

80-yr-old retired army officer charged

• *For killing 9-yr-old boy*

CAPT. Mohammed Bello, an 80-year-old retired army officer on Thursday appeared before a Kaduna State magistrate's court for killing a nine-year-old boy. Police prosecutor John Odeh told the court that on July 13, one Umaru Mohammed, aged nine years, was shot and killed by Bello with an army pistol.

Odeh said the offence was committed in retired Gen. Wushishi's farm on Zaria road

where the deceased went in search of a missing goat. He said police investigations at the farm, where the accused is the coordinator, led to the discovery of a military barretta pistol with five live ammunitions.

The prosecutor said the offence was contrary to section 221 of the penal code and section 3 of the Robbery and Fire Arms Laws of the

federation. Odeh said investigation was ongoing and asked that the accused be remanded in prison custody pending legal directive from the Ministry of Justice. Magistrate Bashir Shittu said the court lacked the jurisdiction to try the case and, therefore, adjourned it to Sept. 18, pending legal advice while the accused was remanded in prison custody.