

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

J. H. MEANS, M.D.
Jackson Professor of Clinical Medicine
Chief of Medical Services



MEDICAL DEPARTMENT
Massachusetts General Hospital
Fruit Street, Boston
January 6, 1943.

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

In connection with the application for a commission in the Medical Corps of the Navy of Dr. Saul Hertz of Boston, I would like to state that I have known Dr. Hertz since 1931. He is a graduate of the Harvard Medical School, class of 1929, but I didn't happen to have any intimate contact with him during his undergraduate days. Following graduation he served a rotating internship of one year, half Medicine and half Surgery at the Mount Sinai Hospital in Cleveland, and followed this with a year as Assistant Resident in Medicine and Pediatrics. Then in 1931 he came to Boston and has been closely associated with me in the Medical Clinic of this Hospital ever since.

Dr. Hertz is a man of unquestionable loyalty, high integrity, and in addition, a thoroughly well trained internist and a brilliant clinical investigator. For his special work since he has been at the Massachusetts General Hospital he has engaged in research in the field of diseases of the thyroid, to which he has made many original contributions, most outstanding of which perhaps is the introduction of the use of Radio active Iodine for the study of thyroid physiology, and also as a means of treatment in certain diseases of the thyroid.

For work as a commissioned medical officer in the Navy, Dr. Hertz would be well fitted to do either general medical work or internal medicine, but if it were possible, I think it would be very advantageous if he could be placed where use might be made of his high capacity for investigative work, particularly in the field of endocrinology.

If he receives a commission in the Navy it will be a great loss to this Hospital, but if he is needed the Hospital will not attempt to impose any obstacle to his acceptance.


J. H. Means, M. D.

JHM/f

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston

NATHANIEL W. FAXON, M.D.
DIRECTOR

January 8, 1943.

To Whom It May Concern:

This is to certify that Saul Hertz, M.D. served as Dalton Scholar and Graduate Assistant in Medicine at the Massachusetts General Hospital during the years 1931, 1932, and 1933. In 1933 he was appointed as a Research Fellow in Medicine in which position he served until February 1938 when he was appointed as an Assistant in Medicine. This position he still holds.

Doctor Hertz' conduct of the Metabolism Laboratory has been extremely efficient in every way.



N. W. Faxon
N. W. Faxon, M.D.,
Director.

Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston

NATHANIEL W. FAXON, M.D.
DIRECTOR

January 28, 1943.

To Whom it May Concern:

Dr. Saul Hertz is applying for a commission in the Navy. He is very well trained, indeed, especially in the Internal Secretions. He has spent many years at the Massachusetts General Hospital, studying this group of diseases, particularly the thyroid, and has contributed some most interesting scientific work in this field. I would consider Dr. Hertz thoroughly well trained in this specialty and would think that his experience would be of great value in the proper diagnosis and treatment of the diseases of Internal Secretion in any branch of the service.

I recommend him to you highly.

Very sincerely yours,

Joseph C. Aub
Joseph C. Aub, M.D.

JCA:HA

HARVARD MEDICAL SCHOOL ♦ MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL HOSPITAL

OLIVER COPE, M.D.
Assistant Professor of Surgery



DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
Massachusetts General Hospital
Boston, Massachusetts

January 11, 1943

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

United States Navy

Dr. Saul Hertz informs me that he is applying for a commission as medical officer in the United States Navy.

As surgeon to the thyroid clinic of the Massachusetts General Hospital for the past eight years, I have been intimately associated with Dr. Hertz who has been in charge of the metabolism laboratory and thyroid clinic during this period. Dr. Hertz has had an unusual clinical experience with diseases of the thyroid gland, and has also made notable contribution to our knowledge of them. As a collateral of this experience he has also seen a great deal of endocrine disease in general.

Should you have a place for a doctor in a special endocrine clinic, I know that you could not do better than appoint Dr. Hertz to such a post.

Hoping that this letter may be of some help to you in your decision regarding his commission and assignment,

Very truly yours,



Oliver Cope, M.D.

OC:P

January 12, 1943

To whom it May Concern:

I have been associated with Doctor Saul Hertz at the Massachusetts General Hospital just about a decade. We have both been interested in endocrine disease. We have carried out several problems together and worked on many patients together. I have a very high regard for his ability. I am sure that he will be a valuable addition to the armed services. I would hope that they would find some position for him which would give him an opportunity to use thyroid cases and other glandular cases for which his training has so admirably prepared him.

Very sincerely,

FA/mjl

Fuller Albright, W. D.

COMSTOCK & WESCOTT, INC.
ENGINEERS
INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

January 12, 1943

PLEASE ADDRESS REPLY TO
58 CHARLES STREET
CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

To Whom It May Concern:

I have known Dr. Saul Hertz for a number of years and know him to be a man of unusual ability and integrity. As a scientific man he possesses preeminence in his field, which has been research work and new development in Endocrinology. His scientific contributions in this field have been important. He has given special attention to the borderland field between Medicine and Physics, and this is extremely rare among medical men.

I am firmly convinced that Dr. Hertz's training, ability, and experience fit him peculiarly for increasing the physiological efficiency of important men both during the war period and thereafter. There is far more evidence, than is generally realized, that the endocrine system plays a predominant role in the vitality and efficiency of a human being, and if the knowledge now existing in the minds of such men as Dr. Hertz could be applied along this line, particularly in the case of middle-aged and older military men, it would, in my opinion, be of incalculable value to the war effort.

I make these statements not only from my general background as a scientific man but from a practical personal point of view, because I have not only been a colleague of Dr. Hertz but have also been a patient of his along the line mentioned, and I can unqualifiedly state, as result of his knowledge and skill, my own vitality and efficiency was increased in a very unusual way.

Daniel F. Comstock

President, Comstock & Wescott, Inc.

Formerly Associate Professor of Physics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICS

CAMBRIDGE, MASS.

February 10, 1943

To Whom It May Concern
United States Navy

Dear Sir:

Dr. Paul Hertz has been a professional collaborator and personal friend of our for over six years. Dr. Hertz is an exceptionally able endocrinologist. His success and excellent reputation in this field will undoubtedly be brought to your attention by physicians, whose opinion in a professional judgment of this type must necessarily carry more weight with you than the opinion of a physicist. Dr. Hertz is the originator of new techniques in endocrinology, especially in the treatment of disabling thyroid disturbances through the use of artificially radioactive isotopes. Within the last year it has been definitely established that these new techniques have definite advantages over older methods of therapy, and indeed are successful in some cases where older methods failed completely. It is evident that if the benefits of these new methods are to be made available to members of the armed forces the new treatment should be supervised by the man who originated it, and is best aware of its applicability to individual cases.

With this thought in mind, it would seem to me to be highly desirable to the Navy to have Dr. Hertz within the Naval Medical Corps and specifically assigned to the treatment of stubborn endocrinological cases among naval officers and ratings.

The application of these new techniques involves the active collaboration with physicists who prepare the new medicines involved by atomic disintegration through the use of the cyclotron. These facilities are all available at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and our staff is skilled through six years of experience in making the preparation required for these new thyroid treatments. The United States Navy and Dr. Hertz could rely on our continued cooperation in this work if Dr. Hertz were assigned to endocrinological duties as a Naval Officer.

Sincerely yours,



Hobley D. Evans
Associate Professor of Physics

PLE: bg

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April 5, 1943

Admiral Ross T. McIntire
Surgeon-General, U.S.N.
Navy Department
Washington, D.C.

My dear Admiral McIntire:

We understand that Dr. Saul Hertz of the Massachusetts General Hospital is soon to be commissioned a Lieutenant Commander in the Medical Corps of the Navy. For about six years he has had the rather unique experience of using artificially produced radioactive materials in medical studies and therapy, and has worked in close cooperation with Professor Robley D. Evans under whose supervision these radioactive materials have been prepared by use of the M.I.T. cyclotron.

Because of this background and because the M.I.T. cyclotron is one of the very few in the country which has still been kept in operation to supply these materials in connection with problems of war medicine, there would seem to be an interesting opportunity for Dr. Hertz to carry on his work for the Navy under conditions which would be favorable to continued use of these radioactive materials in connection with medical work of interest to the Navy.

Professor Evans and I are therefore writing this letter to say that we would be very glad to cooperate with Dr. Hertz in every possible way, by supplying the necessary radioactive materials, in case Dr. Hertz should be located at a naval hospital sufficiently near Boston to permit the utilization of these radioactive materials, some of which, as you know, have rather short lives.

Very sincerely yours

Robley D. Evans, Prof. of Physics

Karl T. Compton, President

COPY

February 17, 1943

Office of Naval Procurement
First Naval District
150 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Sirs:

Dr. Saul Hertz has been a Research Associate in the Department of Physics of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology since 1938. During this time he has been working on the development of new techniques in the field of endocrinology, in which he is most competent. During his stay here at the Institute we found him thoroughly reliable, and have no reason to doubt his loyalty to the country. We feel his previous training at the University of Michigan and at Harvard, together with his work here, qualify him excellently for a Commission in the Medical Corps of the Navy.

Sincerely yours,


J. R. Killian Jr.
Executive Assistant