

# Bro. Eddie sees self as defense chief

by ABIGAIL KWOK  
Inquirer.net

CITING the need to “overhaul” the Armed Forces and to directly put an end to the issue of extrajudicial killings and human rights violations, presidential wannabe Brother Eddie Villanueva said he would temporarily assume the post of defense chief should he win in the 2010 elections.

Speaking to reporters and editors of *Bandera*, Villanueva said that should become president, he would take on the crucial role of defense chief and use his authority to put an end to corruption in his first 100 days as president.

“This is my plan: I would postpone the appointment of Secretary of National Defense. If ever the Lord and the Filipino people would allow me to be the next tenant of Malacañang, I will first act as SND because I have to overhaul, to put order in the department because we need a no-nonsense Armed Forces in demolishing and destroying the apparatus of corruption and all forms of injustices,” he said.

Although he has yet to formally throw his hat in the ring, he said he was “seriously considering” running again.

Villanueva ran in the 2004 presidential elections but lost to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Should he win as president, he said a “special committee on truth and justice” would be created to solve the lingering problems of extrajudicial killings and human rights violations.

The founder of the Jesus is Lord Movement said he was confident he would solve both problems in his first 100 days. “In 100 days, I believe, I can put these people in jail and I know how,” Villanueva

said, citing the need to “maximize the full force of the law based on truth, justice, and righteousness.”

Under the Bangon ng Pilipinas Movement, he said he would push for good governance using his background as a political economist. If he wins as president, Villanueva said he would have academicians and scholars dominate his Cabinet. He said the selection of his Cabinet members will be done based on merits and not on political affiliation.

“So I’d have a long list. Mamimili ang select committee based on their resume, qualifications. Search committee yun. Yun ang matagal ko ng policy since 2004. To me, what is important is that the right people are in the right place,” Villanueva said.

He said that one of the plans of the movement was for a “genuine national reconciliation policy that is anchored on justice tempered with mercy.”

“A genuine righteous leadership will be experienced by the Filipino, which is something they haven’t experienced before,” Villanueva said.

He added that there are two scenarios that can happen after the 2010 elections: first a civil war that can be a result of the massive electoral fraud, which allegedly happened in the 2004 presidential elections.

“Or traditional politics will dominate and these traditional politicians will appease the clamor of the people for change. It will take another two decades for the country to experience the scenario being experienced now,” Villanueva said. ■

# Mancao wants to be reinstated

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was the key in his decision to finally come back to the country and testify in the double murder case.

## Relieved by Dumlao’s return

The former police official also admitted that he was relieved by the return of former Supt. Glenn Dumlao, the other suspect who is also being eyed as witness.

“I am happy that he is also back. I’m confident that we will corroborate each other’s testimonies in court,” he stressed, saying he hopes to see his former subordinate in the PAOCTF.

He has still refused to name the “alias Bigote” who, according to his affidavit, was irked with Dacer. It was Bigote’s annoyance that allegedly made Lacson order the killing of Dacer.

“I will name that person at the proper time and proper venue,” he said.

Last Friday, July 31 Mancao testified before the Department of Justice (DOJ) and reaffirmed his affidavit naming Sen. Lacson

as the former chief of the Philippine National Police who ordered the killing of Dacer.

He said his testimony would be the “moment of truth” in the double murder case.

In his affidavit signed last Feb. 14 in Broward County in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, the contents of which were first reported by last Mar. 16, Mancao said he was present when Lacson allegedly gave the hit order to then Senior Supt. Michael Ray Aquino.

Lacson headed the PAOCTF while concurrently chief of PNP.

Aquino, on the other hand, was operations chief of the PAOCTF while Mancao served as chief of Task Force Luzon of the PAOCTF.

On Nov. 24, 2000, Dacer and Corbito were snatched at the corner of Zobel Roxas Street and South Super Highway at the boundary of Manila and Makati. They were subsequently brought to Indang, Cavite

where they were killed and their bodies burned.

His affidavit prompted the daughters of Dacer to file double murder charges against Sen. Lacson.

Dacer’s daughters Carina, Sabina, Emily and Amparo executed last Mar. 23 the affidavit before the consuls general in New York and California in the US where they now live.

They said they believe in the testimony of Mancao, saying the senator possibly had the motive.

“Sen. Lacson has an axe to grind, so to speak, against our father. Our father strongly opposed Sen. Lacson’s appointment as chief of the Philippine National Police during the Estrada administration. Our father had repeatedly told us a few months before his disappearance on Nov. 24, 2000 that if something happened to him, there should be no one else to blame but Sen. Lacson,” they recalled. ■

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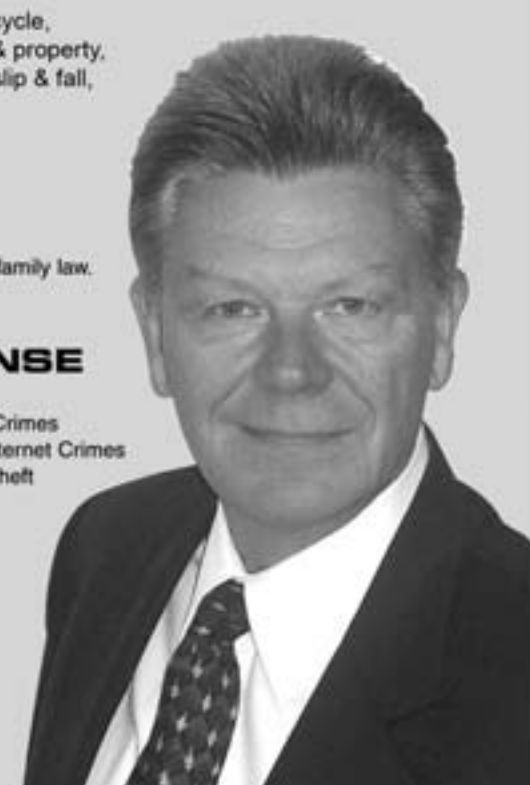
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