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**To cite this Article** Palominos, Mario A. and Vega, Juan C.(1991) 'PYROTHIOCARBONATES V. SYNTHESIS AND SOME REACTIONS OF S-TRIMETHYLSILYL O-ALKYLDITHIOCARBONATES', Phosphorus, Sulfur, and Silicon and the Related Elements, 61: 3, 319 — 324

**To link to this Article:** DOI: 10.1080/10426509108036812

**URL:** <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/10426509108036812>

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# PYROTHIOCARBONATES V. SYNTHESIS AND SOME REACTIONS OF S-TRIMETHYLSILYL O-ALKYLDITHIOCARBONATES

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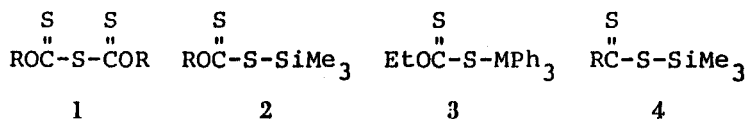
(Received September 10, 1990; in final form January 28, 1991)

Non-reported S-trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (**2**) are prepared by reaction of O,O-dialkyltrithiodicarbonates with N-methyl N-trimethylsilylaniline in 87–96% yield. These are air-sensitive liquids which are separated from the accompanying phenyl methyl alkylcarbamothioates by fractional distillation. The reaction of **2** with acetyl chloride gives the unsymmetrical dithioanhydrides S-acetyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates in 93–97% yield. With the less powerful electrophilic reagent, iodomethane, S-trimethylsilyl O-ethyldithiocarbonate (**2a**) forms S-methyl O-ethyldithiocarbonate in 30% yield. When a chloroform solution of **2a** is stirred with water the unstable compound O-ethyldithiocarbonic acid is obtained.

**Key words:** Masked O-alkyldithiocarbonic acids; O,O-dialkyltrithiodicarbonates; S-acetyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates.

Although O,O-dialkyl pyrotrithiocarbonates or O,O-dialkyltrithiodicarbonates (**1**) were described at the beginning of the century,<sup>2</sup> little is known about the chemistry of these thioanhydrides. Some reactions of O,O-diethyltrithiodicarbonate (**1a**) with amines<sup>3</sup> and enolates<sup>4</sup> have been published. In this paper we report the use of **1** to prepare S-trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (**2**) which are silyl derivatives of xanthates. Because xanthates **2** are unknown compounds some of their reactions were also studied.

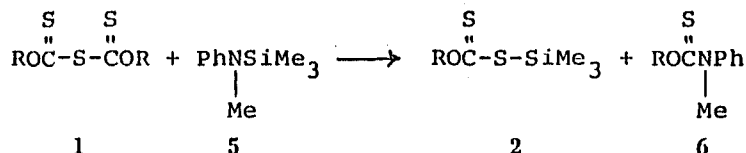
Some organometallic derivatives of O-ethyldithiocarbonates (**3**) have been prepared by reaction of potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate with triaryl (or alkyl) metal (IVb) chlorides. Thus, compounds **3** have been synthesized by reaction of triphenylgermanium, -tin, and -lead chloride with potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate.<sup>5</sup>



M= Ge, Sn, Pb

When we attempted to prepare S-trimethylsilyl O-ethyldithiocarbonate by direct reaction of potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate dissolved with chlorotrimethylsilane in acetone, only decomposition of the reaction mixture was observed. This was also noticed by Schmidt *et al.*<sup>5</sup> However, the related compounds, S-trimethylsilyl esters of dithiocarboxylic acids, (**4**), have been obtained.<sup>6</sup>

Compounds **2** were prepared by reaction of **1** with N-methyl N-trimethylsilylaniline, (**5**), in hexane at room temperature under nitrogen atmosphere. In this reaction the corresponding phenyl methyl O-alkylcarbamothioates (**6**) were also formed. Products **2** and **6** were liquids in most cases and could be separated by fractional distillation. Thiocarbamates **6**, which have not been described, show spectral data which are consistent with their structures. Table I shows the yields of the obtained compounds **2** and some of their physical properties.



When N-trimethylsilylmorpholine was used instead of **5**, only reaction mixture formed by reaction with **1a** could be separated. The other mixtures could not be separated by fractional distillation.

Because thiosilanes **2** are sensitive to humidity, no direct elemental analysis could be made. Conversion of these compounds into derivatives S-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-O-alkyldithiocarbonates (**7**) was performed by reaction with freshly prepared 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride in hexane for 4 h at room temperature. The work up left solids which could be easily crystallized from hexane and gave satisfactory microanalyses.

With the exception of **1a**, thioanhydrides **1** were prepared by the method of Zhuravlev and Galchenko<sup>7</sup> which was modified by adding a 20% solution of phosgene in toluene to an acetone solution of potassium O-alkyldithiocarbonate

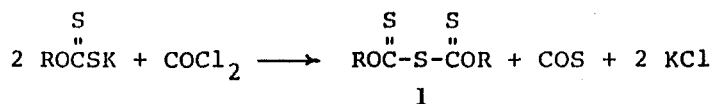


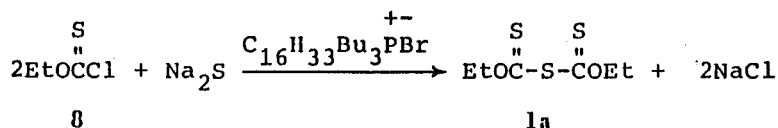
TABLE I  
S-Trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (**2**) prepared

<b>2</b> <sup>a</sup>	R	yield <sup>b</sup> (%)	b.p. (°C)/torr	IR $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ S=C-O	(neat) C-Si	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> /TMS) (CH <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> Si $\delta$ , Hz (ppm)
a	Et	90	42/0.1	1210, 1055	845	0.46 4.56 (q, 2H)
b	n-Pr	92	50/0.1	1210, 1060	845	0.46 4.51 (t, 2H)
c	i-Pr	90	48/0.1	1220, 1060	845	0.45 5.73 (m, 1H)
d	Bu	95	59/0.1	1210, 1060	850	0.46 4.54 (t, 2H)
e	i-Bu	96	54/0.1	1215, 1060	845	0.47 4.33 (d, 2H)
f	sec-Bu	87	56/0.1	1215, 1050	845	0.45 5.61 (m, 1H)

<sup>a</sup> Characterized through their derivatives S-(4-nitrobenzoyl)-O-alkyldithiocarbonates (**7**). See Experimental.

<sup>b</sup> Isolated product.

Compound **1a** was formed in 97% yield by the reaction of O-ethylcarbonochloridothioate (**8**) with sodium sulfide in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  with hexadecyltributylphosphonium bromide as phase transfer catalyst.<sup>8</sup>



An alternative route to **1** via desulfuration of bis(alkoxythiocarbonyl) disulfide  $[(\text{ROCS})_2\text{S}_2]$  could not be realized for the higher homologues of **1a** due to decomposition.<sup>9</sup> The trithiodicarbonates **1b-f** obtained, along with their yields and selected physical properties, are shown in Table II. Products **1** are thermally unstable yellow liquids which can not be distilled but they were pure enough according to  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR analysis. No relevant physical data were reported for these compounds.

We also studied the reactions of **2** with acetyl chloride, a powerful electrophile. The reaction of this with potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate in ether has been described and it was found that the reaction product S-acetyl O-ethyldithiocarbonate (**9a**) decomposes giving ethyl acetate and  $\text{CS}_2$  as the main products.<sup>10</sup> When the same reaction was conducted in  $\text{CCl}_4$ , product **9a** was reported in high yield.<sup>11</sup> When acetyl chloride was reacted with **2a** in hexane at room temperature for 3 h **9a** was obtained in 95% yield. In the same way S-acetyl derivatives of **2** were prepared in high yield (93–97%). In these reactions chlorotrimethylsilane was also formed. Dithioanhydrides **9** are yellow liquids which can be distilled without decomposition. Their yields and physical properties appear in Table III.

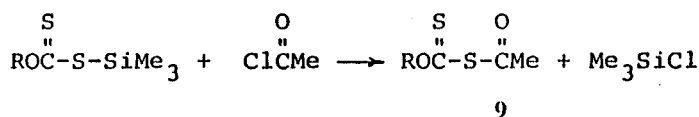


TABLE II  
O,O-Dialkyltrithiodicarbonates (**1**) prepared by the phosgene method

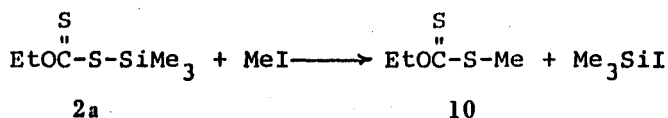
<b>1</b>	R	Yield (%)	IR (neat)	$^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3/\text{TMS}$ )
			$\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ S=C-O	$\delta, \text{Hz}$ (ppm) HCO
<b>b</b>	Pr	93	1270, 1005	4.62 (t, 2H)
<b>c</b>	i-Pr	93	1270, 980	5.78 (m, 1H)
<b>d</b>	Bu	95	1280, 1005	4.68 (t, 2H)
<b>e</b>	i-Bu	97	1275, 1005	4.45 (d, 2H)
<b>f</b>	sec-Bu	90	1280, 990	5.68 (m, 1H)

TABLE III  
 S-Acetyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (9) prepared in this work

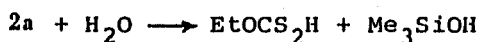
9	R	Yield <sup>a</sup> (%)	B.P. °C/torr	$\eta_D$ (20°C)	Molecular Formula <sup>b</sup>	IR(neat) $\nu(\text{cm}^{-1})$ C=O	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR $\delta$ (CDCl <sub>3</sub> /TMS) C(=O)CH <sub>3</sub>	HCO $\delta$ , Hz (ppm)
a	Et	95	40/0.1	1.5503	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 164,2	1740, 1710	2.43	4.73 (q, 2H)
b	Pr	96	49/0.1	1.5425	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 178,3	1740, 1710	2.44	4.63 (t, 2H)
c	i-Pr	93	44/0.1	1.5370	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 178,3	1740, 1710	2.44	5.78 (m, 1H)
d	Bu	95	52/0.1	1.5335	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 192,3	1740, 1710	2.43	4.66 (t, 2H)
e	i-Bu	97	52/0.1	1.5302	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 192,3	1740, 1710	2.44	4.43 (d, 2H)
f	sec-Bu	95	53/0.1	1.5332	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>2</sub> S <sub>2</sub> 192,3	1740, 1710	2.43	5.67 (m, 1H)

<sup>a</sup> Isolated product.<sup>b</sup> Satisfactory microanalyses obtained: C  $\pm$  0.29; H  $\pm$  0.28.

A less powerful electrophilic reagent tested was iodomethane. This compound was reacted with **2a** in chloroform. After 24 h S-methyl O-ethyl dithiocarbonate (**10**) and iodotrimethylsilane were formed. The yield of **10** was only 30%. In a comparative experiment potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate dissolved in acetone was reacted with iodomethane giving immediately product **10** in 90% yield.



As a nucleophile we chose water because its reaction with **2a** would give O-ethyldithiocarbonic acid (**11**) which is a very unstable compound. This acid has been prepared by careful acidification of potassium O-ethyldithiocarbonate followed by extraction with chloroform.<sup>12</sup> In this medium its UV spectrum has been taken<sup>12</sup> but no NMR data has been reported to our knowledge. A chloroform solution of **2a** was stirred with water. The UV spectrum of the organic layer presented a maximum at 240 nm which is the same as that published for O-ethyldithiocarbonic acid.<sup>12</sup>



In order to verify the nature of **11** a  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectrum of the reaction of **2a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  with  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  was run. A triplet at 1.41 and a quartet at 4.56  $\delta$  were observed corresponding to the ethyl group of **11** and a singlet at 0.16  $\delta$  due to hexamethyl-disiloxane formed by dehydration of deuterated trimethylsilanol. A new spectrum of this reaction mixture taken 20 h later showed signals at 1.26 and 3.66  $\delta$  of EtOD, the decomposition product of  $\text{EtOCS}_2\text{D}$ .

In conclusion, S-trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates can be prepared in high yields and these compounds act as masked O-alkyldithiocarbonic acids.

## EXPERIMENTAL

IR spectra were obtained on a Perkin Elmer Model 1310 spectrophotometer and  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR spectra were recorded on a Varian XL-100 apparatus. Compounds **2**, **7**, **9** were formed under nitrogen using anhydrous solvents. Compounds **1a**,<sup>9</sup> **5**,<sup>13</sup> **8**,<sup>14</sup> and N-trimethylsilylmorpholine<sup>15</sup> were prepared according to literature procedures. For the preparation of **5**, an ultrasonic cleaner was used instead of stirring.

**Preparation of O,O-dialkyltrithiodicarbonates (1b–f); General Procedure.** The preparation of these compounds must be performed in a well ventilated hood because of highly poisonous phosgene. A 20% phosgene (50 mmol) toluene solution in acetone (75 mL) was added to a solution of potassium O-alkyldithiocarbonate (105 mmol) in acetone (400 mL) with stirring at  $0^\circ\text{C}$ . The mixture was left at room temperature for 0.5 h, then the acetone was removed on a rotary evaporator (bath temp.  $<20^\circ\text{C}$ ). Water (100 mL) was added and the mixture extracted with dichloromethane ( $3 \times 100$  mL). The pooled extracts were dried with  $\text{MgSO}_4$  and the dichloromethane and toluene were distilled off around 5 torr. (bath temp.  $<20^\circ\text{C}$ ). The trithiodicarbonates were viscous liquids which decomposed when distilled in vacuo.

**Preparation of S-trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (2); General Procedure.** A mixture of **1** (7 mmol), N-methyl N-trimethylsilyl aniline (7 mmol) and hexane (30 mL) was stirred at room temperature until a change of color occurred (40–60 min). The solvent was evaporated and the residue was distilled off at 0.1 torr. The first fraction consisted of compounds **2**; these products are easily decomposed by humidity.

**Physical properties and microanalyses of 6.** N-Ethoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6a**): colorless liquid; bp  $70^\circ\text{C}/0.07$  torr;  $\eta_D^{20}$  1.5762;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.22 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.60 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.52 (q, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.08–7.60 (m, 5H, H arom); IR (neat) 2980, 1590, 1490, 1445, 1370, 1290, 1205, 1145,  $770\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_{13}\text{NOS}$ : C, 61.51; H, 6.71. Found: C, 61.42; H, 6.88.

N-Propoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6b**): colorless liquid; bp  $84^\circ\text{C}/0.1$  torr;  $\eta_D^{20}$  1.5655;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.84 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.65 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.61 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.41 (t, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.00–7.60 (m, 5H, H arom.); IR (neat) 2970, 1595, 1490, 1450, 1370, 1290, 1205, 1140, 770,  $700\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NOS}$ : C, 63.12; H, 7.22. Found: C, 63.20; H, 7.32.

N-Isopropoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6c**): colorless crystals; mp  $72^\circ\text{C}$ ;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.23 (d, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.60 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.60 (m, H, CH), 7.10–7.60 (m, 5H, H arom.); IR (KBr) 2980, 1595, 1485, 1460, 1375, 1290, 1215, 1145, 1135, 1085, 795,  $710\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{15}\text{NOS}$ : C, 63.12, H, 7.22. Found: C, 63.15; H, 7.38.

N-Butoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6d**): colorless liquid; bp  $90^\circ\text{C}/0.07$  torr,  $\eta_D^{20}$  1.5575;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.84 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.00–1.80 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.60 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.45 (t, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.15–7.55 (m, 5H, H arom.); IR (neat) 2970, 1595, 1495, 1445, 1370, 1290, 1205, 1145, 770,  $700\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NOS}$ : C, 64.54; H, 7.67. Found: C, 64.70, H, 7.67.

N-Isobutoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6e**): colorless liquid; bp  $82^\circ\text{C}/0.07$  torr;  $\eta_D^{20}$  1.5560;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.77 (d, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.65–2.20 (m, H, CH), 3.63 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.22 (d, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 7.10–7.62 (m, 5H, H arom.); IR (neat) 2960, 1595, 1490, 1460, 1375, 1290, 1210, 1140, 770,  $700\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NOS}$ : C, 64.54, H, 7.67. Found: C, 64.50; H, 7.55.

N-sec-Butoxythiocarbonyl-N-methyl aniline (**6f**): colorless liquid; bp  $90^\circ\text{C}/0.1$  torr;  $\eta_D^{20}$  1.5530;  $^1\text{H}$ -NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  0.82 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.23 (d, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.58 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 3.63 (s, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.47 (m, H, CH), 7.10–7.60 (m, 5H, H arom.); IR (neat) 2970, 1595, 1490, 1440, 1370, 1290, 1210, 1135, 770,  $700\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{17}\text{NOS}$ : C, 64.54; H, 7.57. Found: C, 64.60; H, 7.47.

**Formation of derivatives 7.** Derivatives **7** were formed by mixing **2** (5 mmol) with a hexane (30 mL) solution of freshly prepared 4-nitrobenzoyl chloride (5 mmol) crystallized from hexane at room temperature for 4 h. After work-up products **7** were crystallized from hexane.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-ethyldithiocarbonate (**7a**): yellow crystals; mp 61°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.52 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 4.79 (q, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 8.12 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.40 (d, 2H, H arom.); IR (KBr) 2990, 1695, 1670, 1600, 1520, 1350, 1280, 1190, 1100, 1040, 845  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_9\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 44.27; H, 3.35. Found: C, 44.36; H, 3.44.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-propyldithiocarbonate (**7b**): yellow crystals, mp 48°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.10 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.92 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.68 (t, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 8.11 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.39 (d, 2H, H arom.). IR (KBr) 2970, 1685, 1600, 1520, 1345, 1260, 1190, 1025, 840. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 46.30; H, 3.89. Found: C, 46.45; H, 3.29.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-isopropyldithiocarbonate (**7c**): yellow crystals; mp 47°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.26 (d, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 5.80 (m, H, CH), 8.10 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.39 (d, 2H, H arom.). IR (KBr) 2980, 1680, 1600, 1520, 1345, 1270, 1190, 1035, 1015, 845  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{11}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 46.30, H, 3.89. Found: C, 46.26; H, 3.93.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-butyldithiocarbonate (**7d**): yellow crystals; mp 42°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.00 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.34–2.08 (m, 4H,  $\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2$ ), 4.72 (t, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 8.13 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.40 (d, 2H, H arom.); IR (KBr) 2960, 1685, 1600, 1520, 1345, 1265, 1190, 1030, 845  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 48.15, H, 4.38. Found: C, 48.18; H, 4.46.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-isobutyldithiocarbonate (**7e**): yellow crystals; mp 56°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.10 (d, 6H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 2.23 (m, H, CH), 4.50 (d, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 8.12 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.40 (d, 2H, H arom.). IR (KBr) 2960, 1690, 1600, 1520, 1345, 1270, 1195, 1040, 845. Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 48.15; H, 4.38. Found: C, 48.39; H, 4.47.

S-(4-Nitrobenzoyl)-O-sec-butoxydithiocarbonate (**7f**): yellow crystals; mp 40°C;  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  1.03 (t, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.44 (d, 3H,  $\text{CH}_3$ ), 1.66–2.04 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH}_2$ ), 5.69 (m, H, CH), 8.11 (d, 2H, H arom.), 8.39 (d, 2H, H arom.); IR (KBr), 2970, 1685, 1600, 1520, 1345, 1270, 1190, 1100, 1015, 845  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Anal. Calcd. for  $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{13}\text{NO}_4\text{S}_2$ : C, 48.15; H, 4.38. Found: C, 48.20; H, 4.47.

**Preparation of S-acetyl O-alkyldithiocarbonates (9); General Procedure.** Freshly distilled acetyl chloride (5.5 mmol) in hexane (10 mL) was added to a solution of S-trimethylsilyl O-alkyldithiocarbonate (5 mmol) in hexane (20 mL) at room temperature. The mixture was stirred for 3 h and the solvent evaporated. The residue was a pure liquid according to  $^1\text{H-NMR}$ . Small scale and heating not over 20°C above the b.p. is important when distilling compounds **9**.

**Reactions of 2a with  $\text{CH}_3\text{I}$  and  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$ .** **2a** (0.5 mmol) was introduced into an NMR tube and mixed with iodomethane (0.7 mmol) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (1 mL).  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra were recorded at different times. After 24 h, the amount of product **10** formed reached a constant value and its yield was 30% according to GC analysis. The iodotrimethylsilane presented its typical  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  value at 0.80  $\delta$ .

The reaction of **2a** with water carried out by adding a few drops of  $\text{D}_2\text{O}$  to a solution of **2a** (0.5 mmol) in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (1 mL) in an NMR tube and recording the  $^1\text{H-NMR}$  spectra of the reaction mixture.

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