β , β -Dinitro derivatives of N-alkyl-N'-alkoxydiazene-N-oxides

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Methods of synthesis of N-alkyl-N'-alkoxydiazene-N-oxides containing a carbonyl group in the β -position of alkyl or alkoxy radicals were developed. β,β -Dinitro derivatives of N-alkyl-N'-alkoxydiazene-N-oxides were synthesized for the first time via nitration of oximes obtained from the ketones.

Key words: N-alkyl-N'-alkoxydiazene-N-oxides, ketones, oximes, gem-dinitro derivatives, β,β -dinitro derivatives.

 β -Polynitro derivatives of N-nitramines (PNNA) represent one of the best studied classes of energy-rich substances. The isomeric β -polynitro derivatives of N-alkyl-N-alkoxydiazene-N-oxides (AADO) have a similar structure from the thermodynamic point of view. Therefore, we can expect high energy efficiency of AADO β , β -dinitro derivatives. However, these derivatives have not been described yet.

In this work, we developed methods for synthesis of AADO β , β -dinitro derivatives containing nitro groups in N-alkyl or N'-alkoxyl radicals for the primary estimation of their properties.

Considering AADO stability to electrophilic reagents, we based the synthesis on the well studied reaction of ketoxime nitration, which in most cases results in the dinitro derivatives in question. Therefore, our problem was reduced essentially to the search for efficient methods of obtaining the unknown AADO β -carbonyl derivatives.

In two stages methyl ester (1) afforded acid chloride (2) in a quantitative yield; some of its transformations into $N-\beta$ -oxoalkyl-N'-alkoxodiazene-N-oxides were studied.

The attempts to replace the chlorine atom in acid chloride 2 for an aryl radical via Friedel—Crafts reaction

(with benzene or anisole) or via interaction with diphenylcadmium failed. In the former case, a complex mixture of products was obtained, and biphenyl was obtained in the latter case instead of the product in question. Chloride 2 with diazomethane affords diazoketone (3) in 60 % yield.

Unlike the unsubstituted aliphatic diazoketones, 3 does not react with AcOH and is decomposed by CF₃CO₂H and diluted H₂SO₄ and HNO₃; however, when treated with HCl and HBr gases, it affords halocarbonyl derivatives (4 and 5). The latter are readily transformed into acetoxy derivative (6) upon heating with AcOK in AcOH.

X = C1 (4), Br (5)

Reduction of diazoketone 3 with HI via the standard procedure² affords the AADO ketone in question (7) in extremely low yield. Reduction of chloride 4 with NaI is

more selective, but even in this case the yield of 7 does not exceed 16%.

When treated with $NH_2OH \cdot HCl$ in methanol, these ketones are readily transformed into oximes (according to ¹H NMR spectroscopy, the ratio of *syn*- and *anti*-isomers is 1:1): MeON=N(O)CH₂C(NOH)R, R = CH₂Cl (8), CH₂Br (9), and Me (10).

Nitration of these oximes with N_2O_5 in CHCl₃ afforded the first representatives of AADO containing nitro groups in the β -position of the alkyl radical; they are quite stable low-melting compounds: MeON=N(O)CH₂C(NO₂)₂R, R = CH₂Cl (11), CH₂Br (12), and Me (13).

AADO containing a carbonyl group in the β -position of the alkoxyl radical were obtained by alkylation of salts of N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N-nitrosohydroxylamine (14), which is available and has moderate stability, with bromacetone (15) and its oxime (16). It is known that alkylation of salts of N-alkyl-N-nitrosohydroxylamines (ANHA) often affords the mixture of AADO and N, O-dialkyl-N-nitrosohydroxylamines (DANH). We showed that the ratio of methylation products 17 and 18 in the reaction between silver salt 14 (14a) and MeI is 4: 1.

$$RN_2O_2Ag + MeI \longrightarrow R NOMe + R NOMe$$

14a

17

18

 $R = Ph$

OH

On the contrary, only AADO (19) can be isolated from the products of the reaction between 15 and 14a or ammonium salt of 14 (14b) independently of the reaction conditions; the maximum yield is 65 % for 14a and 25 % for 14b.

$$RN_2O_2^-M^+ + Br$$

Me

RN

NO

Me

14a,b

15

19

M = Ag (14a), NH₄ (14b); R = Ph

At the same time, the interaction between 14a and 16 affords both possible alkylation products (20 and 21) with the yields of 43 and 23 %, respectively.

The structure of alkylation products 17-21 was confirmed by elemental analysis, NMR (13 C and 14 N) and IR spectroscopy, qualitative reactions, and some chemical transformations. Thus, products 18 and 21, unlike 17 and 20, give the qualitative reaction for the N-NO group with the $Ph_2NH-H_2SO_4$ mixture (blue color). Ketone 19 is transformed into oxime 20 by $NH_2OH \cdot HCl$.

¹⁴N NMR spectroscopy is an effective method for structure determination of ANHA alkylation products, because rather narrow signal of *N*-oxide nitrogen in the range -65 to -70 ppm is observed for AADO, not for DANH. If the mixture of AADO and DANH is formed in the alkylation reaction, the inspection of ¹³C NMR spectrum is enough for identification since the signal of carbon at the *N*-oxide nitrogen is shifted by ~10 ppm downfield with respect to the carbon at nitrogen in DANH (Table 1).

Heating of oxime 20 with the mixture of concentrated HNO₃ and Ac₂O in CCl₄ results in nitration at ortho and para positions of aromatic ring and at the hydroxyl group together with the transformation of oxime fragment into dinitromethylene group.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \textbf{20} \\ & & \\ &$$

Product 22 (quite stable oil) is the first representative of AADO containing a β , β -dinitroalkoxyl radical.

Experimental

IR spectra were registered using a Specord spectrometer; 1H NMR spectra were recorded using a Tesla BS-467 spectrometer (60 MHz, TMS or HMDS as internal standard); ^{13}C and ^{14}N NMR spectra were obtained using a Bruker AM-300 spectrometer (^{13}C : 75.5 MHz, acetone-d₆ (30.0 ppm), DMSO-d₆ (39.5 ppm), or chloroform-d (77.0 ppm) solvent; ^{14}N : 21.7 MHz, MeNO₂ external standard). Mass spectra were obtained using a Varian MAT CH-6 device (direct inlet of sample into the source, ionizing electron energy 70 eV, emission current 10 μ A, accelerating voltage 1.75 kV, source temperature 180 °C).

N-(Methoxycarbonylmethyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (1) was prepared using a modified procedure.³ 60 g (0.46 mol) of MeCOCH₂CO₂Et was added to a EtONa solution in EtOH (23 g of Na (1 mol) and 680 mL of EtOH). NO was passed steadily for 4 h through the solution obtained. The precipitate formed was filtered off, washed with EtOH (2×50 mL), and dissolved in 100 mL of H₂O, then 100 mL of 10 % NaOH was added, and the solution was carefully warmed until termination of gas evolution. Water was removed in vacuo, the residue was treated with 500 mL of EtOH, and the precipitate formed was filtered off and washed with EtOH and Et₂O. 65.8 g (89 %) of NaO₂N₂CH₂CO₂Na was obtained.

A mixture prepared from 10 g (0.061 mol) of this salt, 100 g of acetone, 30 mL of water, and 17 g (0.183 mol) of

Me₂SO₄ was heated with stirring for 1.5 h at 55 °C, and then was cooled, and aqueous NH₃ was added to a pH of 8; the solution was filtered, the solvents were evaporated, and the residue was extracted with CHCl₃ (3×50 mL). The extracts were combined, dried over MgSO₄, and evaporated. The residue was distilled at 92–93 °C (3 Torr). 3.27 g (36 %) of 1 was obtained in the form of an oil, which upon storage crystallized into plate-like crystals with a m.p. of 36 °C. Found (%): C, 32.43; H, 5.42; N, 19.60. $C_4H_8N_4O_2$. Calculated (%): C, 32.43; H, 5.44; N, 18.91. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}): 1760 (C=O); 1510, 1330 (N_2O_2). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 3.36 (s, 3 H, MeOC); 4.5 (s, 3 H, MeON); 4.7 (s, 2 H, CH₂).

N-Chlorocarbonylmethyl-N-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (2). 1.5 g (0.022 mol) of KOH in 10 mL of MeOH was added to the solution of 3 g (0.02 mol) of 1 in 20 mL of MeOH, the precipitate formed was filtered off, washed with a small amount of MeOH and ether. After drying, 3.3 g (95 %) of potassium N-methoxydiazene-N-oxidoacetate was obtained. Then 1 g (5.8 mmol) of this salt was gradually added to 10 mL of distilled SOCl₂, the solution obtained was exposed at 60 °C for 40 min, the excess of SOCl₂ was removed, the residue was treated with dry ether, the ether extract was evaporated, and 0.88 g (100 %) of 2 was obtained in the form of a light thick oil. IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 1760 (C=O); 1510, 1320 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (benzene, HMDS, δ): 3.68 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.94 (s, 2 H, CH₂).

N-(3-Diazo-2-oxopropyl)-N-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (3). An ethereal solution of 0.88 g (0.005 mol) of 2 was added to an ethereal solution of 0.63 g (0.015 mol) of CH_2N_2 at -60 °C in an atmosphere of dry nitrogen, the mixture was

Table 1. ¹³C and ¹⁴N NMR spectra of compounds 17-22^a

Compound	δ ¹³ C								δ ¹⁴ N
	C(1)	C(2)	C(3)	i-C	o-C	m-C	p-C	R	
17 ^b	66.99	67.49	70.62	159.81	115.60	130.46	121.93	61.14 (Me)	-68.1
18^b	56.57	67.28	70.80	159.82	115.57	130.42	121.88	62.85 (Me)	
19 ^c	68.57	66.85	76.87	157.95	114.39	129.43	121.33	65.81 (CH ₂); 203.4 (C=O); 26.15 (Me)	-68.5
20 ^{<i>d</i>}	66.11 66.15	65.41 65.50	74.41	158.28	114.56	129.51	120.84	69.44, 69.46 (CH ₂); 151.42, 151.47 (C=N); 11.47 (Me)	-69
21 ^b	57.20	67.27	70.71	152.51	115.60	130.44	121.91	77.13 (CH ₂); 159.82 (C=N); 12.22 (Me)	•
22 ^b	62.62	77.19	69.41	156.54	116.87; 139.87	122.59; 130.36	141.94	73.84 (CH ₂); 117.37 C(NO ₂) ₂ ; 20.46 (Me)	-68.7 (NO); -49.2 (ONO ₂); -15.9 (NO ₂); -10.3 (NO ₂)

^a The authors are grateful to Yu. A. Strelenko for recording and interpreting the spectra. ^b In acetone-d₆. ^c In chloroform-d. ^d In DMSO-d₆.

kept at this temperature for 15 min, then the temperature was increased to -25 °C, and 60 mL of dry CHCl₃ was added. The solution was evaporated, 0.52 g (60 %) of 3 was isolated in the form of thick oil from the residue by means of TLC (silica gel, ether, $R_{\rm f}=0.1$). IR spectrum ($v/{\rm cm}^{-1}$): 2120 (N₂); 1650 (C=O); 1510, 1320 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 4.06 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.75 (s, 2 H, CH₂); 5.7 (s, H, CH).

N-(2-Oxo-3-chloropropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (4). An ethereal solution of 0.88 g (0.005 mol) of 2 was added to an ethereal solution of 0.63 g (0.015 mol) of CH₂N₂ at -60 °C in an atmosphere of dry nitrogen, the mixture was kept at this temperature for 15 min, 60 mL of dry CHCl₃ was added, and at this temperature a flow of dry HCl was passed for a distinctly acidic reaction. The solvents were evaporated, and the residue was recrystallized from acetone. 0.72 g (75 %) of product 4 was obtained in the form of light yellow crystals, m.p. 126 °C. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}): 1750 (C=O); 1500, 1320 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum ((CD₃)₂CO, HMDS, δ): 3.91 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.53 (s, 2 H, CH_2Cl); 5.17 (s, 2 H, CH₂CO). Mass spectrum, m/z: 166 [M]⁺, 135 $[M^{+}-OMe]$, 121 $[M^{+}-NOMe]$, 117 $[M^{+}-CH_{2}CI]$, 91 $[M^+-MeO_2N_2]$. Found (%): C, 29.05; H, 4.27; N, 18.0; Cl, 21.27. $C_4H_7CiN_2O_3$. Calculated (%): C, 28.83; H, 4.23; N, 16.8; Cl, 21.30.

N-(3-Bromo-2-oxopropyl)-N-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (5). HBr gas was passed at -10 °C through a solution of 0.34 g (2.2 mmol) of 3 in 20 mL of dry CHCl₃ for an acidic reaction. The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was recrystallized. 0.21 g (46 %) of 5 was obtained in the form of colorless crystals with m.p. of 102 to 102.5 °C. IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 1750 (C=O); 1500, 1320 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum ((CD₃)₂CO, HMDS, δ): 3.96 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.33 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br); 5.26 (s, 2 H, CH₂CO). Mass spectrum, m/z: 210, 212 [M]⁺, 179, 181 [M⁺-OMe], 165, 167 [M⁺-NOMe], 135, 137 [M⁺-MeO₂N₂], 131 [M⁺-Br].

N-(3-Acetoxy-2-oxopropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (6). A mixture of 0.12 g (0.72 mmol) of 4, 0.08 g (0.8 mmol) of MeCO₂K, and 10 mL of MeCO₂H was boiled for 4 h; then the acid was removed *in vacuo*. 0.06 g (56 %) of 6 in the form of thick oil was isolated from the residue by means of TLC (silica gel, ethyl acetate, $R_{\rm f}=0.48$). ¹H NMR spectrum ((CD₃)₂CO, HMDS, δ): 2.11 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.09 (s, 3 H, OMe), 4.82 (s, 2 H, CH₂O); 5.00 (s, 2 H, CH₂CO).

N-(2-Oxopropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (7). A solution of 1.95 g (13 mmol) of NaI in 10 mL of acetone was added to a solution of 0.72 g (4.6 mmol) of 4 in 10 mL of acetone, and the mixture was stirred for 40 min. The precipitate was filtered off, the solution was evaporated, extracted with CHCl₃, washed with sodium thiosulfate, and the solvent was removed. 0.08 g (15.5 %) of 7 in the form of light thick oil was isolated from the residue by means of TLC (silica gel, ethyl acetate, $R_f = 0.34$). IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 1750 (C=O); 1500, 1320 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 2.24 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.07 (s, 3 H, OMe), 4.76 (s, 2 H, CH₂).

N-(2-Oxyimino-3-chloropropyl)-*N*-methoxydiazene-*N*-oxide (8). A solution of 0.3 g (1.8 mmol) of 4 and 0.15 g (2.1 mmol) of NH₂OH·HCl in 10 mL of anhydrous MeOH was boiled for 30 min and evaporated; the residue was extracted with CHCl₃. After drying and removal of solvent, 0.3 g (94 %) of 8 was obtained in the form of thick oil. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}): 3300 (OH); 1660 (C=N); 1510, 1300 (N₂O₂). H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 4.06 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.26 (s, 2 H, CH₂Cl); 4.33 (s, 2 H, CH₂Cl); 4.88 (s, 2 H, CH₂N); 4.95 (s, 2 H, CH₂N).

N-(3-Bromo-2-oxyiminopropyl)-*N*'-methoxydiazene-*N*-oxide (9) was prepared similarly to 8; the yield was 98 %, oil. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}): 3300 (OH); 1650 (C=N); 1510, 1300 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 4.08 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.13 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br); 4.17 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br); 4.93 (s, 2 H, CH₂N); 5.17 (s, 2 H, CH₂N).

N-(2-Oxyiminopropyl)-*N*'-methoxydiazene-*N*-oxide (10) was prepared similarly to 8; the yield was 98 %, oil. IR spectrum (ν /cm⁻¹): 3300 (OH); 1660 (C=N); 1510, 1300 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 1.91 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.00 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.62 (s, 2 H, CH₂N); 4.93 (s, 2 H, CH₂N).

N-(2,2-Dinitro-3-chloropropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (11). 0.3 g (1.85 mmol) of 8 in 10 mL of CHCl₃ was added to the solution of 0.43 g (3 mmol) of N_2O_5 in 10 mL of dry CHCl₃ at 55 °C. The mixture was kept at this temperature for 1 h, cooled, washed with 5 % Na_2CO_3 solution and water, dried over MgSO₄; the solvent was removed, and the residue was recrystallized. 0.05 g (15 %) of 11 was obtained in the form of crystals with m.p. 60−61 °C (hexane). Found (%): C, 20.66; H, 3.11; N, 22.60; Cl, 14.80. $C_4H_7ClN_4O_6$. Calculated (%): C, 19.80; H, 2.91; N, 23.10; Cl, 14.62. IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 1590, 1320 (C(NO₂)₂); 1500, 1360 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 4.11 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.55 (s, 2 H, CH₂Cl); 5.31 (s, 2 H, CH₂C(NO₂)₂). Mass spectrum, m/z: 242 [M]⁺, 227 [M⁺−Me], 196 [M⁺−NO₂], 180 [M⁺−NO₂−O], 150 [M⁺−2NO₂], 131 [M⁺−MeO₂N₂−HCl].

N,N-(3-Bromo-2,2-dinitropropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (12) was prepared similarly to 11 with a yield of 12 % in the form of colorless crystals, m.p. 57–58 °C (hexane). IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 1590, 1320 (C(NO₂)₂); 1500, 1360 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 4.11 (s, 3 H, OMe); 4.55 (s, 2 H, CH₂Br); 5.33 (s, 2 H, CH₂C(NO₂)₂). Mass spectrum, m/z: 286, 288 [M]⁺, 271, 273 [M⁺-Me], 240, 242 [M⁺-NO₂], 224, 226 [M⁺-NO₂-O], 207 [M⁺-Br], 194, 196 [M⁺-2NO₂].

N-(2-Dinitropropyl)-*N*'-methoxydiazene-*N*-oxide (13) was prepared similarly to 11 with the yield of 12 % in the form of colorless crystals, m.p. 51 °C (hexane). Found (%): C, 23.77; H, 4.09; N, 27.73. C₄H₈N₄O₆. Calculated (%): C, 23.08; H, 3.87; N, 26.92. IR spectrum (ν /cm⁻¹): 1590, 1320 (C(NO₂)₂); 1510, 1360 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 2.2 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.02 (s, 3 H, OMe); 5.09 (s, 2 H, CH₂C(NO₂)₂).

Ammonium salt of N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N-nitrosohydroxylamine (14b).* A solution of 0.38 g (5.5 mmol) of NaNO₂ in 5 mL of H₂O was added with stirring to a solution of 1 g (5.5 mmol) of N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-hydroxylamine⁴ in 20 mL of 1 % HCl cooled to -3 °C. The mixture was kept at this temperature for 5 min, the precipitate was filtered off, washed with cold water, and dissolved in 100 mL of ethyl acetate, and NH₃ was passed. The precipitate formed was filtered off, washed with ethyl acetate and ether, and dried. 1.15 g (89 %) of 14b was obtained, m.p. 116—120 °C (with decomposition, MeOH). IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 3200—2800, 1590, 1580, 1500, 1480, 1440, 1395, 1260, 1220, 1050, 960, 920, 750, 680. Found (%): C, 47.10; H, 6.59; N, 18.39. C₉H₁₅N₃O₄. Calculated (%): C, 47.16; H, 6.55; N, 18.34.

Silver salt of N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N-nitroso-hydroxylamine (14a).* 0.74 g (4.4 mmol) of AgNO₃ in 5 mL of H₂O was added upon stirring to the solution of 1 g

^{*} This procedure was developed with the assistance of A. Z. Lisitsin.

(4.4 mmol) of **14b** in 20 mL of H_2O , the precipitate was filtered off, washed with water, and dried. 1.39 g (100 %) of **14a** was obtained, m.p. 147–148 °C (decomp.). IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 3300, 2940, 2880, 1610, 1590, 1400, 1240, 1160, 1050, 950, 750, 700.

N-(2-Hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N'-methoxydiazene-N-oxide (17) and N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-O-methyl-N-nitrosohydroxylamine (18). A mixture of 0.7 g (2.3 mmol) of 14a and 0.3 g (2.3 mmol) of MeI in 20 mL of anhydrous methanol was stirred for 1 h at ~20 °C, and the mixture was filtered. The filtrate was evaporated. TLC of the residue (silica gel—ether) afforded 0.37 g (84 %) of 17 (R_f = 0.44, m.p. 112−114 °C from benzene) and 0.07 g (15 %) of 18 (R_f = 0.78, thick oil). IR spectrum of 17 (v/cm⁻¹): 3500 (OH); 1590 (Ph); 1480, 1320 (N₂O₂); 1050 (OMe). IR spectrum of 18 (v/cm⁻¹): 3400, 1490, 1450, 1400, 1230, 1030, 800, 750.

N-(2-Hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N-2-oxopropoxydiazene-N-oxide (19). A mixture of 1.6 g (5 mmol) of 14b and 0.7 g (5 mmol) of bromoacetone in 30 mL of anhydrous acetonitrile was stirred at 20 °C for 18 h, and the precipitate was filtered off, the filtrate was evaporated, and TLC of the residue (silica gel—ether, $R_f = 0.27$) afforded 0.86 g (64 %) of 19 in the form of a thick oil. IR spectrum (v/cm⁻¹): 3400 (OH); 1720 (C=O); 1600 (Ph); 1490, 1300 (N₂O₂). ¹H NMR spectrum (CDCl₃, HMDS, δ): 2.06 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.28 (m, 6 H, CH₂CH(OH)CH₂); 4.71 (s, 2 H, CH₂); 7.01 (s, 5 H, Ph).

N-(2-Hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-N-(2-oxyiminopropoxy)-diazene-N-oxide (20) and N-(2-hydroxy-3-phenoxypropyl)-O-(2-oxyiminopropyl)-N-nitrosohydroxylamine (21). A. A solution of 1.6 g (5 mmol) of 14a and 0.8 g (5 mmol) of bromoacetone oxime in 25 mL of anhydrous acetonitrile was stirred at 20 °C for 8 h and filtered, and the filtrate was evaporated. TLC of the residue (silica gel—ether) afforded 0.61 g (43 %) of 20 ($R_{\rm f}$ = 0.27, m.p. 136—138 °C from acetone—hexane, 1:1) and 0.33 g (23 %) of 21 ($R_{\rm f}$ = 0.56, m.p. 78—81 °C from hexane). 20. Found (%): C, 50.21; H, 5.97; N, 15.75. $C_{12}H_{16}N_{3}O_{9}$. Calculated (%): C, 50.88;

H, 6.05; N, 14.83. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}): 3300, 1590, 1490, 1300, 1240, 1100, 1020, 950, 750. IR spectrum of **21** (v/cm^{-1}): 3400, 3300, 1610, 1480, 1440, 1210, 1050, 910, 750.

B. A solution of 0.21 g of $NH_2OH \cdot HCl$ in 5 mL of H_2O neutralized with sodium carbonate was added to a solution of 0.9 g (3.4 mmol) of 19 in 10 mL of MeOH. In a day, 0.65 g (68 %) of 20 was filtered off, m.p. 138 °C; the product was identical to 20 obtained from 14a.

N-[2-Nitroxy-3-(2,4-dinitrophenoxy)propyl]-N'-(2,2-dinitropropoxy)diazene-N-oxide (22). 2.2 mL of freshly distilled acetic anhydride was added upon stirring to a solution of 2 mL of HNO₃ (d = 1.5 g cm⁻³) in 12 mL of dry CCl₄ at 0 °C. The nitrating mixture obtained was heated to 45 °C, 0.13 g (5 mmol) of 20 was added simultaneously, the mixture was stirred for 15 min and poured into water, and the product of nitration was extracted with CHCl₂ (4×20 mL). The combined extract was washed with water to a neutral reaction and was dried over MgSO₄, the solvent was evaporated, and TLC (silica gel, MeOH-CHCl₃, 1 : 30, $R_f = 0.11$) afforded 0.19 g (38 %) of 22 in the form of an oil. IR spectrum (v/cm^{-1}) : 1650 (ONO₂); 1600 (arom. NO₂); 1550 [C(NO₂)₂]; 1500, 1320 (N_2O_2) . ¹H NMR spectrum ((CD₃)₂CO, HMDS, δ , J/Hz): 2.31 (s, 3 H, Me); 4.8 (m, 2 H, CH₂N); 4.95 (m, 2 H, OCH₂); 5.3 (s, 2 H, OCH₂C(NO₂)₂); 6.23 (m, H, CH); 7.6 (d, H, H_aC , $J_{ab} = 9.3$); 8.565 (dd, H, H_bC , $J_{bc} = 2.8$); 8.78 (d, H, H_cC , $J_{bc} = 2.8$).

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