Studies on the Reactions of Heterocyclic Compounds. III.1) Cyanation of 1,6-Naphthyridine N-Oxides

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The Reissert reaction with 1,6-naphthyridine occurs at the nitrogen atom of 6-position. In the same reaction with 1,6-naphthyridine 1-oxide, 6-oxide, and 1,6-dioxide, N-oxide group reacts and gives 2-cyano-, 5-cyano-, and 2,5-dicyano-derivatives as expected. And 1,6-dioxide reacts with KCN in MeOH to give 2-methoxy-5-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine, 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-5-carboxamide, 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine 6-oxide. The same reaction with 1-oxide gives 1,6-naphthyridine and 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine or 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-5-carboxamide. The mechanism of these novel reactions was proposed.

In the previous paper,3) we reported the preparation of 1,6-naphthyridine N-oxide (1-oxide, 6-oxide, and 1,6-dioxide) and the reactions of these N-oxides with acetic anhydride or phosphoryl chloride.

In the present paper, we first discuss the Reissert reaction in which we found that some of these N-oxides were very sensitive to potassium cyanide, and then the discovery that a novel Sn reaction took place in this series of N-oxides upon a more precise examination of the reaction with potassium cyanide in methanol.

\[ \text{Chart 1} \]

2) Location: Kashiwagi 4-chome, Shinjuku-ku, Tokyo.
First, we tried the Reissert reaction\(^4\) of a free base. Addition of silver cyanide to a solution of 1,6-naphthyridine (I) and benzoyl chloride in chloroform afforded the Reissert compound, whose structure was determined as 5-cyano-6-benzoyl-5,6-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine (II) by elemental analysis, nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) spectrum and infrared (IR) spectrum. When potassium cyanide was used instead of silver cyanide, the products were rather complicated and the yield was low. This result shows that 6-nitrogen is more reactive to electrophile than 1-nitrogen; this is comparable to the iodomethylation of I, which gave 6-methyl-1,6-naphthyridinium iodide.

Then, the Reissert reaction of N-oxides\(^6\) was examined, and the results are summerized in Chart 1 together with the result mentioned above.

1,6-Naphthyridine 1-oxide (III) afforded 2-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine (IV), showing that N-oxide group is more reactive to electrophile than ring nitrogen. The structure of IV was determined by elemental analysis, NMR spectrum, and IR spectrum. IV was also obtained by heating III with hydrogen cyanide in methanol in a sealed tube. The latter reaction also occurs in quinoxaline 3-oxide,\(^9\) and shows that 1,6-naphthyridine ring has a reactivity comparable to quinoxaline. This will be discussed fully later. 1,6-Naphthyridine 6-oxide (V) and 1,6-naphthyridine 1,6-dioxide (VII) gave 5-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine (VI) and 2,5-dicyano-1,6-naphthyridine (VIII), respectively, as expected. But V gave 5,6-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridin (6\(H\))-5-one as by-product, which shows that benzoyl adduct of V is very reactive to nucleophile.\(^3\)

In the reaction of VII, the reaction mixture was markedly colored when VII and potassium cyanide were mixed in water and the yield of VIII was very low. As this fact suggested that VII is too reactive in water, we attempted cyanation of VII with only potassium cyanide in methanol under reflux.

In this condition, VII gave 2-methoxy-5-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine (IX), 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-5-carboxamide (X) and 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine 6-oxide (XI) in the respective yields of 10, 5, and 15\%. From the consideration of these products, XI was deduced to be an intermediate in this reaction, but we could not obtain IX or X from XI under the same reaction condition; XI was not obtained from VII with potassium carbonate or potassium hydroxide in methanol under reflux, while IX was obtained from VIII with potassium cyanide in methanol. These results are shown in Chart 2 with an estimated mechanism.

In the first step of the reaction, 2-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine 6-oxide is obtained and in the second, the reaction proceeds in either of these two directions: 2-cyano group is substituted

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by methoxy group, which protects XI from nucleophile, or cyanide anion attacks this intermediate further, the product of which (VIII), being more reactive to a nucleophile, gives IX, which is partly hydrolysed to X. In this assumption, 2-position must be more reactive than 5-position. This assumption was supported by the reactions shown below.

1,6-Naphthyridine 6-oxide (V) was almost entirely recovered in the above condition, giving a trace of deoxygenated product (I), while 1-oxide (III) gave 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine (XII) with deoxygenated product (I). Increased concentration of potassium cyanide gave 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-5-carboxamide (X), the same product as that of 1,6-dioxide (VII), in a poor yield. From these results, we could assume that the mechanism of these reactions was similar to that of VII as shown in Chart 3.

![Chart 3]

In the above scheme, III also seemed to react as an oxidizer; adding potassium ferri-cyanide to the reaction mixture we could obtain IX, but none of deoxygenated products (I and XII). This shows that our assumption was correct.

This cyanation reaction without acylating reagents is a quite new type of reaction of N-oxide, and application of this reaction to other nucleophiles is very interesting. The activity of cyano group for SN reaction was observed by Higashino in quinoxaline series. This fact suggests, as well as the reaction of hydrogen cyanide in methanol referred to above, that 1,6-diazanaphthalene (I) has the same reactivity to some nucleophile as 1,3-diazanaphthalene, as expected from the fact that both nitrogen atoms occupy the starred positions of the alternate hydrocarbon system. Reduction of N-oxide group by alcohol and alkali observed in the reactions of III and V will be discussed in the following paper.

The structures of these reaction products were determined from the following reactions. IX was obtained by the Reissert reaction of XI, and X was obtained by the hydrolysis of IX with hydrogen peroxide in the presence of potassium carbonate. Catalytic reduction of XI over Raney Ni gave XII, which was hydrolysed to 1,2-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine(1H)-2-one by conc. hydrochloric acid in a sealed tube at 140°. These reactions are summarized in Chart 4. XI was assumed to be either 2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine 1-oxide or 6-oxide, but it was found to be the 6-oxide from its NMR absorptions of C₆-H, C₇-H, and C₈-H which were almost identical with those of 1,6-naphthyridine 6-oxide. NMR spectra of N-oxide were discussed in the previous paper.8)

7) T. Higashino, Yakugaku Zasshi, 80, 1404 (1960).
In order to examine the reactivity of 1,6-naphthyridine N-oxides more quantitatively, \( \pi \)-electron charge distribution was calculated from simple Hückel molecular orbital theory and shown in Chart 5. In this calculation the parameters were taken to be \( \alpha_{\text{B},\text{H}} = \alpha + \beta \), \( \alpha_0 = \alpha + 1.5 \beta \), and \( \alpha_N = \alpha + 0.5 \beta \) from the assumption that, in this reaction, O atom of N-oxides makes a hydrogen bond with protic solvents. As a result, 1,6-naphthyridine 1-oxide and 1,6-dioxide were found to be active to nucleophilic attack, especially at 2-, 4-, and 5-positions. The results of above experiments were in approximate agreement with the results of the calculation.

**Experimental**

**Reissert Reaction of 1,6-Naphthyridine (I)**—To a solution of I (0.5 g) and benzoyl chloride (0.55 g) in CHCl₃ (20 ml), AgCN (0.6 g) was added and stirred for 4 hr at 15°. The solid substance was filtered off, the filter cake was washed with 1x NaOH solution, and the CHCl₃ layer was dried over K₂CO₃. After CHCl₃ was evaporated, the residue was dissolved in C₆H₆ and purified through silica gel (20 g) column. The first elute with C₆H₆ contained oily substance, mainly BzCl, and from the second elute with CH₃Cl-MeOH (100:1) colorless crystals were obtained. Recrystallization from C₆H₆ gave colorless needles (II), mp 186—187°; yield, 0.4 g (40%). IR cm⁻¹: νc=0 1665 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) \( \delta \): 3.75 (1H, doublet, \( J = 7.5 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 3.43 (1H, singlet, \( C_\text{H} \)), 3.05 (1H, doublet, \( J = 7.5 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 2.74 (1H, singlet, \( C_\text{H} \)), 1.56 (1H, double doublet, \( J = 5 \) cps, \( J = 1.3 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₄O₂N₂ (5-cyano-6-benzoyl-6,6-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine): C, 73.55; H, 4.24; N, 16.08. Found: C, 73.84; H, 4.27; N, 16.09.

**Reissert Reaction of 1,6-Naphthyridine 1-Oxide (III)**—To a mixture of III (0.27 g) in CHCl₃ (3 ml) and KCN (0.2 g) in H₂O (2 ml), a solution of BzCl (0.3 g) in CHCl₃ (2 ml) was added and stirred for 3 hr at 20°. The CHCl₃ layer was washed with 10% K₂CO₃ solution and dried over Na₂SO₄. The extracted residue was chromatographed over silica gel. The column was eluted with CHCl₃ to remove oily substance, mainly BzCl, and from the second elute colorless crystals were obtained. Recrystallization from \( n \)-hexane gave colorless needles (IV), mp 154—155°; IR cm⁻¹: νc=0 2280 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) \( \delta \): 2.15 (1H, doublet, \( J = 8.8 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 1.90 (1H, doublet, \( J = 6.3 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 1.48 (1H, doublet, \( J = 8.8 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 1.11 (1H, doublet, \( J = 6.3 \) cps, \( C_\text{H} \)), 0.61 (1H, singlet, \( C_\text{H} \)). Anal. Calcd. for C₁₉H₁₄N₂ (2-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine): C, 69.67; H, 3.25; N, 27.09. Found: C, 69.43; H, 2.85; N, 27.32.

The following elution with CH₃Cl gave the starting material (0.1 g, 33%).

**Reissert Reaction of 1,6-Naphthyridine 6-Oxide (V)**—To a solution of V (0.1 g) and BzCl (0.12 g) in CHCl₃ (4 ml), AgCN (0.2 g) was added and stirred for 3 hr at 15°. The reaction mixture was treated as in the case of I. The extracted residue was chromatographed over silica gel. The colorless crystals were obtained from elute with CH₃Cl. The recrystallization from \( n \)-hexane gave colorless needles (VI)
of mp 142—143°. Yield, 0.01 g (9.4%). This substance is so easily sublimated that its elemental analysis was difficult to carry out. IR cm⁻¹: νC=N 2290 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) τ: 2.36 (1H, quartet, J = 4.5 cps, Cₓ-H), 1.82 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ-H), 1.33 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ-H), 1.12 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ–H), 0.77 (1H, doublet, J = 4.5 cps, Cₓ–H). Mass spectrum: M/e Calcd. for CₓHₓNₓ (5-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine): 155. Found: 155.

The elute with CHCl₃-MeOH (10:1) gave 5,6-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine (6H)-5-one⁸ in the yield of 0.05 g (50%).

Reissert Reaction of 1,6-Naphthyridine 1,6-Dioxide (VII) —— To a mixture of VII (0.5 g) in H₂O (5 ml) and BzCl (3 g) in CHCl₃ (10 ml), KCN (2 g) in H₂O (5 ml) was added and stirred for 2 hr at 23°. The following procedure was the same as in the case of III. The extracted residue was chromatographed over silica gel (10 g). The column was eluted with CHCl₃ to remove oily substance, mainly BzCl. Recrystallization of the elute with CHCl₃ from a-hexane gave colorless needles (VIII) of mp 150—152°; yield, 0.02 g (3.6%). IR cm⁻¹: νC=N 2280 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) τ: 1.97 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.73 (1H, doublet, J = 5 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.16 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 0.96 (1H, doublet, J = 8 cps, Cₓ–H). Anal. Calcd. for CₓHₓNₓ (2,5-dicyano-1,6-naphthyridine): C, 66.66; H, 2.24; N, 31.10. Found: C, 66.28; H, 2.38; N, 31.08.

Reaction of VII with KCN in MeOH —— To a solution of VII (1 g) in MeOH (200 ml), KCN (2 g) was added and heated under reflux with stirring, and then the solution gradually became brown. After 6 hr continuous reflux, MeOH was evaporated to dryness in vacuo and the residue was extracted with CHCl₃. The CHCl₃ solution was concentrated to ca. 10 ml, which was chromatographed over silica gel (50 g). The column was eluted with CHCl₃ to collect each band that showed fluorescence in UV ray. Colorless crystals were obtained from the first blue fluorescent fraction. Recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles (IX) of mp 193°; yield, 0.124 g (10.8%). IR cm⁻¹: νC=N 2280 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) τ: 5.83 (3H, singlet, -OCH₃), 2.85 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 2.11 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.61 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.27 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ–H). Anal. Calcd. for CₓHₓOₓNₓ (2-methoxy-5-cyano-1,6-naphthyridine): C, 64.86; H, 3.81; N, 22.69. Found: C, 64.98; H, 4.07; N, 22.55.

The next fluorescent elute with CHCl₃ gave pale pink crystals and the recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 236° (X); yield, 0.065 g (5%). IR cm⁻¹: νC=N 3430, 3280 (KBr); νC=O 1700 (KBr). NMR (CF₃COOH) τ: 5.53 (3H, singlet, -OCH₃), 2.35 (1H, doublet, J = 10 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.61 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.13 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, Cₓ–H), 0.66 (1H, doublet, J = 10 cps, Cₓ–H). Anal. Calcd. for CₓHₓOₓNₓ (2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine-5-carboxamide): C, 59.10; H, 4.46; N, 20.68. Found: C, 58.90; H, 4.08; N, 20.85.

The elute with CHCl₃-MeOH (20:1) gave pale green crystals, recrystallization of which from acetone gave colorless needles of mp 193° (XI); yield, 0.153 g (14.1%). IR cm⁻¹: νC=N 1210 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) τ: 5.95 (3H, singlet, -OCH₃), 2.99 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 2.40 (1H, doublet, J = 7.5 cps, Cₓ–H), 2.14 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.75 (1H, double doublet, J = 7.5 cps, J = 2.5 cps, Cₓ–H), 1.34 (1H, doublet, J = 2.5 cps, Cₓ–H). Anal. Calcd. for CₓHₓOₓNₓ (2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine 6-oxide): C, 61.36; H, 4.58; N, 15.90. Found: C, 60.93; H, 4.80; N, 16.02.

Reaction of III with KCN in MeOH —— a) To a solution of III (0.8 g) in MeOH (200 ml), KCN (2 g) was added with stirring and heated under reflux for 1.5 hr. The solvent was evaporated to dryness in vacuo and the residue was extracted with CHCl₃. The extracted solution was concentrated to ca. 10 ml and chromatographed over silica gel. The column was eluted with CHCl₃ to collect oily substance (0.54 g). Gas chromatography of the oil showed two peaks in the ratio of 87.5:12.5 from their areas. The first peak was assigned to I and the second to XII from the retention time, respectively. NMR spectrum of this oil showed the mixture of I and XII in the ratio of 84:16.

b) To a solution of III (0.6 g) in MeOH (20 ml), KCN (2 g) was added and heated with stirring under reflux for 9 hr. The following procedure was the same as in the case of the former reaction. The chromatography of this reaction residue gave colorless crystals from the elute with CHCl₃. Recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 236°; yield, 0.03 g (3.6%). This substance was identified with X by IR spectra and mixture melting point.

Reaction of VIII with KCN in MeOH —— To a solution of VIII (45 mg) in MeOH (10 ml), KCN (100 mg) was added and heated with stirring at 50° for 30 min. The solvent was evaporated to dryness in vacuo and the residue was extracted with CHCl₃. This solution was chromatographed over silica gel and the column was eluted with CHCl₃, colorless crystals being obtained. Recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 193°; yield, 10 mg (22%). This substance was identified with IX by IR spectra and the mixture melting point.

Cyanoation of III with HCN —— To a solution of III (0.8 g) in MeOH (20 ml), HCN-MeOH solution (10 ml; prepared from 1 g of KCN) was added and heated in a sealed tube at 100° for 10 hr. The reaction mixture was evaporated to dryness in vacuo and the residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ and chromatographed

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⁸ A. Shimazu GC-3AF was used. Column: DEGS (15%) 3 m. Column temp.; 188°. Carrier; N₂. Inlet press.; 1.8 atm.
over silica gel. The column was eluted with CH₂Cl₂ to collect colorless crystals of mp 155—156°; yield, 0.02 g (6.3%). This substance was identified with IV by IR spectra and mixture melting point. The second fraction gave 0.2 g of the starting material.

Reisert Reaction of 2-Methoxy-1,6-Naphthyridine 6-Oxide [XI] — To a mixture of XI (0.3 g, 1.7 mmole) in CHCl₃ (2 ml) and KCN (0.6 g) in H₂O (5 ml), BeCl₂ (0.3 g) in CHCl₃ (2 ml) was added under ice cooling and stirred at 18° for 6 hr. The reaction mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂; the CH₂Cl₂ layer was washed with a solution of 10% K₂CO₃ and the CH₂Cl₂ layer was dried over Na₂SO₄. The CH₂Cl₂ was evaporated and the residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ and chromatographed over silica gel. The column was eluted with CHCl₃ to collect colorless crystals and recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 191—193°; yield, 0.17 g (54%). This substance was identified with IX by IR spectra and mixture melting point. The second elute with CHCl₃ gave 0.01 g (2.9%) of crystals, which were identified with X by IR spectra and mixture melting point.

2-Methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine (XII) — To a solution of XI (0.176 g, 1 mmole) in MeOH (30 ml), Raney Ni (prepared from Ni—Al alloy, 0.5 g) was added and the mixture was shaken with H₂ (24 ml) under 1 atm. at 15°. When the reduction was over, Ni was filtered off and the filtrate was evaporated to dryness in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in CHCl₃ and chromatographed over silica gel. The elute with CHCl₃ gave colorless crystals and recrystallization from n-hexane gave colorless needles of mp 65—67°; yield, 0.08 g (50%). IR cm⁻¹: νc—ν 3440 (KBr). NMR (CDCl₃) τ: 5.9 (3H, singlet, −OCH₃), 3.14 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, C₃—H), 2.96 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, C₅—H), 1.98 (1H, doublet, J = 8.8 cps, C₄—H), 1.38 (1H, doublet, J = 6.3 cps, C₆—H), 0.96 (1H, singlet, C₇—H). Anal. Calcd. for C₃H₅ON₂ (2-methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine): C, 67.48; H, 5.05; N, 17.49. Found: C, 66.69; H, 5.29; N, 17.09. Mass spectrum: M⁺ Calcd.: 160. Found: 160.

The elution with CHCl₃ (containing 2—5% MeOH) gave the starting material, 0.01 g (5.7%).

Hydrolysis of 2-Methoxy-1,6-naphthyridine (XII) — A solution of XII (0.2 g) in conc. HCl (5 ml) was heated in a sealed tube at 140° for 8 hr. The reaction mixture was evaporated in vacuo and 1 ml of H₂O was added to the residue. When the solution was basified with Na₂CO₃, crystals appeared. Recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 291°; yield, 0.12 g (67%). This substance was identified with 1,2-dihydro-1,6-naphthyridine(1H)-2-one3 by IR spectra and mixture melting point.

Reaction of 1,6-Naphthyridine 6-Oxide with KCN in MeOH — To a solution of V (0.3 g) in MeOH (20 ml), KCN (0.6 g) was added and heated under reflux for 3 hr. It was treated in the same way as III. The residue was chromatographed over alumina. The elute with CH₂Cl₂ gave 40 mg (15%) of oil. The picrate of this oil melted at 210°. It was identified with 1,6-naphthyridine picrate by mixture melting point. The second elute with CH₂Cl₂ (containing 2% MeOH) gave 0.15 g (50%) of the starting material.

Reaction of VII with KCN and K₃Fe(CN)₆ in MeOH — To a solution of VII (0.5 g) in MeOH (150 ml), KCN (1 g) and K₃Fe(CN)₆ (11 g) were added and heated under reflux for 3 hr. The solid substance of the reaction mixture was filtered off and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in CH₂Cl₂ and chromatographed over silica gel. The elute with CH₂Cl₂ gave colorless crystals. Recrystallization from MeOH gave colorless needles of mp 193°; yield, 0.1 g (17.5%). This substance was identified with IX by IR spectra and mixture melting point.

Reaction of III with KCN and K₃Fe(CN)₆ in MeOH — To a solution of III (0.3 g) in MeOH (30 ml), KCN (0.3 g) and K₃Fe(CN)₆ (1.8 g) were added and heated under reflux for 2 hr. It was treated in the same way as VII. The elute with CH₂Cl₂ gave colorless crystals of mp 193°; yield, 0.02 g (5.3%). This substance was identified with IX by IR spectra and mixture melting point.

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