

Belarus state TV crew at the inauguration in Washington

✘ Radio Liberty Free Europe commented on Belarus sending a state TV crew to broadcast Barack Obama's inauguration in Washington.

The world has followed avidly the historic events in Washington, where Barack Hussein Obama was yesterday sworn in as the 44th president of the United States. Discussion of the inauguration and the challenges facing Obama dominated headlines in many countries. In some places, however, the media largely ignored the topic.

The Belarusian government has never expressed a particular affection for the United States or its presidents. So it was an unprecedented move when Minsk sent a special TV crew to Washington to report as Barack Obama took his oath of office and became the first African-American president.

The state-funded television team offered surprisingly positive coverage of the historic event – signaling a possible desire on the part of Minsk for warmer relations with the West.

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