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PUTNAM PREMIER INCOME TRUST

Form NSAR-A

March 31, 2004

PAGE 1
000 A000000 01/31/2004
000 C000000 0000827773
000 D000000 N
000 E000000 NF
000 F000000 Y
000 G000000 N
000 H000000 N
000 I000000 6.1
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012 B000001 84-401299
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013 A000001 KPMG LLP
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015 A000002 DEUTSCHE BANK TRUST COMPANY AMERICAS
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015 A000006 CITIGROUP N.A.
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022 A000006 DEUTSCHE BANK SECURITIES, INC.
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022 A000007 MERRILL LYNCH & CO., INC.

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022 B000007 13-5674085
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087	A020000	746853100
087	A030000	PPT
088	A000000	N
088	B000000	N
088	C000000	N
088	D000000	N
SIGNATURE	MICHAEL T. HEALY	
TITLE	PRINC. ACCT. OFFICER	