

No clarity over shooting of Army Captain by soldier



Onimisi Alao, Yola



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The reason a soldier allegedly shot dead an Army Lieutenant, Birtus Zira, at a checkpoint in Yola, the [Adamawa State](#) capital, yesterday remained unclear as authorities gave incoherent responses when contacted for reaction.

The Commander, 23rd Armoured Brigade, Brig-Gen. Mohammed Gambo, gave contrasting responses to newsmen who contacted him for comments.

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The alleged shooter, Lance Corporal Nkiru, reportedly shot Zira to death at the checkpoint mounted to enforce the 12-hour curfew imposed by Governor Ahamdu Fintiri.

Zira was said to have gone to the checkpoint, located around the Fire Service Roundabout, Jimeta, to mediate in a dispute between motorists and soldiers on duty when the Lance Corporal shot him, allegedly by accident.

He was later confirmed dead at the Modibbo Adama University Teaching Hospital, Yola.

Gambo who was requested several times to speak on the issue, initially dismissed the incident, saying nothing like what was reported happened.

In another instance, he said it was an accidental discharge, and then directed all inquiries to the Army Public Relations Officer in Abuja.