CHAIN LENGTH DEPENDENT REACTIVITY OF 2-(ω-HYDROXYALKYL)-4-(ω'-HYDROXYALKYLAMINO)PHTHALAZIN-1(2H)-ONES IN AZEOTROPIC HYDROBROMIC ACID

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Abstract - In boiling 48% HBr conversions of title compounds $(\underline{5}\underline{a}-\underline{f})$ resulted in 2-(ω -bromoalkyl)-4-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-phthalazinones $\underline{8}\underline{a},\underline{c}$, angular tricycles $\underline{7}\underline{a},\underline{c}-\underline{f}$ and the $\underline{14}\underline{a}$ tricyclic dione, respectively, depending on the lengths of the side chains and the reaction time applied. The large difference between the reactivities of 4-(2-hydroxyethylamino)- and 4-(3-hydroxypropylamino) homologues in the exchange OH + Br was interpreted on the basis of the relative OH-basicities in the N³-protonated molecules. The proposed mechanism for the conversion to $\underline{14}\underline{a}$ involving a Smiles-type rearrangement was supported by additional experiments with 4-amino-2-(ω -hydroxyalkyl)-phthalazinones $\underline{15}\underline{a},\underline{b}$.

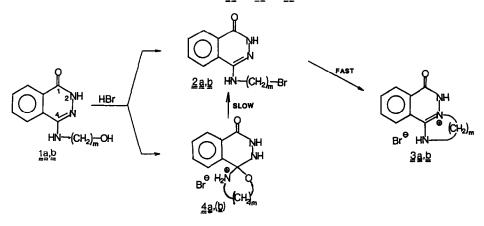
INTRODUCTION

As it has been reported¹, 4-(w'-hydroxyalkylamino)phthalazin-1(2H)-ones <u>la,b</u> can be converted into the angular tricycles 3a,b using azeotropic hydrobromic acid as reagent (Scheme 1). These conversions proceed via the bromoalkylamino intermediates 2a,b. The rate for exchange OH - Br - which is the clue step - has proved to be highly dependent on the length of the side chain: after 5 min of refluxing almost the whole amount of the unchanged <u>la</u> can be recovered, while, applying the same reaction time, conversion $\underline{1b} \rightarrow \underline{2b} \rightarrow \underline{3b}$ can easily be completed¹. The reason proposed so far¹ for this strikingly large difference between the reactivities of the homologues has to be re-examined and this will be discussed again in this paper. The same dependence of the reactivity on the length of 4-(ω' -hydroxyalkylamino) chain was reflected in the structure of products when we chose 48% aqueous HBr as a convenient and effective reagent in order to convert bis-hydroxy derivatives $5a-f^2$ into condensed bromoalkylphthalazinones of type 7 (Scheme 2). Both the expected and unexpected conversions of 5a-f including a rearrangement followed by the split of the hydroxyethylamino chain will also be dealt with in detail. It has to be mentioned here that bromoalkyl compounds like <u>7a-f</u> seem to be suitable alkylating agents for amination reactions resulting in condensed aminoalkylphthalazinones of biological interest (cf. Ref. 3).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

1) Exchange OH \rightarrow Br in the 4-(ω '-hydroxyalkylamino) chain

The above mentioned difference between the reactivities of homologues $\underline{1}\underline{a}$ and $\underline{1}\underline{b}$ has earlier¹ been interpreted with the fast primary formation of the spirocyclic intermediate $\underline{4}\underline{a}$ (Scheme 1) supposed to be less capable to undergo further conversion involving ring cleavage $\underline{4}\underline{a} \rightarrow \underline{2}\underline{a}$. In contrast, the formation of the homologue spiro compound $\underline{4}\underline{b}$ has been regarded to be much slower than the direct reaction $\underline{1}\underline{b} \rightarrow \underline{2}\underline{b} \rightarrow \underline{3}\underline{b}$.



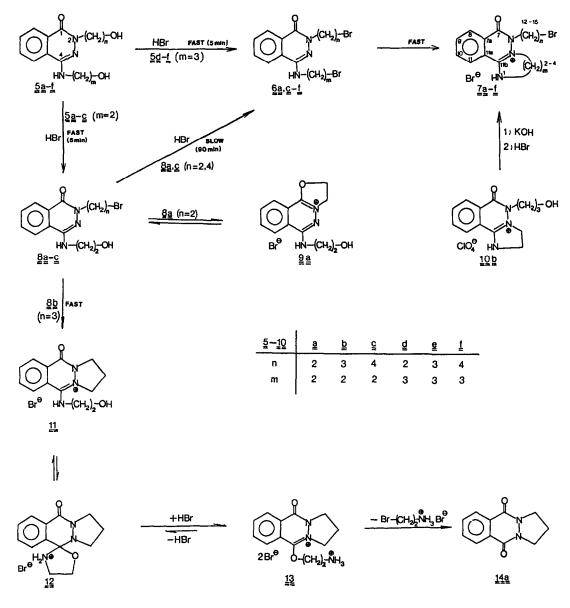
SCHEME 1 - m=2 for a and 3 for b

Recently we carried out comparative nmr studies (solvent 48% DBr) which unambiguously exclude the presence of the spiro compound $4\underline{a}$, although the spectra of $\underline{1}\underline{a}$ were registered after 5 min of boiling of its solution. (In order to avoid the fast conversion $\underline{1}\underline{b} \rightarrow 2\underline{b} \rightarrow 3\underline{b}$, the solution of $\underline{1}\underline{b}$ was not refluxed before the registration.) Supporting the open-chain structure for $\underline{1}\underline{a}$, the following experimental results were obtained: i) in the ¹H-nmr spectrum of $\underline{1}\underline{a}$ the typical A_2B_2 part for the (CH₂)₂ molety points to free rotation around the C-C bond, ii) the same signals are discernible in the aromatic region of ¹H-nmr spectra of $\underline{1}\underline{a}$ and $\underline{1}\underline{b}$, respectively; iii) for both homologues the low field regions of ¹³C-nmr spectra are practically identical, containing two characteristic signals with similar intensity ratio derived from the unsaturated C-1 and C-4 atoms.

Nevertheless, the significant difference between the readinesses of hydroxyethyl- and propylaminophthalazinones to undergo exchange $OH \rightarrow Br$ can be rationalized with the different basicity of the OH group in the N³-protonated molecules. According to our view, the -I effect of the powerful electron-withdrawing amidinium molety on the OH group has to be weakened in a smaller degree through two than through three methylene groups (cf. Ref.4). Thus O-proton-ation, which is crucial for exchange OH \rightarrow Br, must occur more easily in the longer than in the shorter chain. This electronic effect can be well documented by the proton chemical shifts of the CH₂ groups (in 48% DBr) showing much stronger deshielding in the hydroxyethyl-amino than in the hydroxypropylamino chain (Experimental b).

 Conversions of 2-(ω-hydroxyalkyl)-4-(ω'-hydroxyalkylamino)phthalazinones (<u>5a-f</u>) on treatment with boiling 48% HBr

For these conversions the yields and the structure of products proved to be highly dependent on the lengths of the side chains and on the reaction time applied (Scheme 2). On the one hand, conversion of 4-(3-hydroxypropylamino) derivatives $5\underline{d}-\underline{f}$ can practically be completed within five minutes, pointing to fast exchange $0H \rightarrow Br$ in both chains followed by





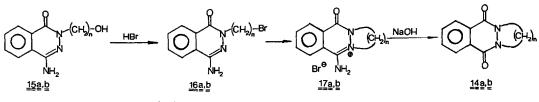
fast angular cyclization $(\underline{5d} - \underline{f} + \underline{6d} - \underline{f} + \underline{7d} - \underline{f})$. On the other hand, with this short reaction time, 4-(2-hydroxyethylamino) homologues $\underline{5a} - \underline{c}$ gave three types of products depending on the length of the 2-(ω -hydroxyalkyl) chain. We found that. 1) the $\underline{8a}$ bromoethyl- and the $\underline{8c}$ bromobutylphthalazinones with unchanged chain in position 4 can be isolated with good yield, 11) contrary to the stable $\underline{8c}$ bromobutyl derivative, during the working up of the reaction mixture, the $\underline{8a}$ bromoethyl homologue undergoes an equilibrium cycloisomerization ($\underline{8a} \rightleftharpoons \underline{9a}$) unless an excess of NaBr is added to the solution before its evaporation (cf. Ref.5); 111) the $\underline{8b}$ bromopropyl derivative primarily formed from $\underline{5b}$ cannot be isolated, as its further conversion to the dione $\underline{14a}$ and bromoethylamine-hydrobromide takes place very rapidly. The latter product was identified $\underline{V1a}$ its benzoyl derivative (Experimental c/11)

Com-	m.p.b	Anal. (%) ^C					Ir (cm ⁻¹)		
pound	(°Ĉ)	С	н	N	Br	$vN^+ - H^d$	amıde-I	vC=N	
<u>7a</u>	256-9	38.4 38.5	3.5 3.5	11.2 11.0	42.6 42.6	3150-2600	1671	1612	
<u>7</u> <u></u>	220-2	40.1 40.0	3.9 3.7	10.8 10.8	41.1 41.0	3150-2500	1668	1610	
<u>7d</u>	232-4	40.1 40.3	3.9 4.0	10.8 11.0	41 1 40.9	3200-2700	1665	1616 1600	
<u>7e</u>	157-60	41.7 41.8	4.3 4.4	10.4 10.6	39.6 39.6	3200-2650	1666	1620 1605	

Table 1. M.p., anal and ir data of compounds 7a,b,d,e

^aData for <u>7</u><u>c</u> f see in Ref.2. ^bAfter recryst. from abs. EtOH. ^CUpper row. calculated, lower row. found. ^dBroad band.

A possible mechanism for this conversion shown in Scheme 2 involves the fast $\underline{8b} + \underline{11}$ cycloalkylation to N-3 atom followed by a Smiles-type rearrangement⁶ $\underline{v1a}$ a spirocyclic intermediate ($\underline{11} \rightleftharpoons \underline{12} \rightleftharpoons \underline{13}$) and finally, by the irreversible splitting of the CH_2 -0 bond in the $\underline{13}$ aminoethyl ether. (However, it has to be noted that original Smiles rearrangements occur in basic media⁶.) This assumption for the mechanism gains support from the following experiments underlining the role of the 4-hydroxyethylamino chain. i) on an extended treatment (reaction time. ⁵ h) with 48% HBr, 4-amino-2-(ω -hydroxyalkyl)phthalazinones $\underline{15a}, \underline{b}$ exclusively resulted in the $\underline{17a}, \underline{b}$ tricyclic salts as end-products (Scheme 3); ii) conversions $\underline{17a}, \underline{b} + \underline{14a}, \underline{b}$ took only place in basic solution On the other hand, these experiments also



SCHEME 3 ---- n=3 for a and 4 for b

exclude the formation of the $\frac{4a}{2a}$ spirocyclic intermediate (Scheme 1) which then would undergo a conversion analogous to that of $\frac{12}{2}$ (cf. Scheme 2) to yield phthalic hydrazide and bromoethylamine-hydrobromide.

The fast conversion of 15a into 17a can be completed even with five minutes of boiling. The open chain intermediate (16a) could not be isolated at all. In contrast, with the same reaction time, 15b gave the 16b bromobutyl homologue as the major product. As expected, with longer reaction times the ratio 16b. 17b shifted toward the tricyclic salt (Exp. c/viii). These findings are also in correlation with the different readinesses of 4-(2-hydroxyethyl-amino) analogues 8b and 8c to form linear tricycles. However, on an extended treatment with 48% HBr, instead of conversion to the homologue 14b dione, 8c underwent a slow exchange OH \rightarrow Br followed by fast angular cyclization (8c + 6c + 7c, Scheme 2). Similarly to 8c, both 8a and 2a can be converted into 7a (Scheme 2).

Since, using 48% HBr as reagent, homologue $\underline{5b}$ cannot be transformed into $\underline{7b}$ at all, this tricyclic salt was prepared from the $\underline{10b}$ tricyclic hydroxypropyl compound (Scheme 2) easily obtainable from $\underline{5b}$ by a described method².

EXPERIMENTAL

M.p.s were measured on a Boetius hot stage. Ir spectra were obtained on a Zeiss IR-75 instrument in KBr pellet. $^{1}H^{-}$ and $^{13}C^{-}nmr$ spectra were registered on a Bruker AC-80 PFT spectrometer using TMS or DSS as reference.

a) 4-Amino-2-(w-hydroxyalkyl)phthalazin-1(2H)-cnes (15a,b)

Using the corresp. hydrazinoalcohol⁷, 15a and 15b were prepared by the method described for 4-amino-2-(2-hydroxyethyl)phthalazin-1(2H)-one⁸. Yield: 62% for 15a and 50% for 15b. 15a. m.p. 164-5°C, anal. (calc/found %) C 60.3/60.5, H 6.0/6.1, N 19.2/19.2, ir(cm⁻¹) NH₂, OH 3375 3330 3220, amide-I 1620, vC=N 1574. 15b: m.p. 135-7°C, anal. C 61.8/61.8, H 6.5/6.3, N 18.0/17.9; ir vNH₂, OH 3400 3325 3260, amide-I 1612, vC=N 1570.

b) Comparative structure determination of $4-(\omega'-hydroxyalkylamino)$ phthalazinones <u>1a,b</u> in DBr

0.25 mmol of the corresponding homologue was dissolved in 48% DBr (0.5 ml). The soln of la was refluxed for 5 min, then cooled and examined with ¹H- and ¹³C-nmr, respectively. Spectra from the soln of <u>lb</u> were taken without any refluxing. No signals related to spirocyclic isomer 4a were observed in either of the spectra taken from the soln of <u>la</u>. la: ¹H-nmr: NCH₂, OCH₂ 4.26 and 4.13 (A₂B₂, J = 5.2 Hz, 2x2H), ArH 8.2-8.6 (m, 4H); ¹³C-nmr $\overline{C(1,4)}$ 158.2 152.6, C(4a) 127.4, C(5) 132.6, C(6) 124.8, C(7) 135.7, C(8) 129.0, OCH₂ 61.2, NCH₂ 53.9.

<u>1b</u> ¹H-nmr. NCH₂, 0CH₂ 3.97 and 3.74 (2xt, J = 6.5 Hz, 2x2H), C-CH₂-C 2.30 (<u>q1</u>, J = 6.5 Hz, $\overline{2H}$), ArH 8.2-8.6 (<u>m</u>, 4H), 13C-nmr: C(1,4) 157.9 151 3, C(4a) 127 7, C(5) 133.1, C(6) 125.1, C(7) 135.4, C(8) 128.7, 0CH₂ 60.3, NCH₂ 51.5, C-CH₂-C 32.1.

c) Reactions effected by 48% HBr and some conversions of the products

Generalizations for sections c/1-111, v_1 , v_{111} : 0.01 M of the corresp. hydroxy compound $(\underline{5a}-\underline{f}, \underline{8a}, \underline{c}, \underline{9a}, \underline{15a}, \underline{b})$ was dissolved in 48% HBr (10 ml). Reactions were carried out by refluxing the solns obtained The reagent was removed by distillation in vacuo Products were dried over P205 in all cases.

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 Hydrobromides of 5-(w-bromoalkyl)-2,3-dihidroimidazo[2,1-a]phthalazin-6(5H)-ones (<u>7a,2</u>) and 6-(w-bromoalkyl)-3,4-dihydro-2H-pyrimido[2,1-a]phthalazin-7(6H)-ones (<u>7d-f</u>)

Reaction times: 90 min for $5a \rightarrow 7a$, $8a \rightarrow 7a$, $9a \rightarrow 7a$, $5c \rightarrow 7c$, $8c \rightarrow 7c$; 5 min for $5d-f \rightarrow 7d-f$.

Evaporation of the reaction mixture was carried out in presence of NaBr (3.1 g, 0.03 M) The residue was extracted with 80 ml of hot, freshly absolutized EtOH. After filtration of NaBr, the ethanolic soln was concentrated to about a quarter of its volume. To the suspensio obtained Et₂0 (4 ml) was slowly added, then the crystalline product was filtered off and dried. Yields: 76-91%. M.p., anal., ir and nmr for 7a-f are found in Tables 1 and 2.

 Conversion of <u>5b</u> into 2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrazolo[1,2-b]phthalazin-5,10(4H,11H)-dione (<u>14a</u>) and 2-bromoethylamine

Reaction of $\frac{5}{26}$ was interrupted after 5 min of boiling. The residue obtained by removing of the reagent was triturated with water (5 ml), then the crystalline product (14a) was filtered off and dried: 1.87 g (92%). M.p. (crude): 204-5°C. After recryst. from CHCl₃-petroleu ether, the product proved to be identical with the sample obtained by hydrolysis of 17a, as shown by m.p., anal., ir and ¹H-nmr (section c/ix).

The aqueous mother liqueur was diluted with water (5 ml), then intensively shaken with benzene containing benzoylchloride (1.50 g/4 ml of solvent).

While shaking, 1N NaOH (11 ml) was poured in small portions into the mixture, keeping it temperature under 30°C. After about 20 min of shaking the precipitated N-(2-bromoethyl)-benz amide was filtered off, washed with water and dried 1.76 g (77%). M.p. (from benzene). m.p 104-59C (105-6°C in Ref.9a); anal. C 47.4/47.3, H 4.4/4.4, N 6.1/6.0, Br 35.0/35.1, ir vN-H 3200-2700, amide-I 1648, amide-II 1562. (The method for acylation described in this section has been reported in Ref.9b).

111) Conversion of <u>5a</u> into 2-(2-bromoethyl)-4-(2-hydroxyethylamino)phthalazin-1(2H)-one (<u>8a</u>) and 2,3-dihydro-6-(2-hydroxyethylamino)-oxazolo[2,3-a]phthalazin-4-ium-bromide (<u>9a</u>)

Reaction of $\frac{5a}{2a}$ was interrupted after 5 min of boiling. To the residue obtained by evaporation of the reaction mixture water (8 ml) was added, then the insoluble part ($\frac{8a}{2a}$ and $\frac{5a}{2a}$) was filtered off, washed with water and dried. The mixture of $\frac{8a}{2a}$ and $\frac{5a}{2a}$ was extracted with CHCl₃ (3 ml) at RT. $\frac{5a}{2a}$ (insoluble in CHCl₃) was filtered off. 0.25 g. To the organic filtrat petroleumether (2 ml) was slowly added to obtain $\frac{8a}{2a}$ (0.22 g. Without addition of petroleumether, on standing at RT for one day, tricyclic salt $\frac{2a}{2a}$ (0.28 g) was precipitated from the soln. By evaporation of the fresh chloroformic soln, $\frac{9a}{2a}$ was obtained quantitatively (0.30 g) as the only product due to the cyclization $\frac{8a}{2a} - \frac{9a}{2a}$. The aqueous filtrate (see above) showing acidic character was neutralized with cc NH40H

The aqueous filtrate (see above) showing acidic character was neutralized with cc NH4OH then the precipitated $\frac{5a}{2a}$ was filtered off and dried (1.64 g). The aqueous mother liqueour was evaporated to obtain the second crop of 5a (0.34 g).

was evaporated to obtain the second crop of 5a (0.34 g). The approximate ratio of the products (mol %) 5a 8a: $9a \approx 7$ 10.83. (The weight of 9a was calc from the amount of 5a obtained from the aqueous phase.)

9a was calc from the amount of 5a obtained from the aqueous phase.) When the reaction mixture was evaporated in presence of NaBr (3.1 g, 0.03 M), 8a was the only product (3.12 g, 100%) isolated by treating the residue with water. On standing for four months at RT, the product soluble in CHCl₃ became soluble in water and insoluble in CHCl₃, due to the cycloisomerisation $8a \rightarrow 9a$.On heating this cyclization had to take place without melt, since 157-160°C was measured as m.p. for both 8a and 9a.Cyclization $8a \rightarrow 9a$ was also reflected in ir spectra: 8a. vNH,OH 3335, amide-I 1629, vC=N, vN=H 1570 1543; 9a.vNH,OH 3345 3225, further characteristic bands 1609 1570 1550 and 1530.

Anal for <u>8a(9a)</u>C 46.2/46.3(46.2), H 4.5/4 4(4.4), N 13 5/13.7(13 4), Br 25.6/25.6(25.7). (Prepn. of the perchlorate analogue of <u>9a</u> has been reported in Ref.2.).

1v) Conversion <u>5a</u> → <u>8a</u> in 48% DBr

62 mg (0.25 mmol) of 5a was refluxed in azeotropic DBr for 5 min. After cooling the mixture the ¹H-nmr spectrum was taken directly. The open chain spectrum indicated the formation of 8a CO-N-CH₂ 4.60 (<u>t</u>, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H), Br-CH₂ 3.82 (<u>t</u>, 6.0 Hz, 2H), (CH₂)₂ in the hydroxy ethylamino chain 4.27 and 4.13 (A₂B₂, 5.2 Hz, 2x2H), ArH 8.2-8.6 (<u>m</u>, 4H).

v) Determination of the equilibrium $\underline{8a} \rightleftharpoons \underline{9a}$ in DMSO-d₆ at RT

 $\underline{8a}$ (78 mg, 0.25 mmol) was dissolved in DMSO-d₆ (1 ml), and the soln was investigated by ¹H-nmr. The characteristic signals related to the equilibrium $\underline{8a} \neq \underline{9a}$ (65.35) were assigned 4 44 (t, 6.5 Hz) for CO-N-CH₂ in $\underline{8a}$, 5.29 and 4.92 (A₂B₂, 9.5 Hz) for the oxazoline ring in $\underline{9a}$. The same signals characteristic of the equilibrium were also registered when $\underline{9a}$ was dis-

solved in DMSO-d6. By adding NaBr (51 mg, 0.5 mmol) to the soln, the equilibrium was shifted to the left.

vi) Conversion of 5c into 2-(4-bromobutyl)-4-(2-hydroxyethylamino)phthalazin-1(2H)-one ($\underline{8c}$)

Reaction of $\underline{5c}$ was interrupted after 5 min of boiling. The residue obtained by removing of the reagent was triturated with water (10 ml), then the crystalline product was filtered off and recryst from EtOH-H2O to obtain $\underline{8c}$ (2.65 g; 78%). As shown by m.p., anal., and ir, the product proved to be identical with that obtained by alkylation of $\underline{1a}$ with 1,4-dibromobutane as described in Ref. 10

com- pound	2-н ^b 4-н ^b	3-н ^с	12-н ^d 15-н ^d	C(7) C(11b)	C(7a) ^e C(11a) ^e	C(9) ^f C(10) ^f	C(8) C(11)	C(2) C(4)	C(12) C(15)	C(3)
<u>7a</u>	4 24 4 86	-	456 387	160 1 155 2	129 4 127 0	136 8 136 2	129 2 125 0	45 3 53 0	47 O 29 8	-
<u>7</u> b	4 25 4 84	-	4 43 3 76	158 7 156 0	130 9 126 0	137 O 136 8	129 5 124 7	45 6 52 9	45 4 30 0	-
<u>7c</u>	4 24 ⁸ 4 84	-	4 27 ⁸ 3 70	159 4 154 9	128 1 125 6	136 1 135 7	129 6 124 1	45 6 52 2	45 9 31 2	-
<u>7d</u>	3 63 4 28	2 21	4 61 3 89	159 3 150 0	129 2 127 0	137 1 136 1	129 5 124 3	39 3 51 0	473 309	20 0
<u>7e</u>	3 65 4 25	2 27	4.42 3 80	157 7 149 7	130.3 126 1	137 2 136 5	129 5 124 0	39 8 50 5	45 8 30 3	20 3
<u>7f</u>	3 62 4 25 ^g	2 24	4 28 ^g 3 72	158 3 148 6	131 4 127 2	136 3 135 4	129 2 124 1	39 7 49 9	46 O 29.9	20 4

 $\frac{\text{Table 2}}{\text{and 20 MHz}} = \frac{1}{10} - \frac{1}{10} -$

^aThe numbering of atoms is given in Scheme 2 on Formula 7. Further signals, ArH(8-11) 8 2-8 6 (m, 4H) for $\underline{7a}$ -f, N-H 10 2-10 5 (s, 1H) for $\underline{7a}$ -f, 13-11 2 01 (~q1, 2H) for $\underline{7b}$ and 2 05 (~q1, 2H) for $\underline{7c}$, 13,14-H 1 8-2 0 (m, 4H) for $\underline{7c}$, f, C(13) 30.1 for $\underline{7b}$ and 29.9 for $\underline{7c}$, C(13,14) 28 4, 33 9 for $\underline{7c}$ and 28.2, 35 0 for $\underline{7f}$ b t(2H), J=10 2+0 3 Hz for $\underline{7a}$ -c and 6.0+0 2 Hz for $\underline{7d}$ -f $\underline{7c}$ c (13,14) 28 4, 33 9 for $\underline{7c}$ (2H) d t(2H), J=6 3+0 2 Hz e Assignments of the C(7a, 11a) carbon lines were proved by DEPT measurements f Assignments may also be reversed for the signed line pairs $\underline{3}$ Overlapping signals assigned by DR measurements

v11) Conversion of <u>10b</u> into hydrobromide of 5-(3-bromopropyl)-2,3-dihydroimidazo[2,1-g]phthalazin-6(5H)-one (<u>2b</u>)

While cooling with ice-water, the tricyclic perchlorate (3.6 g, 0.01 M) was suspended in IN KOH (10 ml), then KClO₄ was removed by filtration and washed with EtOH (5 ml). The combined yellow filtrate was evaporated, the residue was dissolved in 48% HBr and refluxed for 5 min. Isolation of $\frac{7b}{10}$ was carried out as described in section c/1: 2.74 g (70%). M.p., anal., ir, $1_{\text{H-}}$ and 1_{3} C-nmr spectra are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

v111) 5-Amino-2,3-dihydro-1H-pyrazolo[1,2-b]phthalazin-10(11H)-one-4-ium-bromide (<u>1?a</u>), 6-amino--1,2,3,4-tetrahydropyridazino[1,2-b]phthalazin-11(12H)-one-5-ium-bromide (<u>1?b</u>), and 4-amino-2-(4-bromobutyl)phthalazin-1(2H)-one (<u>16b</u>). (<u>15 + 16 + 17</u> type of conversions)

Reaction times: 5 min for $15a \rightarrow 17a$; 5, 20, 60, 90 and 300 min, resp. for $15b \rightarrow 16b + 17b$ The residue was triturated with cold EtOH (8 ml), the insoluble salt (17a,b) was filtered off, washed with EtOH (3 ml) and dried: 2.62 g (93%) for 17a.

After reaction of 15b to the ethanolic filtrate, water (10-15 ml) was added in small por tions to obtain <u>16b</u>. Yields (%) for <u>16b/17b</u> with different reaction times: 71/27 (5 min), 54/42 (20 min); 40755 (60 min), 34/61 (90 min), 0/91 (300 min). The total yields for <u>16b</u> wer obtained from the weight of its cyclic isomer 17b isolated almost quantitatively after evapo ration of the ethanolic soln. (On heating this soln cyclization 16b + 17b takes place ramidly <u>16b</u> (recryst. from CH₂Cl₂-petroleumether at RT). m.p. 88-9°C followed by solidification $(\overline{16b} \rightarrow \underline{17b})$ and melting again at 285-7°C, anal. C 48.7/48.5, H 4.8/4.7, N 14.2/14.2, Br 27.0/26.9; ir vNH2 3430 3295 3185, amide-I 1620, vC=N, 6NH2 1570, vC-Br 695 cm⁻¹. <u>17a</u> (recryst from EtOH-H2O): m.p. 360°C, anal. C 46.8/46.7, H 4.3/4.5, N 14.9/14.9, Br 28.3/28 3, 1r vNH2⁺ 3330 3270 3150-2600, amide-I 1640, vC=N, 6NH2 1590 (broad). 17b (recryst. from EtOH-H₂O) m.p. 285-7°C; anal. C 48.7/48.7, H 4.8/5.0, N 14.2/14.0, Br 27.0/27.1, ir vNH₂ 3230 3175 3200-2600, amide-I 1651, vC=N 1555, δ NH₂ 1595.

1x) Conversions 17a, b + 14a, b

(Prepns of 14a, b have been carried out by different methods, too: see in Ref. 11.) While heating moderately 0.01 M of the corresp. salt was dissolved in 0.5 N NaOH (20 ml) The soln was kept for 2 h at RT. The crystals were collected, washed with water and dried 1.64 g (14a) m.p. 206-7°C, 1.20 g (14b); m.p. 145-6°C (145.5-6.5°C in Ref. 11b).

The aqueous mother liqueur was evaporated, then the residue was triturated with water (4 ml) to obtain a second crop of the product. Total yield: 94% for 14a and 88% for 14b. Bot <u>14a</u> and <u>14b</u> were recryst. from CH_2Cl_2 -petroleumether. 14a m.p. 205-6°C; anal. C 65.3/65.4, H 5.0/4.9, N 13.9/14 0, 1r amide-I 1625 1599 cm⁻¹, TH-nmr in CDC13 ArH, 8.26 and 7.75 (dd's, 6.5 Hz, 3.5 Hz, 2x2H), N-CH2 4.30 (t, 7.0 Hz, 4H), -C-CH₂-C- 2.43 (qi, 7.0 Hz, 2H). 14b. m.p. 149-50°C, anal. C 66.7/66.9, H 5.6/5.7, N 13.0/13.0, ir amide-I 1666 1636 cm⁻¹, TH=nmr in CDC13 ArH 8.47 and 7.94 (dd's, 6.0 Hz, 3.5 Hz, 2x2H), N-CH2 4.20 (t, 6.0 Hz, 4H)

-C-(CH₂)₂-C- 1.8-2.2 (m, 4H).

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