

1501147 Jim Shorrocks.

Posted at the same time as Sydney Richardson to Repair Squadron, No 35 SFTS at North Battleford, Saskatchewan, Canada from Manston in 1943 and became a well respected Senior NCO – working on Minors, Majors and Oxford II's (By February 1944, when the unit transferred to the RCAF, they had Oxford V's with Pratt and Whitney Wasp Junior engines). Was posted to No 31 at Kingston, flying Harvards for the Navy. "One of my delights about Canada was the chance to fly on air tests. The last of these in Feb was hairy to say the least. The kite (A MKV) had been badly damaged in a crash and rebuilt by civilian riggers from Edmonton. We changed engines and had to air test it. On take off the pilot was shocked to see the ASI going backwards but on a snow surface decided to rotate. Next time round circuit he tried to power the U/C but 'no joy'. We guessed this was ice trouble and proceeded to our satellite and did a few bump landings with still 'no joy'. So back to base where the wheels finally dropped. The ASI still U/S but he decided to land anyway. (The civilians had connected the pitot tube the wrong way),