

Booklist

Advanced Review – Uncorrected Proof

Issue: April 15, 2015

Tom Clancy's Op-Center: Into the Fire.

Couch, Dick (Author) and Galdorisi, George (Author)

May 2015. 400 p. St. Martin's/Griffin, paperback, \$15.99. (9781250026842). St. Martin's/Griffin, e-book, (9781250026859).

Op-Center runs outside government channels, keeping tabs on potential threats to the U.S. beyond the purview of the conventional agencies. A North Korean general and his family are killed in an apparent robbery, but, in fact, it is the first step in a developing coup. Then a U.S. naval vessel, the USS *Milwaukee*, is engaged in exercises near the South Korean border when the ship's commander is accused of violating North Korean territory, and the boat is attacked. The Op-Center team initiates a rescue of the survivors, but the mission requires that the group sneak in, make sure the *Milwaukee* is scuttled before the North Koreans grab it, and rescue the soldiers—all without starting a war. A secret treaty between North Korea and China involving a potential source for oil only makes the mission even more crucial. This is a top-notch military thriller, combining politics, suspense, and action. Couch and Galdorisi continue to make the Clancy brand shine.

— *Jeff Ayers*