



**13th Expeditionary Sustainment Command
16th Sustainment Brigade
Public Affairs Office**

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Finance Soldiers prepare for US withdrawal

Capt. David Cerrato
125th Financial Management Co.

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE SPEICHER, Iraq – The 125th Financial Management Co., 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, turned in excess equipment as part of the pending withdrawal of U.S. Forces in Iraq here Sept. 8.

The finance company needed to identify all the equipment on the detachment commander's theater provided equipment hand receipts that were not fully mission capable or used to execute their wartime mission. For the 125th FM Co., this included six detachment hand receipts with millions of dollars in equipment.

Detachment commanders inventoried all items and weighed their operational need in order to select items that could be turned in. The unit was able to turn in nearly ten percent of their equipment.

"I am just glad to get this old equipment off my books," said Capt. John Schulke, commander, Charlie Det., 125th FM Co. "It will allow me to focus less on all my excess equipment and put more focus on what is important, my Soldiers and the mission at hand."

The turn-in was a milestone for some Soldiers, since it meant that their time in Iraq was coming to an end.

“I feel good knowing that I am personally helping the draw down in Iraq,” said Staff Sgt. Ronald Oyardo, supply sergeant, 125th FM Co. “When we are all said and done, I think everyone who has served in Iraq can feel a sense of accomplishment.”

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Capt. David Cerrato (left), 125th Financial Management Co., 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, and Staff Sgt. Ronald Oyardo, supply sergeant, 125 FM Co., inventory equipment for turn-in at Contingency Operating Base Speicher, Iraq, Sept. 8. (Courtesy photo)