

# Mid-Air Over Nevada

## **BIZ JET, GLIDER COLLIDE IN MIDAIR; ALL WALK AWAY**

A high-speed midair collision over Nevada on Monday afternoon left a business jet nearly crippled and a glider in pieces, but everybody involved, by some incredible stroke of luck, turned out OK.



The incident occurred over the Pine Nut Mountains at 16,000 feet when a Raytheon Hawker 800XP jet collided with a Schleicher ASW-27 glider. The Hawker had its nose sheared off and suffered other airframe damage. From looking at photos of the incident, it appears that the glider's wing spar shattered the left side of the instrument panel. The jet was forced to make an emergency gear-up landing in Carson City. One pilot reported minor injuries while the other pilot and three passengers were unhurt. The pilots' names were not immediately released. The glider pilot, Akihiro Hirao, 58, of Japan, had a more traumatic ride. He bailed out

and was found walking in a canyon hours later, according to local press reports. He suffered only minor injuries. He declined an interview. Photo courtesy of NewsCarsonCity.com.