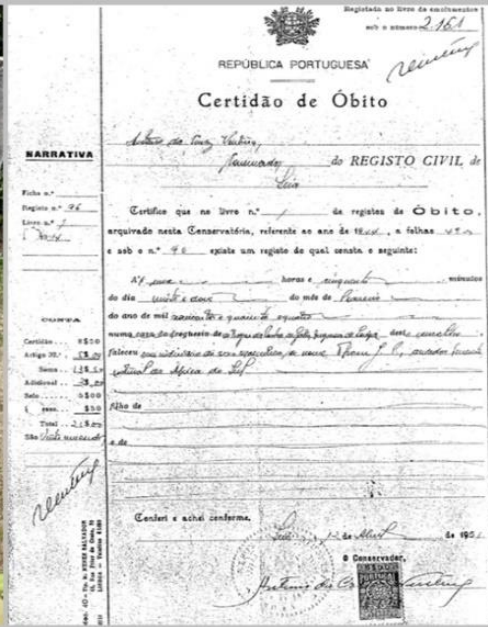






On 1 July 1940 he enlisted in the South African Air Force as a Mechanical Sergeant and was promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant on 7 July 1941. Having qualified for a specialist course in aerial machineguns on 1 April 1941, he was transferred to the Artillery. On 6 May 1943, he was promoted to Lieutenant. On 31 October, he left the South African Union to join the British Air Force and incorporated the 48<sup>th</sup> Squad. He was one of the victims of the Hudson Aircraft EW 906 that left Gibraltar on 21 February 1944 and crashed at Penha do Gato on 22 February 1944.

**Lieutenant J. P. Thom** was the 5<sup>th</sup> son of Mr. J. Thom of Cape Town. He was born in Umbigintwni, on

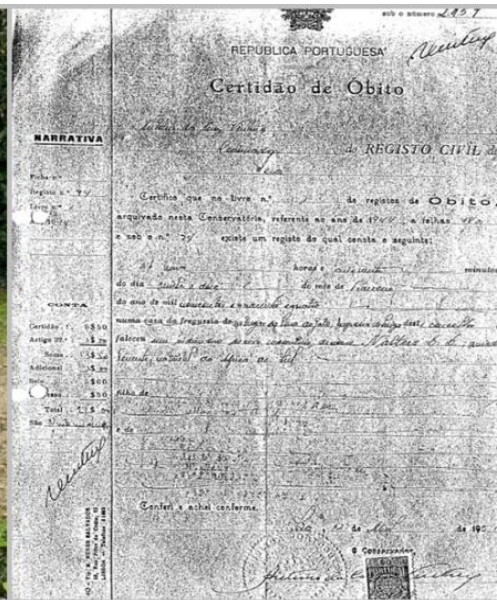


the south coast of Natal, and was a distinguished player of cricket and tennis. He attended an arts course at a business school for one year. While in the army, he was a designer for the South African Air Force. In civil life he was employed as a surveyor.

He joined the South African Air Force as an artillery operator on 7 June 1940, was promoted to Air Sergeant on 12 March 1941 and promoted again on 1 January 1942. During this year he attended a specialist course in aerial artillery and advanced to the rank of 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant on 6 November 1942. He was promoted to Lieutenant on 6 May 1943. On 31 October 1943 he left the South African Union to join the 48<sup>th</sup> Squad.

He was one of the victims of the Hudson Aircraft EW 906 that left Gibraltar on 21 February 1944 and crashed at Penha do Gato on 22 February 1944.

**Lieutenant D. DE W. Walters (South Africa)** was the son of Captain D. DE W. Walters of Clan William



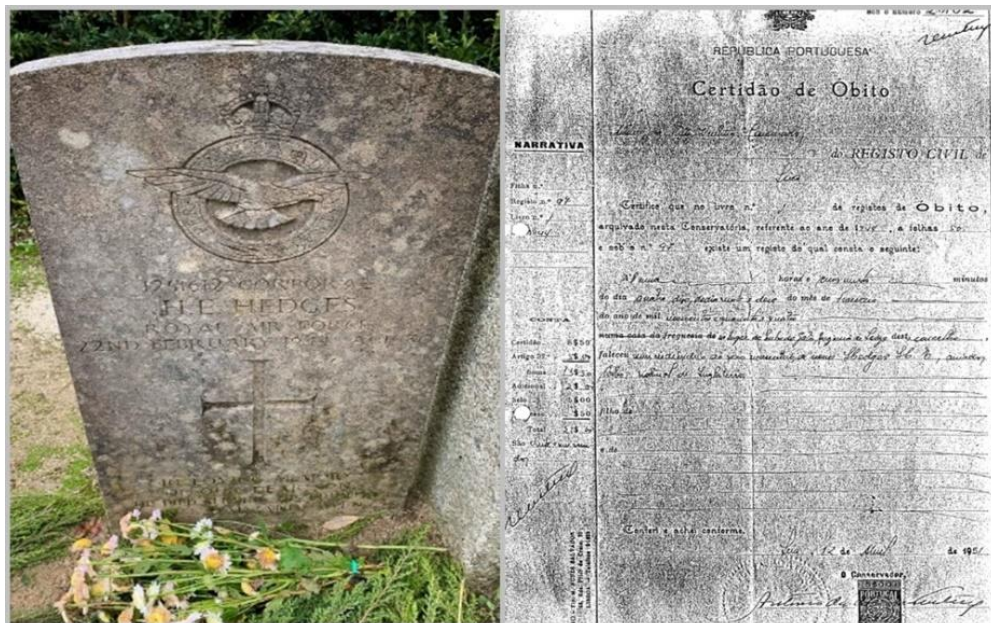
in the Cape Province, South Africa. He was born on 9 June 1915 in Clan William. He studied in Porterville where he was a brilliant student. He belonged to



the Rifle Club where he was an excellent shooter. After he became an orphan he had to leave school to make a living and he joined General Motors SA Ltd. in Port Elizabeth where he qualified as an auto mechanic. He joined the South African Air Force on 20 April 1942 as a student of "Observador Air" at the 75<sup>th</sup> Air School in Pretoria. After completing his training on 6 March 1943, he was hired as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant. On 6 September he was promoted to Lieutenant and on 31 October 1943 he left the South African Union to join the 48<sup>th</sup> Squad.

He was one of the victims of the Hudson Aircraft EW 906 that left Gibraltar on 21 February 1944 and crashed at Penha do Gato on 22 February 1944.

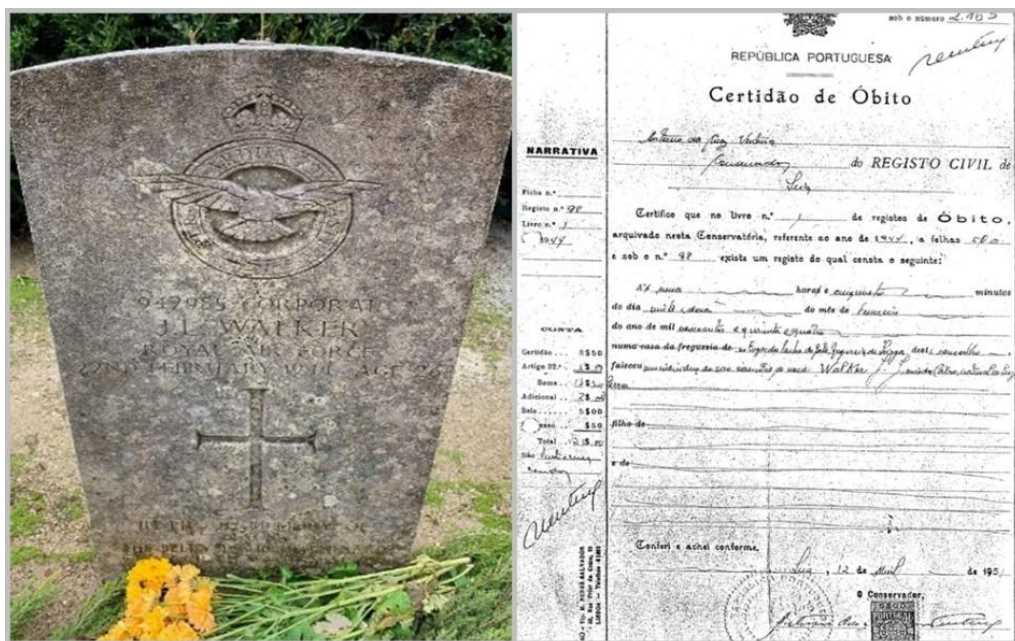
**Corporal H. E. Hedges**, 30 years old, was British, and joined the RAF on 6 June 1940. Last closest



relative: Father or brother - Mr. H. E. Edges.

He was one of the victims of the Hudson Aircraft EW 906 that left Gibraltar on the night of 21 February 1944 and crashed at Penha do Gato in Loriga on 22 February 1944.

**1<sup>st</sup> Corporal J. L. Walker**, 26 years old, was from Leicester - England. He joined the RAF on 11



December 1939. Last closest relative: Sister - Mrs H.O. Hall.

He was one of the victims of the Hudson Aircraft EW 906 that left Gibraltar on the night of 21 February 1944 and crashed at Penha do Gato in Loriga on 22 February 1944.