

Found the following reference to the Univac 90/60 on May 29, 2008 during a routine Google Search...

When Hardware Was Hardware (and Software Ran Scared)



Digging through the basement this weekend, I came across this souvenir. It's the sign from a Univac 90/60 mainframe, one of a network I helped deactivate in the early 1990s.

We had two 90/60s in our computer center, one live, one on standby. Each had its front end processor and disk farm. The whole suite of equipment took up a room measuring around 80'x100'. It was a monstrous thing.

In all, we shut down eight of these. I collected these signs, which sat proudly atop the CPU cabinet, and fashioned seven of them into mock swords, which I handed out to some of the NCOs who played key roles in the project: 90/60 Killers. The eighth I saved for me.

The 90/60 packed a whopping 64 kilobytes of memory and, with the full disk farm, could store up to 24 Megabytes of data. There are plenty of PDAs a fraction of the size of the sign alone that far surpass those stats. Yet there were times when 2-3 programmers and a couple of hardware maintenance guys would be crawling all over the thing trying to isolate some problem.

Made of solid stainless steel, this sucker is over two feet long, nearly four inches high, and weighs about a kilo. And it's only the name of the damn thing.

That was some *serious* hardware.

Reference: <http://cdpoint.livejournal.com/>