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ZWEIG TOTAL RETURN FUND INC
Form N-Q
November 29, 2004

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington, DC 20549

FORM N-Q

QUARTERLY SCHEDULE OF PORTFOLIO HOLDINGS OF REGISTERED
MANAGEMENT INVESTMENT COMPANY

Investment Company Act file number 811-05620

The Zweig Total Return Fund, Inc.

(Exact name of registrant as specified in charter)

900 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022

(Address of principal executive offices)

(Zip code)

Matthew A. Swendiman, Esq.
Counsel & Chief Legal Officer
for Registrant
Phoenix Life Insurance Company
One American Row
Hartford, CT 06102

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Vice President, Litigation/
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Phoenix Life Insurance Company
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Hartford, CT 06102-5056

(Names and addresses of agents for service)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: 1-212-298-1635

Date of fiscal year end: December 31, 2004

Date of reporting period: September 30, 2004

Form N-Q is to be used by management investment companies, other than small business investment companies registered on Form N-5 (Sections 239.24 and 274.5 of this chapter), to file reports with the Commission, not later than 60 days after the close of the first and third fiscal quarters, pursuant to rule 30b1-5 under the Investment Company Act of 1940 (17 CFR 270.30b1-5). The Commission may use the information provided on Form N-Q in its regulatory, disclosure review, inspection, and policymaking roles.

A registrant is required to disclose the information specified by Form N-Q, and the Commission will make this information public. A registrant is not required to respond to the collection of information contained in Form N-Q unless the Form displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget ("OMB") control number. Please direct comments concerning the accuracy of the information collection burden estimate and any suggestions for reducing the burden to the Secretary, Securities and Exchange Commission, 450 Fifth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20549-0609. The OMB has reviewed this collection of information under the clearance requirements of 44 U.S.C. Section 3507.

Item 1. Schedule of Investments.

THE ZWEIG TOTAL RETURN FUND, INC.

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SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AND SECURITIES SOLD SHORT September 30, 2004 (unaudited)

	Number of Shares -----	Value -----
INVESTMENTS		
DOMESTIC COMMON STOCKS--27.81%		
Consumer Discretionary--1.63%		
AnnTaylor Stores Corp.	52,500 (a)	\$ 1,228,500
Fox Entertainment Group, Inc., Class A	59,000 (a)	1,636,660
GAP (The), Inc.	58,000	1,084,600
Home Depot, Inc.	70,000 (b)	2,744,000
Viacom, Inc. Class B	54,000	1,812,240

		8,506,000

Consumer Staples--3.63%		
Altria Group, Inc.	88,000 (b)	4,139,520
Archer-Daniels-Midland Co.	193,000	3,277,140
Coca-Cola Enterprises, Inc.	85,000	1,606,500
Costco Wholesale Corp.	57,000	2,368,920
Kimberly-Clark Corp.	64,000	4,133,760
Procter & Gamble Co.	64,000	3,463,680

		18,989,520

Energy--3.60%		
ConocoPhillips	46,000	3,811,100
Halliburton Co.	93,000	3,133,170
Kerr-McGee Corp.	94,000 (b)	5,381,500
Occidental Petroleum Corp.	74,000	4,138,820
Valero Energy Corp.	29,000	2,326,090

		18,790,680

Financials--5.33%		
Allstate Corp.	87,000	4,175,130
Bank of America Corp.	116,000 (b)	5,026,280
Capital One Financial Corp.	31,000 (b)	2,290,900
Morgan Stanley	66,000	3,253,800
National City Corp.	127,000	4,904,740
Wachovia Corp.	98,000	4,601,100
Wells Fargo & Co.	59,800	3,565,874

		27,817,824

Health Care--3.43%		
Amgen, Inc.	26,000 (a)	1,473,680
Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.	212,000	5,018,040
C. R. Bard, Inc.	44,000	2,491,720
Merck & Co., Inc.	103,000	3,399,000
Pfizer, Inc.	133,000	4,069,800
UnitedHealth Group, Inc.	20,000	1,474,800

		17,927,040

Industrials--4.17%		

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Boeing Co.	56,000	2,890,720
Deere & Co.	53,000 (b)	3,421,150
L-3 Communications Holdings, Inc.	35,000	2,345,000
Lockheed Martin Corp.	33,000	1,840,740

See notes to schedule of investments and securities sold short

Norfolk Southern Corp.	98,000	2,914,520
Northrop Grumman Corp.	30,000	1,599,900
PACCAR, Inc.	44,000	3,041,280
Waste Management, Inc.	137,000	3,745,580

		21,798,890

Information Technology--1.38%		
Amdocs Ltd.	71,000 (a)	1,549,930
Cisco Systems, Inc.	135,000 (a)	2,443,500
Intel Corp.	88,000	1,765,280
Microsoft Corp.	53,000	1,465,450

		7,224,160

Materials--2.92%		
Alcoa, Inc.	113,000 (b)	3,795,670
Dow Chemical Co. (The)	119,000 (b)	5,376,420
Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold, Inc., Class B (Indonesia)	87,000 (b)	3,523,500
Georgia-Pacific Corp.	72,000	2,588,400

		15,283,990

Telecommunication Services--1.72%		
AT&T Corp.	261,000	3,737,520
MCI, Inc.	25,000	418,750
SBC Communications, Inc.	185,000	4,800,750

		8,957,020

TOTAL DOMESTIC COMMON STOCKS (Cost \$132,508,761)		-----
		145,295,124

FOREIGN COMMON STOCKS--5.75% (d)		
Consumer Discretionary--0.37%		
Honda Motor Co., Ltd. ADR (Japan)	80,000 (b) (c)	1,948,800

Health Care--1.27%		
Angiotech Pharmaceuticals, Inc. (United States)	85,000 (a)	1,722,950
Sanofi-Aventis, ADR (France)	134,000 (c)	4,905,740

		6,628,690

Information Technology--0.76%		
Nokia Corp., ADR (Finland)	291,000 (c)	3,992,520

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Materials--3.35%		
BHP Billiton Ltd. (Australia)	536,905	5,584,707
Newcrest Mining Ltd. (Australia)	353,352	3,887,888
Rio Tinto Ltd. (Australia)	169,789	4,669,804
WMC Resources Ltd. (Australia)	862,083	3,347,051

		17,489,450

TOTAL FOREIGN COMMON STOCKS (Cost \$25,988,601)		30,059,460

PREFERRED STOCKS--6.56%		
Financials--6.56%		
Citibank NA Series A, 6.34% Pfd.	42,000	4,232,815
Fannie Mae Series J, 1.89% Pfd.	150,000	7,509,000
JP Morgan Chase & Co., Inc., Series L, 4.50% Pfd.	75,100	7,622,650
Lehman CR-ABN Amro VIII, 3.20% Pfd.	149	14,900,000

TOTAL PREFERRED STOCKS (Cost \$34,235,096)		34,264,465

See notes to schedule of investments and securities sold short

	Principal Amount -----		
U.S. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES--46.35%			
U.S. Treasury Bonds--21.82%			
United States Treasury Bonds, 6.38%, 8/15/27	\$ 11,500,000	13,737,566	
United States Treasury Bonds, 8.88%, 8/15/17	40,000,000	57,075,000	
United States Treasury Bonds, 9.25%, 2/15/16	30,000,000	43,205,880	

		114,018,446	

U.S. Treasury Notes--24.53%			
United States Treasury Notes, 2.00%, 8/31/05	11,250,000	11,236,387	
United States Treasury Notes, 3.50%, 11/15/06	40,000,000	40,714,080	
United States Treasury Notes, 4.75%, 11/15/08	9,000,000	9,542,817	
United States Treasury Notes, 5.00%, 8/15/11	5,000,000	5,375,200	
United States Treasury Notes, 6.00%, 8/15/09	21,900,000	24,488,668	
United States Treasury Notes, 12.75% 11/15/10	33,000,000	36,791,139	

		128,148,291	

TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT SECURITIES (Cost \$236,959,685)		242,166,737	

AGENCY NON-MORTGAGE BACKED SECURITIES--5.05%		
Federal National Mortgage Association, 3.15%, 5/28/08 (Cost \$26,664,580)	26,570,000	26,358,503

Number

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	of Shares	

EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS--1.02%		
Nasdaq-100 Index Tracking Stock	72,000	2,530,800
Standard & Poor's Depository Receipts Trust Series I	25,000	2,794,000

TOTAL EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS		
(Cost \$5,309,886)		5,324,800

	Contracts	

OPTIONS--0.00%		
Japanese Yen Call Option expiring 10/29/04 @ 90	800,000 (a)	1
Swiss Franc Put Option expiring 10/21/04 @ 1.35	25,000,000 (a)	50

TOTAL OPTIONS		
(Cost \$205,000)		51

	Principal Amount	

SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS--6.57%		
Rabobank, 1.87%, 10/01/04	\$ 14,300,000	14,300,000
UBS Finance Delaware LLC, 1.88%, 10/01/04	20,000,000	20,000,000

TOTAL SHORT-TERM INVESTMENTS		
(Cost \$34,300,000)		34,300,000

TOTAL INVESTMENTS--99.11%		
(Cost \$496,171,609)		517,769,140 (e)
SECURITIES SOLD SHORT--(1.59)%		
(Proceeds \$8,373,353)		(8,284,680)
OTHER ASSETS LESS LIABILITIES--2.48%		12,961,777

Net Assets--100.00%		\$ 522,446,237
		=====

(a) Non-income producing security.

(b) Position, or portion thereof, with an aggregate market value of \$31,401,260 has been segregated to collateralize securities sold short.

(c) ADR - American Depositary Receipt

(d) Foreign Common Stocks are determined based on the country in which the security is issued. The country of risk, noted parenthetically, is determined based on criteria described in Note 1E "Foreign Security Country Determination" in the Notes to Schedule of Investments and Securities Sold Short.

(e) For Federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of investments owned at September 30, 2004 was \$498,579,268 and net unrealized appreciation of investments consisted of:

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Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 33,103,909
Gross unrealized depreciation	(13,914,037)

Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 19,189,872
	=====

See notes to schedule of investments and securities sold short

	Number of Shares	Value
SECURITIES SOLD SHORT--1.59%		
DOMESTIC COMMON STOCKS		
Consumer Discretionary--0.79%		
Abercrombie & Fitch Co.	92,000	\$ 2,898,000
Fred's, Inc.	69,000	1,239,240

		4,137,240

Health Care--0.39%		
Thoratec Corp.	210,000	2,020,200

Utilities--0.41%		
Reliant Energy, Inc.	228,000	2,127,240

TOTAL SECURITIES SOLD SHORT		
(Proceeds \$8,373,353)		\$ 8,284,680 (f)
		=====

(f) For Federal income tax purposes, the tax basis of securities held short at September 30, 2004 was \$8,373,353 and net unrealized appreciation of investments consisted of:

Gross unrealized appreciation	\$ 612,568
Gross unrealized depreciation	(523,895)

Net unrealized appreciation	\$ 88,673
	=====

See notes to schedule of investments and securities sold short

THE ZWEIG TOTAL RETURN FUND
NOTES TO SCHEDULE OF INVESTMENTS AND SECURITIES SOLD SHORT (Unaudited)
SEPTEMBER 30, 2004

NOTE 1 - - SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

The following is a summary of significant accounting policies consistently followed by the Fund in the preparation of its Schedules of Investments and Securities Sold Short. The preparation of Schedules of Investments and Securities Sold Short requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

A. SECURITY VALUATION

Equity securities are valued at the official closing price (typically

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last sale) on the exchange on which the securities are primarily traded, or if no closing price is available, at the last bid price.

Debt securities are valued on the basis of broker quotations or valuations provided by a pricing service, which, in determining value, utilizes information with respect to recent sales, market transactions in comparable securities, quotations from dealers, and various relationships between securities.

Securities for which market quotations are not readily available (of which there were none at September 30, 2004) and other assets, if any, are valued at fair value as determined under procedures approved by the Board of Directors of the Fund. Short-term investments having a remaining maturity of 60 days or less are valued at amortized cost, which approximates market.

B. SECURITY TRANSACTIONS AND RELATED INCOME

Security transactions are recorded on the trade date. Dividend income is recorded on the ex-dividend date, or in the case of certain foreign securities, as soon as the Fund is notified. Interest income is recorded on the accrual basis. The Fund amortizes premiums and accretes discounts using the effective interest method. Realized gains and losses are determined on the identified cost basis.

C. FOREIGN CURRENCY TRANSLATION

Foreign securities and other assets and liabilities are valued using the foreign currency exchange rate effective at the end of the reporting period. Cost of investments is translated at the currency exchange rate effective at the trade date.

D. FORWARD CURRENCY CONTRACTS

The Fund may enter into forward currency contracts in conjunction with the planned purchase or sale of foreign denominated securities in order to hedge the U.S. dollar cost or proceeds. Forward currency contracts involve, to varying degrees, elements of market risk in excess of the amount recognized in the Schedules of Investments and Securities Sold Short Risks arise from the possible movements in foreign exchange rates or if a counterparty does not perform under the contract.

A forward currency contract involves an obligation to purchase or sell a specific currency at a future date, which may be any number of days from the date of the contract agreed upon by the parties, at a price set at the time of the contract. These contracts are traded directly between currency traders and their customers.

E. FOREIGN SECURITY COUNTRY DETERMINATION

A combination of the following criteria is used to assign the countries of risk listed in the Schedules of Investments: country of incorporation, actual building address, primary exchange on which the security is traded and country in which the greatest percentage of company revenue is generated.

F. OPTIONS

The Fund may write covered options or purchase options contracts for the purpose of hedging against changes in the market value of the underlying securities or foreign currencies. As of September 30, 2004, the Fund has no written options outstanding.

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Purchased options are included in the Fund's Schedule of Investments and Securities Sold Short and are marked to market to reflect the current value of the options. When a purchased option is exercised, the cost of the security is adjusted by the amount of the premium paid. The risk associated with purchased options is limited to the premium paid.

G. SHORT SALES

A short sale is a transaction in which the Fund sells a security it does not own in anticipation of a decline in market price. To sell a security short, the Fund must borrow the security. The Fund's obligation to replace the security borrowed and sold short will be fully collateralized at all times by the proceeds from the short sale retained by the broker and by cash and securities deposited in a segregated account with the Fund's custodian. If the price of the security sold short increases between the time of the short sale and the time the Fund replaces the borrowed security, the Fund will realize a loss, and if the price declines during the period, the Fund will realize a gain. Any realized gain will be decreased by, and any realized loss increased by, the amount of transaction costs. Dividends on short sales are recorded as an expense to the Fund on ex-dividend date. At September 30, 2004 the value of securities sold short amounted to \$8,284,680 against which collateral of \$39,729,258 was held. The collateral includes the deposits with broker for securities held short and the value of the segregated investments held long, as shown in the Schedule of Investments and Securities Sold Short. Short selling used in the management of the Fund may accelerate the velocity of potential losses if the prices of securities sold short appreciate quickly. Stocks purchased may decline in value at the same time stocks sold short may appreciate in value, thereby increasing potential losses.

Item 2. Controls and Procedures.

- (a) The registrant's principal executive and principal financial officers, or persons performing similar functions, have concluded that the registrant's disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rule 30a-3(c) under the Investment Company Act of 1940, as amended (the "1940 Act") (17 CFR 270.30a-3(c))) are effective, as of a date within 90 days of the filing date of the report that includes the disclosure required by this paragraph, based on their evaluation of these controls and procedures required by Rule 30a-3(b) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(b)) and Rules 13a-15(b) or 15d-15(b) under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (17 CFR 240.13a-15(b) or 240.15d-15(b)).
- (b) There were no changes in the registrant's internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rule 30a-3(d) under the 1940 Act (17 CFR 270.30a-3(d))) that occurred during the registrant's last fiscal quarter that has materially affected, or is reasonably likely to materially affect, the registrant's internal control over financial reporting.

Item 3. Exhibits.

A separate certification for each principal executive officer and principal financial officer of the registrant as required by Rule 30a-2(a) under the Investment Company Act (17 CFR 270.30a-2(a)), exactly as set forth below: Attached hereto.

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SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, the registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

(Registrant) The Zweig Total Return Fund, Inc.

By: /s/ Daniel T. Geraci

Daniel T. Geraci
President

Date: November 29, 2004

Pursuant to the requirements of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 and the Investment Company Act of 1940, this report has been signed below by the following persons on behalf of the registrant and in the capacities and on the dates indicated.

By: /s/ Daniel T. Geraci

Daniel T. Geraci
President

Date: November 29, 2004

By: /s/ Nancy Curtiss

Nancy Curtiss
Treasurer

Date: November 29, 2004