

Panama Opposition Fails to Get Support For General Strike

Reuters

PANAMA CITY — A general strike called by Panamanian opposition leaders to demand the resignation of General Manuel Antonio Noriega, the country's military leader, failed Monday to gain widespread support.

The opposition National Civic Crusade coalition had called for an indefinite strike to force General Noriega to step down following the removal Friday of Eric Arturo Delvalle as president. Mr. Delvalle has been in hiding since Saturday.

On Monday, the police briefly detained Aurelio Barria, a leader of the Civic Crusade and head of the Chamber of Commerce.

Meanwhile, Manuel Solis Palma, who replaced Mr. Delvalle, lashed out at the United States, saying propaganda from Washington had led other nations to refrain from recognizing his government.

The Reagan administration has said it considers Mr. Delvalle to be the legitimate head of state and is studying nonmilitary ways of put-

ting him out, he declares Tuesday that it and a number of other countries have failed to take adequate steps to control drug trafficking, according to senior administration officials.

Under a 1986 anti-drug law, Mr. Reagan is required to certify by March 1 whether countries where major drug trafficking occurs are "fully cooperating" in combating drug trafficking.

Mr. Reagan signed the order over the weekend to "decertify" Panama and several other countries for failing to take adequate steps to control drug trafficking, the officials said Sunday, but will not use his discretionary powers under the law to impose the maximum penalties.

Under the law, the United States must vote against all new loans to decertified countries by international development banks such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund and, in the case of Panama, to keep in place economic and military sanctions imposed last year.

