calcd.: C, 66.06; H, 8.53; N, 11.86%. IR (neat):  $1630\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.60 (s, 1H), 2.50–2.60 (m, 1H), 3.02 (d, 1H), 3.55 (dd, 1H), 6.10 (t, 2H), 8.00–8.80 (m, 2H), 8.77 (s, 9H), 9.11 (t, 3H).

Xd-1: Anal. Found: C, 66.24; H, 9.34; N, 11.95.  $C_{13}H_{20}N_2O_2$  calcd.: C, 66.06; H, 8.53; N, 11.86%. IR (neat):  $1630, 1590, 1550\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ; NMR ( $CDCl_3$  with TMS):  $\tau$  (ppm) 1.30 (s, 1H), 2.55–2.70 (m, 1H), 3.05 (d, 1H), 3.20 (dd, 1H), 6.35–6.80 (m, 2H), 8.10–8.80 (m, 2H), 8.70 (s, 9H), 9.07 (t, 3H).

In the alkylation of copper(I) complexes VI, isolation of VI is not needed. Copper(I) complexes VI, which were generated *in situ* in benzene by the reaction of the corresponding carboxamide with  $Cu_2O$  and *t*-butyl isocyanide, were treated with alkylating agents to afford the products IX or X in moderate yields.

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