

How Gaza pier project unravelled

From Cyprus

A string of security, logistical and weather problems has battered President Joe Biden's plan to deliver humanitarian aid to the war-torn Gaza Strip through a U.S. military-built pier

■ **Oct 9, 2023:** Israel's Defence Minister **Yoav Gallant** announces "total blockade" of food, water, medicine, fuel and electricity to Gaza Strip during Israel-Hamas war

■ **Nov 20:** Cypriot President **Nikos Christodoulides** says his country could ship large quantities of aid to Gaza if pier is built

FLOATING DOCK: Anchored to sea floor, 5km offshore

Distance from dock to pier:
Around 3km

FLOATING PIER AND CAUSEWAY

Empty LCU vessel

Construction: Dock and pier built with modular units 2.5m wide and 6m or 12m long

■ **Mar 7, 2024:** President Biden announces plan for U.S. military to build pier

■ **Mar 9-12:** Support ship **General Frank S. Besson** and four other vessels, loaded with steel pier segments, depart U.S. in month long voyage to Gaza Strip

■ **Apr 19:** UN **World Food Programme** agrees to help deliver aid to Gaza once pier is built

■ **Apr 25:** Construction of port facility near Gaza City begins

■ **May 9:** U.S. vessel **Sagamore** is first ship loaded with aid to leave Cyprus for pier

■ **May 17:** First trucks carrying aid to Gaza Strip roll down newly built pier

■ **May 28:** U.S. suspends aid delivery after pier is damaged by rough seas

■ **Jun 7:** Pier repaired

■ **Jun 21:** Pier is damaged by rough seas for second time

■ **Jul 17:** Pier mission formally ends after delivering 8,800 tonnes of aid



Causeway anchored to shoreline by Israeli military